



AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE

Latin American Film Festival

2025 FESTIVAL GUIDE



SEPTEMBER 18—OCTOBER 9

[AFI.com/Silver/LAFF](https://www.afilatin.com/Silver/LAFF)

#AFILatinFilm



AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE

Latin American Film Festival

SEPTEMBER 18—OCTOBER 9, 2025

[AFI.com/Silver/LAFF](https://www.afilatin.com/Silver/LAFF)

[#AFILatinFilm](https://twitter.com/AFILatinFilm)

About the Festival

The AFI Latin American Film Festival is one of North America's largest and longest-running showcases of Latin American cinema. Now in its 36th year, the festival is one of Washington's top cultural events and features award-winning films, in-person conversations with filmmaker guests and exciting embassy-hosted parties. With the inclusion of films from Spain and Portugal, the festival celebrates Ibero-American cultural connections during National Hispanic Heritage Month.

Times and information are correct as of press time but are subject to change; check [AFI.com/Silver/LAFF](https://www.afilatin.com/Silver/LAFF) for updated listings.

All screenings take place at the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center, located at 8633 Colesville Rd., Silver Spring, Maryland.

Tickets



\$15 General Admission

Discounts on tickets are available to Silver Cinema Club members.

Not a member? Join at [AFI.com/Silver/SCC](https://www.afilatin.com/Silver/SCC)

Look for our \$10 Ticket One-Day Sale on Thursday, August 28, from 10:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.

Festival Passes

Explore Latin American cinema with a Festival Pass! The All-Access Festival Pass provides admission for one to every screening in the AFI Latin American Film Festival, including Opening and Closing Night. Valued at nearly \$600! Visit [AFI.com/Silver/LAFF](https://www.afilatin.com/Silver/LAFF) for details on how to use your Festival Pass at this year's AFI Latin American Film Festival.

\$200 General Admission

Discounts are available to Silver Cinema Club members; see [AFI.com/Silver/LAFF](https://www.afilatin.com/Silver/LAFF) for details.

Silver Cinema Club discounts on Festival Passes are available on in-person purchases only.

8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910



AFISilverTheatre



@AFISilver



AFISilverTheatre



AFISilver



THURSDAY, SEPT. 18 FRIDAY, SEPT. 19 SATURDAY, SEPT. 20 SUNDAY, SEPT. 21

Opening Night
• THE SECRET AGENT
7:00

UNDER THE FLAGS,
THE SUN 5:00
• THE WAVE 7:00
THE VIRGIN OF THE
QUARRY LAKE 9:40

THIS ISLAND 11:15 a.m.
OLIVIA AND THE CLOUDS
1:45
MAD BILLS TO PAY
(or DESTINY, DILE QUE NO
SOY MALO) + Q&A 3:50
• THE BLUE TRAIL 6:20
CARNIVAL IS OVER 9:00
UNDER THE FLAGS, THE SUN
11:15 a.m.
BELOVED TROPIC 1:15
COMPARSA + Q&A 3:30
A BRIGHT FUTURE 5:50
CARNIVAL IS OVER 8:00

MONDAY, SEPT. 22 TUESDAY, SEPT. 23 WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24 THURSDAY, SEPT. 25 FRIDAY, SEPT. 26 SATURDAY, SEPT. 27 SUNDAY, SEPT. 28

A BRIGHT FUTURE 4:45
THIS ISLAND 7:00
OLIVIA AND THE
CLOUDS 9:30
FLAMINGOS: LIFE
AFTER THE METEORITE
4:50
• THE WAVE 6:45
• THE BLUE TRAIL
9:30
MAD BILLS TO PAY
(or DESTINY, DILE QUE
NO SOY MALO) 4:00
WOLF BEACH 6:30
THE VIRGIN OF THE
QUARRY LAKE 8:45
BELOVED TROPIC 4:30
YANUNI 6:30
TO THE WEST, IN
ZAPATA 9:30
WOLF BEACH 9:40
LOST CHAPTERS 1:20
• ELDER SON 3:00
Gentlepiecé Screenings
• A LOOSE END 5:30
+ reception
• KISS OF THE SPIDER
WOMAN 7:45
HOLA FRIDA (In English) 11:15 a.m.
TO THE WEST, IN ZAPATA
11:30 a.m.
LOST CHAPTERS 1:20
• ELDER SON 3:00
Gentlepiecé Screenings
• A LOOSE END 5:30
+ reception
• KISS OF THE SPIDER
WOMAN 7:45
HOLA FRIDA (In Spanish)
11:30 a.m.
FLAMINGOS: LIFE AFTER THE
METEORITE 12:50
SHE STOPS AND LOOKS + Q&A
2:45
LA SALSA VIVE 5:15
• ELDER SON 8:00

