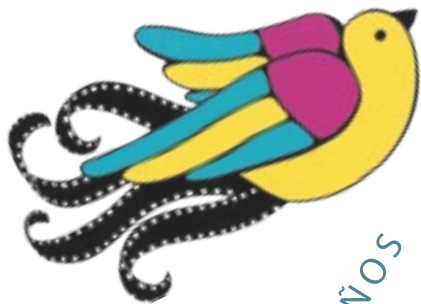


FOURTH ANNUAL

*Cinema
Culturas*

Film Festival



PERSIGUE TUS SUEÑOS FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS

OCTOBER 27-29, 2017

Hosted by the City of Moreno Valley

LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

This year's theme: Follow your dreams



In the midst of the many divisive narratives that, today, create disunity, promote hatred, and distort the reality of who we are, Cinema Culturas affirms our irrepressible vitality in our annual theme--Follow your dreams. Our message is one of hope, vision, and celebration of our rich diversity: our many cultures, traditions, beliefs, and ways of enduring, creating, loving. Above all, we celebrate the freedom to follow our dreams. Our Gala Film, *Esteban*, portrays one boy's pursuit of his dream.

The first time I saw *Esteban* I knew it was going to be our selection for this year's Gala Film. It is a story about the tenacity and ingenuity of a little boy in Cuba who faces and surmounts obstacles to reach his dream of learning how to play the piano. *Esteban's* pursuit of his dream transforms his

life and, ultimately, the lives of people in his community.

Hope, the generator of dreams, makes Cinema Culturas' fourth annual festival, hosted by the city of Moreno Valley, a special one. We are making history. This is the city's first film festival. Most important, the children of this community are seeing themselves reflected on the big screen for the first time. We are honored this year to showcase short films created by local students from the Moreno Valley School District and Val Verde School District, and we are delighted that their families, teachers, and community will be part of this unique experience.

I invite you to dream with us and to follow your dreams as we celebrate all the wonderful stories that this year's films unfold for us.

Dr. Cony Martínez, Founder & Director, Cinema Culturas

CARTA DE NUESTRA FUNDADORA & DIRECTORA GENERAL

El tema de este año: Persigue tus sueños

En medio de las muchas narrativas que hoy en día crean la desunión, promueven el odio y distorsionan la realidad de quiénes somos, Cinema Culturas afirma nuestra irrefrenable vitalidad en nuestro tema anual: persigue tus sueños. Nuestro mensaje es uno de esperanza, visión y celebración de nuestra rica diversidad: nuestras varias culturas, tradiciones, creencias y formas de perdurar, crear y amar. Sobre todo, celebramos la libertad de perseguir nuestros sueños. Nuestra película de la Noche de Gala, Esteban, ejemplifica perfectamente lo que significa perseguir nuestros sueños.

La primera vez que vi Esteban, supe que iba a ser nuestra selección para la Noche de Gala de este año. Es una historia de la tenacidad y el ingenio de un niño en Cuba que enfrenta y supera obstáculos para alcanzar su sueño de aprender a tocar el piano. La búsqueda del sueño de Esteban logra transformar su vida y, en última instancia, la vida de las personas en su entorno.

La esperanza, generadora de sueños, hace realidad la cuarta edición del festival anual Cinema Culturas, con sede este año en la ciudad de Moreno Valley. Estamos haciendo historia. Este es el primer festival de cine de la ciudad de Moreno Valley. No obstante, lo más importante es que los niños de esta comunidad se verán reflejados en la pantalla grande por primera vez en su propia ciudad. Este año tenemos el honor de exhibir cortometrajes realizados por estudiantes del Distrito Escolar de Moreno Valley y el Distrito Escolar de Val Verde. Estamos encantados de que sus familias, maestros y la comunidad sean parte de esta experiencia única.

Los invito a soñar con nosotros y perseguir sus sueños mientras celebramos todas las maravillosas historias que las películas de este año nos presentan.

