

SYNOPSES – 5th Latin American and Spanish Film Week at Cinecenta

Tuesday Sept. 16: Mercedes Sosa: the Voice of Latin America [Mercedes Sosa: La voz de Latinoamérica] by Rodrigo H. Vila (Argentina, 2013) – 90 min.

With millions of records sold, thousands of concerts all over the world, and countless fans (and detractors), Argentine folksinger Mercedes Sosa left behind an indelible legacy. Featuring unforgettable performances that span Sosa's 60-year career, and interviews with musicians like Pablo Milanés, Chico Buarque and David Byrne, this stirring portrait takes us on an in-depth, intimate journey through her life, revealing an artist and advocate for social justice who became one of the most influential personalities of the 20th century.

Wednesday Sept. 17: 7 boxes [7 cajas] by Juan Carlos Maneglia and Tana Schembori (Paraguay, 2012) – 100 min)

Víctor, a 17 year old pushcart porter, makes a living at the Municipal Market. He dreams of becoming famous, often absorbed by the TV in the appliance store. He receives an unusual proposal: to carry 7 boxes of unknown content, in exchange for a torn half of a \$ 100 bill. He will get the other half when he finishes the job. Víctor embarks on the journey, but there is something in those boxes that starts a high-speed wheelbarrow chase in the secret and gloomy corridors of the market. Víctor and his pursuers will get involved in a thick plot that will lead to a surprising ending... *7 boxes* was nominated at the 27th Goya Awards for Best Spanish Language Foreign Film representing Paraguay.

Thursday Sept. 18: Rosario by Shula Erenberg (Mexico, 2012) – 70 min.

Rosario is the intimate life-portrait of Rosario Ibarra de Piedra, a Mexican woman, who in 1975, when she was 48 years old, suffered the political disappearance of her son in the city of Monterrey. After that moment her life made a dramatic turn: from middle-class housewife to social fighter. She has become a political referent in modern Mexico, going from the tireless search for her missing son to assuming a life project dedicated to the defense of human rights and government accountability.

Friday Sept. 19: *The Amazing Cat Fish* [Los insólitos peces gato] by Claudia Saint-Luce (Mexico, 2013) – 89 min.

Claudia, a lonely young woman, ends up in hospital with a severe case of appendicitis. There, she meets Marta, the woman resting in the bed next to hers. Marta, who lives with her four children, gains Claudia's trust. When Marta gets out of the hospital, she suggests that Claudia go home with them. Getting to know this family makes Claudia feel at ease, and for the first time she experiences a sense of belonging in this peculiar little tribe. As Marta's health weakens, the bond Claudia has with each member of the family grows stronger. An endearing family comedy, *The Amazing Catfish* was recognized as the **best** Latin American feature at the 2014 Mar del Plata International Film Festival and was awarded the Fipresci Prize in the Discovery Program for emerging directors at the 2013 Toronto International Film Festival.

Saturday Sept. 20: *The Delay* [La demora] by Rodrigo Plá (Uruguay, 2012) – 84 min.

A single mother with three kids works from home as a tailor for a big textile firm. She is left with taking care of her aging father, who also lives at home. Welfare agencies turn down her request for taking in her father because she is not below the poverty line. One day while returning home with him, she takes a fateful decision, one that, eventually, she will come to regret... A drama that touches on the economic and psychological strains on the contemporary family, *The Delay* is a masterfully directed film that leads the spectator to a suspenseful resolution.

Sunday 21: *A Gun in Each Hand* [Una pistola en cada mano] by Cesc Gay (Spain, 2012) - 95 min.

There are no actual shootouts in *A Gun in Each Hand*, but plenty of male egos are wounded in this clever and sharp collection of vignettes that present a portrait of forty-something manhood, and its shifting role in contemporary Barcelona. The film stars a talented cast of Spanish-language actors: Eduardo Noriega, Javier Cámara, Argentina's favourite Ricardo Darín, and Candela Peña, who won as best

supporting actress at the 27th Goya Awards. This is a superbly accomplished battle-of-the-sexes comedy where chance encounters between old friends, acquaintances, ex-spouses and potential lovers form an engrossing series of six intertwined tales of love lost and found.