MONDAY, SEPT. 29 TUESDAY, SEPT. 30 WEDNESDAY, OCT. 1 THURSDAY, OCT. 2 FRIDAY, OCT. 3 SATURDAY, OCT. 4 SUNDAY, OCT. 5

Silent Movie Day
Presentation
• THE BLOOD OF A
POET 7:00
• A POET 8:30
THE MESSAGE
+ Q&A 7:00
LA SALSA VIVE 9:30
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL
DEATHS IN THE
WORLD + Q&A 7:00
• LEONORA IN THE
MORNING LIGHT
9:10
IT WOULD BE NIGHT
IN CARACAS 7:00
THE FLAMENCO GUITAR
OF VERAÍ CORTES
9:10
CIELO 11:00 a.m.
TWELVE MOONS 1:20
• LEONORA IN THE
MORNING LIGHT
+ Q&A 3:30
HUAQUERO 11:45 a.m.
CUERPO CELESTE 1:30
CIELO 3:40
MANAS 6:00
TWELVE MOONS 8:15

MONDAY, OCT. 6 TUESDAY, OCT. 7 WEDNESDAY, OCT. 8 THURSDAY, OCT. 9

HUAQUERO 5:15
RUNA SIMI 7:00
MANAS 8:50
RUNA SIMI 4:45
• DREAMS 6:45
THE FLAMENCO
GUITAR OF VERAÍ
CORTES 9:20
CUERPO CELESTE 4:50
• THE MYSTERIOUS
GAZE OF THE
FLAMINGO 7:00
• DREAMS 9:15
• THE MYSTERIOUS
GAZE OF THE
FLAMINGO 5:00
I ONLY REST IN THE
STORM 7:15
• THE MYSTERIOUS
GAZE OF THE
FLAMINGO 5:00
I ONLY REST IN THE
STORM 7:15

• SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS IN ORANGE
• OPENING NIGHT, CLOSING NIGHT AND CENTERPIECE SCREENINGS IN BLUE

OPENING NIGHT



THE SECRET AGENT [O AGENTE SECRETO]

Thurs, Sept. 18, 7:00

In 1977 during the Brazilian dictatorship, a political dissident (Wagner Moura) comes out of hiding in an attempt to escape to freedom with his young son. Kleber Mendonça Filho's atmospheric thriller won four awards at the 2025 Cannes Film Festival. DIR Kleber Mendonça Filho. Brazil/France/Germany/Netherlands, 2025, 158 min. In Portuguese with English subtitles.

CLOSING NIGHT

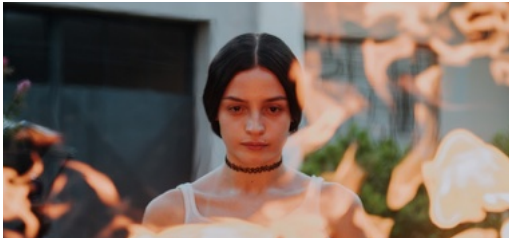


BELÉN

Sat, Oct. 4, 6:15

Inspired by a true story, BELÉN follows a young woman in Argentina wrongfully accused of infanticide after a miscarriage. Lawyer Soledad Deza (Dolores Fonzi, who also directs) takes on her case, exposing a corrupt, patriarchal legal system and igniting a broader battle for reproductive rights across the nation. Blending courtroom drama with social commentary, BELÉN is a rousing reminder of the ongoing global battle for women's reproductive freedom. DIR Dolores Fonzi. Argentina, 2025, 104 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Argentina



THE VIRGIN OF THE QUARRY LAKE [LA VIRGEN DE LA TOSQUERA]