Dra. Cony Martínez, Fundadora & Directora General, Cinema Culturas

PROMOTING U.S.-MEXICO RELATIONSHIPS



*Martín Martínez, Public Relations,
U.S. and General Coordinator, Mexico*



*Dr. Exequiel Ezcurra, Director, UC
Institute for Mexico and the U.S.,
UCR-Cinema Culturas Liaison, and
Chair, Cinema Culturas Board*

It is vital that Cinema Culturas continues working directly with multiple institutions in Mexico. General Coordinator Martín R. Martínez represents the various interests of Cinema Culturas and contributes to U.S.-Mexico cultural and educational ties.

For this reason, it is an honor to be collaborating directly with a key partner in the U.S., The University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States (UC Mexus).

As director of UC Mexus, Dr. Ezcurra has been one Cinema Culturas' key collaborators in its interdisciplinary projects. Dr. Ezcurra has been at the helm in generating interest and establishing relationships with some of Mexico's main institutions, such as the Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Health and leading universities. Most recently, in June 2017, UC Mexus and Cinema Culturas collaborated on the Latino Health Symposium Advancing Preventive Health Care & The Farmworker Community in collaboration with the University of California Riverside School of Medicine.

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WELCOME TO THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL

This year's Cinema Culturas Film Festival, October 27-29, will be hosted for the first time by the City of Moreno Valley, a city that encourages "quality development in the community." In collaboration with the Mexican Institute of Cinematography, the film festival will bring a high-caliber cultural event to our local community, showcasing award-winning feature films, documentaries, shorts and animation.



We are honored to announce the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences as a collaborator in this year's event. Cinema Culturas and the Academy will co-present a screening of *The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez* (1982), October 29 at 2:00 pm at the Harkins Theater in Moreno Valley. Dr. Carlos Cortes will introduce the film and Director Robert Young. After the film, Dr. Cortes will lead a discussion and Q&A with the film's director, Robert Young.

The screening is part of the Academy's participation in Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA, a far-reaching and ambitious exploration of Latin American and Latino art in dialogue with the Los Angeles, taking place from September 2017 through January 2018 at more than 60 cultural institutions across Southern California. Pacific Standard Time is an initiative of the Getty.

You're invited to be part of this unique experience in celebrating the first film festival hosted by the City of Moreno Valley. We also look forward to seeing you at our exciting Gala Night on October 27, as well as the other festival events on October 28 and 29.



**Pacific
Standard
Time: LA/LA**
Latin American
& Latino Art in LA

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Special thanks to the City of Moreno Valley for hosting the Fourth Annual Cinema Culturas Film Festival.

We would like to thank Dr. Gutiérrez , Mayor of Moreno Valley, and Moreno Valley's City Council for hosting the first Latino film festival and bringing the art of cinema to the entire community of Moreno Valley.



From left to right: Councilman Jeffrey Giba, Mayor Pro Tem Victoria Baca, Mayor Yxstian Gutiérrez, Councilman Ulises Cabrera, Councilman David Márquez

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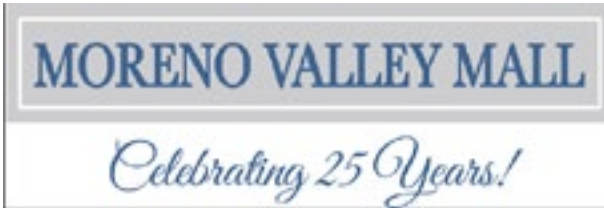


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All events including Gala Night will be held at:
Harkins Theater, Moreno Valley Mall
22350 Town Circle, Moreno Valley



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HIGHLAND FAIRVIEW

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GALA NIGHT

Friday, October 27 /
Viernes 27 de Octubre



GALA FILM: ESTEBAN

Harkins Theater, Moreno Valley

6:00 pm Film Fest Gala

7:30 pm Film: Esteban

ESTEBAN

Director: Jonal Cosculluela
Cuba/Spain / 2016 / 90 min.
Drama

Jury Award, Huelva International Film Festival, Spain; Audience Award, Huelva International Film Festival, Spain; UNICEF Award, International Festival for New Latin American Cinema in Havana, Cuba

The perseverance to achieve your dreams, viewed through the eyes of a nine-year-old boy. Esteban, who lives alone with his mother in Cuba, accidentally discovers his talent for music. Despite obstacles, his determination will transform his world and those around him.