Fri, Sept. 19, 9:40; Wed, Sept. 24, 8:45

During the unbelievably hot summer of 2001, Natalia experiences an irrepressible crush on the dreamy Diego, but it is not exactly reciprocated. As jealousy turns to fury, Natalia will have to manage her burgeoning emotions or face the supernatural consequences. Dazzlingly directed by Laura Casabé, the film powerfully reveals the anxieties facing a nation and the looming storm raging inside Natalia. **DIR** Laura Casabé. Argentina/Spain/Mexico, 2025, 95 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION ELDER SON [HIJO MAYOR]

North American Premiere

Sat, Sept. 27, 3:00; Sun, Sept. 28, 8:00

Torn between her identity as a native Argentinean and her strong Korean heritage, pink-haired teen Lila is still figuring out where she belongs. Over the course of a weekend getaway with her immigrant father, she starts to forge a new path forward. Past and present collide in this wistful generational saga from filmmaker Cecilia Kang. **DIR** Cecilia Kang. Argentina/France, 2025, 118 min. In Spanish and Korean with English subtitles.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION THE MESSAGE [EL MENSAJE]

North American Premiere

Tue, Sept. 30, 7:00

Q&A with filmmaker Iván Fund

Traversing the Argentine backcountry in their rundown RV, middle-aged hucksters Myriam and Roger exploit the talents of the preternaturally gifted Anika, a young girl who can communicate with animals. Recalling Peter Bogdanovich's PAPER MOON, Ivan Fund's warmly comic road-trip film won the Silver Bear Jury Prize at this year's Berlin International Film Festival. **DIR** Iván Fund. Argentina/Spain/Uruguay, 2025, 91 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

BELÉN

See Closing Night

Sat, Oct. 4, 6:15

Bolivia



CIELO

U.S. Premiere

Sat, Oct. 4, 11:00 a.m.; Sun, Oct. 5, 3:40

In the breathtaking Bolivian Altiplano, precocious 8-year-old Santa devises an otherworldly plan to save her devoted mother from hardship, setting off on a fantastical journey to find a mystical land without suffering. Shot on location in Bolivia with an eye-popping color palette, Spanish filmmaker Alberto Sciamma's sensational magical realist fable bursts with empathy and resilience. **DIR** Alberto Sciamma. Bolivia/UK, 2025, 109 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Brazil



THE SECRET AGENT [O AGENTE SECRETO]

See Opening Night

Thurs, Sept. 18, 7:00



SPECIAL PRESENTATION THE BLUE TRAIL [O ÚLTIMO AZUL]

U.S. Premiere

Sat, Sept. 20, 6:20; Tue, Sept. 23, 9:30

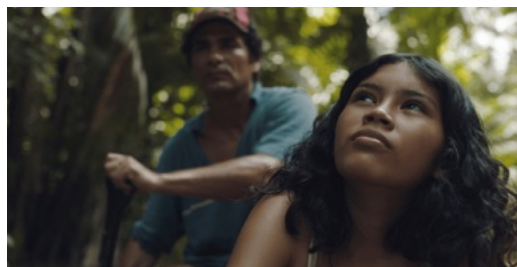
Forced to retire at 77, Tereza still dreams of flying in her first airplane. On the run from a government who would rather send her to a senior living colony, she sets off on an Amazonian adventure to reach a clandestine airfield. Visionary filmmaker Gabriel Mascaro's rollicking coming-of-old-age tale is a sensuously told delight and won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2025 Berlin International Film Festival. **DIR** Gabriel Mascaro. Brazil/Mexico/Netherlands/Chile, 2025, 85 min. In Portuguese with English subtitles.



CARNIVAL IS OVER [OS ENFORCADOS]

Sat, Sept. 20, 9:00; Sun, Sept. 21, 8:00

After the death of her mafioso father, Regina and her husband, Valerio, are handed the family business on a silver platter. They hatch a plan to solve their debt and sell the business, but nothing in this world comes easy as rival gangs, the cops and a deadly secret threaten to take them down. Brazilian filmmaker Fernando Coimbra returns with this thrilling neo-noir overflowing with brutal violence and dark comedy. DIR Fernando Coimbra. Brazil/Portugal, 2024, 123 min. In Portuguese with English subtitles.



MANAS

Sun, Oct. 5, 6:00; Mon, Oct. 6, 8:50

In the depths of the Amazon, 13-year-old Tielle takes fate into her own hands to protect herself and her younger sister from a systemic cycle of violence. An urgent and sensitively told narrative feature debut by documentarian Marianna Brennand, MANAS won the Giornate degli Autori Director's Award at the 2024 Venice Film Festival. DIR Marianna Brennand. Brazil/Portugal, 2024, 101 min. In Portuguese with English subtitles.

Chile



SPECIAL PRESENTATION THE WAVE [LA OLA]

Fri, Sept. 19, 7:00; Tue, Sept. 23, 6:45

With his Cannes-premiered THE WAVE, Academy Award® winner Sebastián Lelio (A FANTASTIC WOMAN, GLORIA) returns to Spanish-language cinema, along with regular collaborator Pablo Larraín, to stage a bold, emotionally charged feminist musical inspired by the 2018 student protests that swept Chilean universities in the wake of the global #MeToo movement. DIR Sebastián Lelio. Chile/U.S., 129 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.



CUERPO CELESTE

Sun, Oct. 5, 1:30; Wed, Oct. 8, 4:50

In the summer of 1990, Pinochet's brutal dictatorship is coming to an end. But a life-altering incident forces 15-year-old Celeste to discover the harsh realities that have long been kept hidden to protect her. Filmmaker Nayra Ilic García merges the personal with the political to create a brilliant coming-of-age film featuring commanding performances and bravura cinematography. DIR Nayra Ilic García. Chile/Italy, 2025, 97 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

THE MYSTERIOUS GAZE OF THE FLAMINGO [LA MISTERIOSA MIRADA DEL FLAMENCO]

Wed, Oct. 8, 7:00; Thurs, Oct. 9, 5:00

Queer love shines with contradictory exuberance in Diego Céspedes' audacious Cannes prize-winning debut about a commune of crossdressers during the dawn of the AIDS epidemic. Engaged with the fervent gaze of New Queer Cinema and embodied by a vibrant trans and genderqueer cast, THE MYSTERIOUS GAZE OF THE FLAMINGO brilliantly melds melodrama and western. DIR Diego Céspedes. Chile/Germany/France/Belgium/Spain, 2025, 104 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Colombia



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A POET [UN POETA]

Mon, Sept. 29, 8:30; Thurs, Oct. 2, 7:00

Winner of Cannes' Un Certain Regard Jury Prize, A POET is a sharp tragicomedy about a washed-up poet mentoring a gifted teen writer. Blending absurdist humor with social critique, Simón Mesa Soto's film explores art, class and ego with biting wit, raw humanity and a standout performance by Ubeimar Ríos. DIR Simón Mesa Soto. Colombia/Germany/Sweden, 2025, 120 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.



LA SALSA VIVE

Sun, Sept. 28, 5:15; Tue, Sept. 30, 9:30

Born from the relentless rhythms of the Caribbean, salsa ignited an exciting new energy in New York. But as times changed, salsa found its new home in Cali, Colombia. Featuring incredible archival footage, live recordings and illuminating interviews with salsa legends, LA SALSA VIVE captures the essence of a genre that brings music, dance and life to people across the globe. DIR Juan Carvajal. Colombia, 2025, 101 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Costa Rica



SHE STOPS AND LOOKS [ELLA SE DETIENE A MIRAR]

North American Premiere

Sun, Sept. 28, 2:45

Q&A with filmmaker **Álvaro Torres Crespo**
Álvaro Torres Crespo's lyrical documentary follows residents of the coastal village Playa Azul. As the nearby river and sea levels rise, the waters flood the houses before receding once more, matching the ebb and flow of subject Yesenia's own life. DIR Álvaro Torres Crespo. Costa Rica, 2025, 88 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Cuba



TO THE WEST, IN ZAPATA [AL OESTE, EN ZAPATA]

North American Premiere

Thurs, Sept. 25, 9:30; Sat, Sept. 27, 11:30 a.m.