Esteban es un niño de nueve años que descubre por casualidad su talento innato para la música. A pesar de las dificultades para alcanzar el sueño de convertirse en músico, su perseverancia transformará su mundo y el de quienes le rodean. El mensaje de Esteban es : No te des por vencido. "persigue tus sueños".

Friday, October 27

1:00 pm



EL VENDEDOR DE ORQUÍDEAS / THE ORCHID SELLER

Director: Lorenzo Vigas
Mexico / 2016 / 75 min.
Documentary

Eight-year-old Oswaldo Vigas, a renowned Venezuelan painter, returns to the towns where he was raised, searching for a painting that was lost during his teen years. While looking he is confronted with a chapter of his youth that marked him for the rest of his life and defined him as a human being and a creator. Oswaldo's search reveals the human side of one of the most influential artists of Latin America.

Oswaldo Vigas, un reconocido artista plástico venezolano, recorre a sus ochenta años los pueblos donde fue criado en busca de una pintura extraviada durante su adolescencia. De encontrarla podría completar, junto con su esposa Jeannine, una exposición que prepara sobre los

inicios de su carrera. Esta búsqueda no sólo se convertirá en un viaje de regreso hacia sus primeras influencias artísticas, sino que durante la travesía, se verá confrontado a un capítulo de su juventud que lo marcó por el resto de su vida, definiéndolo como ser humano, y como creador. El vendedor de orquídeas nos permitirá descubrir la humanidad de uno de los artistas más influyentes de América Latina.

3:00 pm



MARGARITA

MARGARITA

Director: Bruno Santamaría
Mexico / 2016 / 73 min
Documentary

A young filmmaker documents the life of a woman who lives in the streets of Mexico City, trying to gather the fragments of this singular person's stories, which move between lucidity and madness. The film portrays their encounter and developing relationship.

Un joven cineasta graba el documental de la vida de una mujer que vive en las calles de la ciudad de México. Al intentar reunir los fragmentos de las historias de aquel singular personaje que transita entre la lucidez y la locura, se muestra el desarrollo de una relación entre ambos: el retrato de un encuentro.

7:30 pm

ESTEBAN

Director: Jonal Cosculluela
Cuba/Spain / 2016 / 90 min.
Drama

See synopsis under Gala Night

Saturday, October 28

12 pm

SHORTS 2017



LOS AERONAUTAS / THE AERONAUTS

LOS AERONAUTAS / THE AERONAUTS

2017 Ariel Award Winner
Director: León Fernández
Mexico / 2015 / 11 min.
Animated short

A tribe survives in the middle of the desert on the meager pickings of a barren landscape. Soo'goh, the weakest member of the clan, seeks to overcome all obstacles and to reach the green pastures of the paradise that they all yearn for.

En medio de un desierto, una tribu sobrevive con lo poco que le da la tierra. Soo'goh, el más débil del clan, buscará librar los obstáculos para llegar a los vergeles del paraíso que todos anhelan.



ASCENSION

Directors: Samantha Pineda Sierra y Davy Giorgi

Mexico / 2015 / 10 min.

Animated short

Nisroc is a low class demon whose destiny is about to change by a mysterious epidemic that strikes hell city.

El destino de Nisroc, un pobre diablo, está a punto de cambiar cuando una misteriosa epidemia invade ciudad inferno.



ELENA Y LAS SOMBRAS / ELENA AND THE SHADOWS

Director: César Cepeda

Mexico / 2016 / 8 min.

Animated short

In an old Mexican neighborhood, Elena is alone in her world. Felix causes a miracle when it comes to life and shows you how to access other universes ; share with him those secret places that the child will recognize that your world can be longer and deeper than previously thought and that a blind child like Felix is much more than his visual impairment.

En una vieja vecindad mexicana, Elena está sola en su mundo. Félix provoca un milagro cuando llega a su vida y le

muestra cómo acceder a otros universos; compartir con él esos espacios secretos hará que la niña reconozca que su mundo puede ser más extenso y profundo de lo que creía, y que un niño ciego, como Félix, es mucho más que su discapacidad visual.



TALLER DE CORAZONES / THE HEARTS WORKSHOP

Director: León Fernández

Mexico / 2016 / 11 min.

Animated short

In the middle of a forest lies the workshop of Matías. With the best artisan abilities, the young man fixes broken, frozen hearts. But every night, when the workshop closes, mysterious sounds come out...Matías has a secret.

Matías tiene un taller de corazones. Con la habilidad del mejor artesano, el joven repara corazones rotos, corazones helados y corazones tristes. Pero todas las noches su taller se cierra dejando escapar misteriosos sonidos...Matías tiene un secreto.

1:00 pm

MARGARITA

Director: Bruno Santamaría

Mexico / 2016 / 73 min

Documentary

See Friday Oct 27, 3pm event for synopsis.



EL SUEÑO DEL MARA'AKAME / MARA'AKAME'S DREAM

3:00 pm

EL SUEÑO DEL MARA'AKAME / MARA'AKAME'S DREAM

Director: Federico Cecchetti
(Tsikuri Temai)

Mexico / 2015 / 90 min.

Drama

Nieri is a young Huichol Indian whose dream of travelling with his band to play a concert in Mexico City faces opposition by his father, who is a Mara'akame (Huichol shaman) and has different plans for his son. He must find the Blue Deer in his dreams in order to become a Mara'akame himself and learn this healing tradition. Nieri travels to Mexico City where he gets completely lost and finally finds his vision.

Nieri es un joven indígena huichol, cuyo sueño es viajar con su banda musical a tocar en un concierto en la gran ciudad de México. Pero su padre que es un Mara'akame (chamán huichol), tiene otros planes para él, pues debe seguir su tradición y encontrar al venado Azul en sus Sueños.

5:00 pm

EL VENDEDOR DE ORQUÍDEAS / THE ORCHID SELLER

Director: Lorenzo Vigas

Mexico / 2016 / 75 min.

Documentary

See Friday Oct 27, 1pm event for synopsis.



TODO LO DEMÁS / EVERYTHING ELSE

7:00 pm

TODO LO DEMÁS / EVERYTHING ELSE

Director: Natalia Almada

Mexico / 2016 / 90 min.

Drama

For 35 years Doña Flor has worked as a clerk in a government office, attending to dozens of people who sit across from her and hand her their documents. For 35 years she has been invisible to these people, a mere cog in the machine. She has grown so accustomed to this invisibility that she seems to have become invisible even to herself except for the brief pause at the pool each day where she watches the children swim and remembers her daughter. One morning Doña Flor awakens to find her cat has died in the night. Unable to accept the loss of her sole companion, Doña Flor tries to continue her routine as always, but the loss opens up the much deeper wound left by the downing of her daughter. She decides to swim seeking solace in the water, but finds herself paralyzed by fear. As Doña Flor faces her fear of the water, she also faces her fear of life. One day, in the shower room, another woman unexpectedly washes her back in a simple gesture of compassion that resuscitates her. Everything Else is a poetic and lyrical story about a woman's second coming of age as she reawakens to herself at sixty-three.

Todos los días, doña Flor atiende a gente de todos los extractos de la sociedad mexicana: ricos, pobres, educados y analfabetos. Revisa sus solicitudes para obtener tarjetas de

identificación para votar. Se sientan frente a ella, le dan sus documentos y esperan a que ella los acepte o los rechace. Doña Flor ejerce su poder burocrático en ellos. Al final de su jornada laboral, va a una pileta para ver a niños nadar. Se para en el borde de la pileta mientras el sonido de sus voces y el chapoteo la transportan a un pasado distante. Todo lo demás es un retrato de doña Flor, una burócrata de 63 años de la Ciudad de México que trabajó toda su vida en la misma oficina gubernamental. La película, una "narración observacional", se construye sobre la base de detalles y gestos que sumergen al espectador en la intimidad de una mujer que ha sido deshumanizada y alienada por la maquinaria burocrática. Todo lo demás entra en la vida de doña Flor mientras ella despierta y anhela ser visible una vez más.