Filled with beautiful, meticulous black-and-white imagery, this empathetic documentary from filmmaker David Bim chronicles the extreme lengths a married couple must go to in order to care for their autistic son amid the COVID-19 pandemic and the crumbling Cuban economy. DIR David Bim. Cuba/Spain, 2025, 75 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Dominican Republic



OLIVIA & THE CLOUDS [OLIVIA & LAS NUBES]

Sat, Sept. 20, 1:45; Mon, Sept. 22, 9:30

In his feature directorial debut, Dominican filmmaker Tomás Pichardo Espailat concocts a spellbinding exploration of love and memory using a wild combination of stop-motion animation, live-action footage and graphic sketches to tell the story of Olivia, a woman haunted by a past relationship. DIR Tomás Pichardo Espailat. Dominican Republic, 2024, 81 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Ecuador



HUAQUERO

U.S. Premiere

Sun, Oct. 5, 11:45 a.m.; Mon, Oct. 6, 5:15

"Huaquero" was the name given to artifact hunters of *huacas*, pre-colonial totems that saw a boom in illegal excavation and trade in the '80s and '90s across Ecuador and Peru. Exquisitely shot in 16mm, HUAQUERO features reenactments and reminiscence from those involved with the *huacas* as they brush away the dirt of their memories to reveal the differing truths lying beneath. DIR Juan Carlos Donoso Gómez. Ecuador/Peru/Romania, 2024, 78 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

El Salvador



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL DEATHS IN THE WORLD [LAS MUERTES MÁS BELLAS DEL MUNDO]

Wed, Oct. 1, 7:00

Q&A with co-directors Quique Aviles and Ellie Walton, producer/composer Hugo Najera, producer Carolina Fuentes and film editor Magee McIlvaine

As a deadly civil war threatened to tear El Salvador apart in the 1980s, many families fled north and made Washington, D.C., their new home. But the legacy of violence remained inescapable. This uplifting story of art, community and perseverance explores how poetry, dance and music were able to heal the wounds of long-held trauma. DIR Quique Aviles, Ellie Walton. U.S., 2024, 70 min. In Spanish and English with English and Spanish subtitles.

Guatemala



COMPARSA

Sun, Sept. 21, 3:30

Q&A with filmmaker Doug Anderson

This sobering, illuminating documentary about the transformational power of art chronicles the efforts of two Guatemalan sisters, Lesli and Lupe, to confront the rampant gender-based violence coursing through Guatemalan society by rallying their community to produce a joyous, raucous street festival. DIR Vickie Curtis, Doug Anderson. Guatemala/U.S., 2025, 79 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Mexico



FLAMINGOS: LIFE AFTER THE METEORITE [FLAMINGOS: LA VIDA DESPUÉS DEL METEORITO]

Tue, Sept. 23, 4:50; Sun, Sept. 28, 12:50

Co-presented by the Environmental Film Festival in the Nation's Capital

Produced in partnership with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and featuring offbeat narration by Julieta Venegas and an engrossing score by Bryce Dessner, this breathtaking wildlife documentary captures the Caribbean flamingo's incredible undertaking to find a mate, create a family and survive. DIR Lorenzo Hagerman.

Mexico, 2024, 83 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

CORINA

Fri, Sept. 26, 7:00

Q&A with filmmaker Urzula Barba Hopfner, plus post-screening reception sponsored by the Mexican Cultural Institute

After a devastating incident, Corina has carefully crafted her quiet life to fit in a few safe square blocks, but to save her job and conquer her fears she will have to step out of her comfort zone. Directed with idiosyncratic aplomb by first-time feature filmmaker Urzula Barba Hopfner, this playful charmer (think AMÉLIE with a distinctly Mexican twist) won the Audience Award at SXSW. DIR Urzula Barba Hopfner. Mexico, 2024, 96 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.



TWELVE MOONS [DOCE LUNAS]

Sat, Oct. 4, 1:20; Sun, Oct. 5, 8:15

Struggling with fertility issues, Sofia (Ana de la Reguera, NARCOS, NACHO LIBRE) is an architect on the brink of a breakdown. Featuring an incredibly brave, stripped-down performance by de la Reguera, filmmaker Victoria Franco's assured solo directorial debut is a visually stunning meditation on loss, grief and motherhood. DIR Victoria Franco. Mexico, 2025, 97 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

DREAMS

Tue, Oct. 7, 6:45; Wed, Oct. 8, 9:15

Academy Award® winner Jessica Chastain stars as an affluent philanthropist whose passionate relationship with a young Mexican ballet dancer sets the stage for director Michel Franco's chilly yet erotic exploration of power dynamics and the performative altruism of the elite. DIR Michel Franco. Mexico/U.S., 2025, 95 min. In Spanish and English with English and Spanish subtitles.