9:00 pm



BELLAS DE NOCHE / BEAUTIES OF THE NIGHT

Director: María José Cuevas

Mexico / | 2016 / 91 min.

Documentary

This documentary is the first production of the filmmaker aría José Cuevas. The film shows a glimpse of the glory, sunset and resurgence of five of the main showgirls (vedettes) that triumphed in Mexico in the decades of the 1970s and 1980s. This film is an honest portrait of five women who

discover that there is more to life than what society values as "beauty" and "fame" as the protagonists defy the gender stereotypes of women and their role in society.

Plumas exóticas, altos tacones, lentejuelas, cuerpos esculturales, joyas, champaña: así suele recordarse el glamuroso mundo de las vedettes mexicanas ahora que aquellos cabarets, donde eran las indiscutibles reinas de la noche, ya no existen. Bellas de Noche comienza cuarenta años después de terminada la función. Filmado a lo largo de ocho años, desarrollando así una relación de complicidad y confianza entre la directora y las protagonistas, quienes fueron algunas de las más importantes estrellas de variedades en los años setenta y ochenta en México. El paso del tiempo, la juventud perdida, el espejismo de la fama, la posibilidad de la alegría, son asuntos a los que estas mujeres nos responden dignamente, encontrando así su propio camino para reinventarse con fuerza y perseverancia. De la desnudez de los cuerpos a la desnudez de las almas, esta película es el retrato, ya sin maquillaje, de cinco mujeres que atravesaron la noche hacia otras posibilidades de belleza, manteniendo siempre su independencia y libertad. Bellas de Noche es una película de inspiración universal, es una celebración de la vida a través de la voz femenina.

Sunday, October 29

12:00 pm

CINEMA CULTURAS STUDENT FILMS

45 min.

Followed by Q&A with students

Cinema Culturas is proud to showcase shorts films created by students from Midland Elementary and Valley View High School (Moreno Valley USD) and Val Verde High School (Val Verde USD). Short films from Midland Elementary courtesy of Latino Film Institute Youth Cinema Project. Short films from Val Verde High School are courtesy of Mr. Robert Del Campo, Movie Class/Teen Vision Productions. The screenings are free of charge to the public.

2:00 pm



THE BALLAD OF GREGORIO CORTEZ

THE BALLAD OF GREGORIO CORTEZ

105 min.

With an introduction by Prof. Carlos Cortés. Followed by discussion and Q&A with director Robert Young and Prof. Carlos Cortés.

Presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and Cinema Culturas. Special thanks to Rialto Pictures.

Challenging persistent stereotypes, The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez examines the nature of "foreignness" through the true story of Gregorio Cortez, a Mexican-American farmer accused in 1901 of murdering a Texas lawman. Edward James Olmos stars

as the legendary Cortez who eludes a large-scale search for two weeks. A film that has never been released on DVD is now restored to the big screen for a new audience to discover.

La temática de La Balada de Gregorio Cortez es un reto a los estereotipos presentes en la sociedad actual que examina la naturaleza de lo "extranjero" por medio de la historia de la vida real de Gregorio Cortez, un campesino mexicano-americano acusado injustamente de asesinar a un alguacil de Texas en 1901.

6:00 pm



ETIQUETA NO RIGUROSA / NO DRESS CODE REQUIRED

ETIQUETA NO RIGUROSA / NO DRESS CODE REQUIRED

92 min.

A couple in love from Baja California are in the middle of the preparations for a huge wedding, the only problem is that their marriage is not legal, since they are both male.

Es una película mexicana dirigida por la documentalista Cristina Herrera Bórquez. Trata sobre Víctor y Fernando, estilistas en la ciudad de Mexicali. Con ellos acude la alta sociedad mexicalense. Para la gente a su alrededor, eran una pareja encantadora hasta que decidieron casarse y convertirse en la primera pareja gay en el estado que luchaba por sus derechos en un lugar lleno de la homofobia y la desigualdad. Haciendo frente a una ola de críticas y atropellos del ayuntamiento, a través de su lucha, lograron despertar a los miembros de la sociedad Bajacaliforniana.

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