Panama



BELOVED TROPIC [QUERIDO TRÓPICO]

Sun, Sept. 21, 1:15; Thurs, Sept. 25, 4:30

Hoping to gain Panamanian citizenship, a pregnant Colombian immigrant becomes the caretaker for a wealthy woman succumbing to dementia (Paulina Garcia). Ana Endara makes her narrative feature debut with this heartfelt gem that avoids melodrama, instead showcasing the quiet bonds between two women reaching out for connection. Garcia's wonderfully complex performance reminds us why she is a titan of Latin American cinema. DIR Ana Endara. Panama/Colombia, 2024, 108 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Paraguay



UNDER THE FLAGS, THE SUN [BAJO LAS BANDERAS, EL SOL]

Fri, Sept. 19, 5:00; Sun, Sept. 21, 11:15 a.m.

Alfredo Stroessner ruled Paraguay with an iron grip for 35 years until his overthrow in 1989. Digging into the limited archival footage available, filmmaker Juanjo Pereira crafts an incredible archival essay that exposes long-forgotten foreign newsreels, propaganda films and incriminating documents. These timely images remain a powerful indictment of Stroessner's rule and offer a strong warning sign to any who follow in his footsteps. DIR Juanjo Pereira. Paraguay/Argentina/U.S./France/Germany, 2025, 90 min. In Guaraní, Spanish, German, French, English and Portuguese with English subtitles.

Peru



RUNA SIMI

Mon, Oct. 6, 7:00; Tue, Oct. 7, 4:45

This joyful documentary about the importance of cultural heritage and identity follows a Peruvian single father who embarks on an ambitious journey to dub the entirety of THE LION KING into his Indigenous language of Quechua. DIR August Zegarra. Peru, 2025, 81 min. In English, Quechua and Spanish with English subtitles.

Portugal



I ONLY REST IN THE STORM [O RISO E A FACA]

Thurs, Oct. 9, 7:15

Pedro Pinho's provocative, sprawling drama follows a Portuguese NGO worker on assignment in Guinea-Bissau, smitten with the place and its people but limited in his understanding of them and his relationship to the larger powers he serves. DIR Pedro Pinho. Portugal/Brazil/France/Romania, 2025, 211 min. In Portuguese with English subtitles.

Note: contains images of explicit sexuality.

Puerto Rico



THIS ISLAND [ESTA ISLA]

Sat, Sept. 20, 11:15 a.m.; Mon, Sept. 22, 7:00

As violence swiftly upends his world, teenager Bebo goes on the run with Lola, a girl from a wealthy family who similarly finds herself adrift within the confines of Puerto Rico. A striking feature directorial debut, THIS ISLAND paints a portrait of Puerto Rican youth struggling with the path placed before them and seeking to forge their own. DIR Lorraine Jones Molina, Cristian Carretero. Puerto Rico, 2025, 114 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Spain



WOLF BEACH [PLAYA DE LOBOS]

International Premiere

Wed, Sept. 24, 6:30; Fri, Sept. 26, 9:40

Argentine tourist Klaus (Guillermo Francella) plops down at the kitschy beach bar run by Manu (Dani Rovira) and refuses to leave. As the two men bicker and banter, it becomes clear this chance encounter was no coincidence, and a twist-filled game of cat and mouse begins. A wacky play on STRANGERS ON A TRAIN, this is a killer comedy with a murderous streak. DIR Javier Veiga. Spain/Argentina, 2025, 100 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.



THE FLAMENCO GUITAR OF YERAI CORTÉS [LA GUITARRA FLAMENCA DE YERAI CORTÉS]

East Coast Premiere

Fri, Oct. 3, 9:10; Tue, Oct. 7, 9:20

Drawing on the traditions of his *gitano* roots, guitarist Yeraí Cortés pushes the boundaries of contemporary flamenco, exhuming his family's painful history to craft his masterful debut album. Filled with incredible performances and heartbreaking revelations, this vibrant reminder of the power of song won Best Documentary and Best Original Song at the 2025 Goya Awards.

DIR Antón Álvarez. Spain, 2024, 95 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

SIRÂT

Sat, Oct. 4, 8:30

One of the most buzzed-about movies at Cannes, this bombastic edge-of-your-seat thrill ride follows a devoted father desperately searching for his missing daughter amid the underground rave scene in the harsh Moroccan desert. Shot in breathtaking 16mm by visionary Spanish auteur Oliver Laxe and featuring a pulse-pounding techno score, this adrenaline-filled journey through the depths of grief and destruction is a deranged masterpiece. DIR Oliver Laxe. Spain/France, 2025, 115 min. In Spanish and French with English subtitles.

Uruguay



A BRIGHT FUTURE [UN FUTURO BRILLANTE]

Sun, Sept. 21, 5:50; Mon, Sept. 22, 4:45

In this lo-fi sci-fi sophomore feature from Uruguayan director Lucía Garibaldi, 18-year-old Elisa is chosen to go work in the North, a privilege and honor that brings joy to her mother and her hometown. But the clever young woman's curiosity leads her to question whether the North truly is the paradise it is heralded to be. DIR Lucía Garibaldi. Uruguay/Argentina/Germany, 2025, 98 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

CENTERPIECE SCREENING



A LOOSE END [UN CABO SUELTO]

U.S. Premiere

Sat, Sept. 27, 5:30

Post-screening reception sponsored by the Embassy of Uruguay

In this charming comic caper from Uruguayan filmmaker Daniel Hendler (THE MONEYCHANGER), a corporal in the Argentine police force flees to Uruguay and poses as a food inspector, eking out a living thanks to delicious cheese and sausages and the kindness of strangers — including one who may be the love of his life. DIR Daniel Hendler. Uruguay/Argentina/Spain, 2025, 95 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Venezuela



LOST CHAPTERS [LOS CAPÍTULO PERDIDOS]

Sat, Sept. 27, 1:20; Thurs, Oct. 2, 9:30

Returning to Caracas after years living abroad, Ena spends the summer caring for her grandmother and helping her father, Ignacio, search for a mysterious Venezuelan novel. A playful literary adventure, the debut feature from Lorena Alvarado preciously mines the personal to find resonance within the crucial moment currently facing Venezuela. DIR Lorena Alvarado. Venezuela/U.S., 2024, 67 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

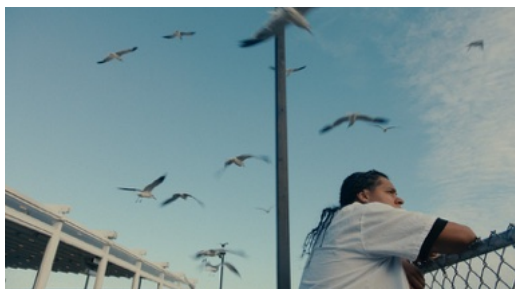
IT WOULD BE NIGHT IN CARACAS [AÚN ES DE NOCHE EN CARACAS]

U.S. Premiere

Fri, Oct. 3, 7:00

Rolling blackouts, food scarcity and violent protests sweep through Caracas, forcing Adelaida out of her treasured apartment. She finds refuge in a unit across the hall, but it comes with a price. Coming direct from its premieres at the Venice and Toronto film festivals, this breathless thriller is a painful eulogy to a country in free fall. DIR Marité Ugás, Mariana Rondón. Mexico/Venezuela, 2025, 97 min. In Spanish with English subtitles.

U.S. and the World

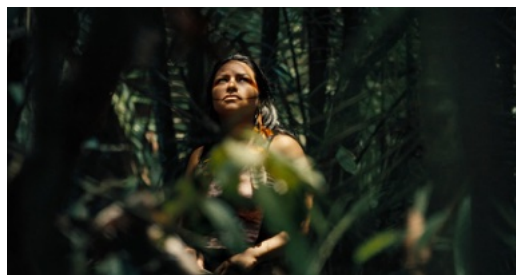


MAD BILLS TO PAY (OR DESTINY, DILE QUE NO SOY MALO)

Sat, Sept. 20, 3:50; Wed, Sept. 24, 4:00

Q&A with filmmaker Joel Alfonso Vargas and actors Juan Collado and Destiny Checo on Sept. 20

In the sweltering heat of the Bronx summer, 19-year-old Rico struggles to adapt to adulthood when his pregnant girlfriend moves into the house he shares with his mom and sister. Bronx native Joel Alfonso Vargas' brilliant meditation on masculinity is affectionately crafted, filled with moments of humor, brutal realities and the endless love of family. DIR Joel Alfonso Vargas. U.S., 2025, 99 min. In English and Spanish with English subtitles.



YANUNI

Thurs, Sept. 25, 6:30

Co-presented by the Environmental Film Festival in the Nation's Capital

The first female elected chief of her people in the Amazon, Indigenous activist Juma Xipaia has survived six assassination attempts as she dares to face the ruthless mining companies whose every action threatens to destroy her community. Produced by Leonardo DiCaprio, filmmaker Richard Ladkani's mesmerizing eco-thriller juxtaposes awe-inspiring nature photography with heartless violence in a fight for environmental justice that never ends. DIR Richard Ladkani. Austria/Brazil/U.S./Canada/Germany, 2025, 112 min. In Portuguese with English subtitles.



HOLA FRIDA

Sat, Sept. 27, 11:15 a.m. (English); Sun, Sept. 28, 11:00 a.m. (Spanish with English subtitles)

This charming animated film, adapted from a children's book and freely inspired by Frida Kahlo's life, recreates the early life of the beloved Mexican painter, depicting how a polio diagnosis during childhood led her to discover the wondrous possibilities of art. DIR Karine Vézina, André Kadi. Canada/France, 2024, 82 min.

HOLA FRIDA is presented dubbed in English on Sept. 27 and dubbed in Spanish with English subtitles on Sept. 28.

CENTERPIECE SCREENING



KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN

Sat, Sept. 27, 7:45

Valentín (Diego Luna), a political prisoner, shares a cell with Molina (Tonatiuh), a window dresser convicted of public indecency. The two form an unlikely bond as Molina recounts the plot of a Hollywood musical starring his favorite silver screen diva, Ingrid Luna (Jennifer Lopez). DREAMGIRLS director Bill Condon returns to the movie musical in this dazzling Technicolor-hued fantasy. DIR Bill Condon. U.S., 2025, 128 min. In English.



SILENT MOVIE DAY PRESENTATION

THE BLOOD OF A POET [LE SANG D'UN POÈTE]

Mon, Sept. 29, 7:00

FREE for Silver Cinema Club members!

Chilean actor Enrique Riveros stars as a poet who goes on a surreal journey through multiple dimensions which offer disturbing images dense with interpretive possibilities. One of prolific artist Jean Cocteau's earliest cinematic efforts, *THE BLOOD OF A POET* suggests the virtuosic command of the form that would later define his future film work like *LA BELLE ET LA BÊTE* and *ORPHÉE*. DIR Jean Cocteau. France, 1932, 55 min. Silent with recorded soundtrack; select narration in French with English subtitles.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

LEONORA IN THE MORNING LIGHT

U.S. Premiere

Wed, Oct. 1, 9:10; Sat, Oct. 4, 3:30

Q&A with filmmakers Thor Klein and Lena Vurma on Oct. 4

Based on the bestselling novel by Mexican author Elena Poniatowska, this lush biopic presents a complex portrait of British-born painter Leonora Carrington as she mixes and mingles with the surrealists in Paris before settling in midcentury Mexico, becoming one of the biggest artists of her generation in the process. DIR Thor Klein, Lena Vurma. Germany/Mexico/Romania/UK, 2025, 103 min. In English, French and Spanish with English subtitles.



Thank You to Our Sponsors

Gold Sponsor



Cultural Sponsors



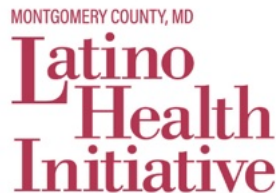
MEXICAN
CULTURAL
INSTITUTE
WASHINGTON DC



Embassy of Uruguay
in the United States

For a complete list of cultural sponsors, please visit AFI.com/Silver/LAFF

Supporting Sponsors



AFI Silver's programs are supported in part by
the Maryland State Arts Council (msac.org)

This program was printed sustainably in a plant with zero carbon footprint by

