

## PRESS RELEASE 06 Feb 2017



Image credits: Sol Picó, *One-Hit Wonders*; La Movida /Alejandría Cinque; *Cien años de perdón* (To Steal from a Thief)

## SPANISH & LATIN AMERICAN FESTIVAL ¡VIVA! RETURNS TO HOME WITH INTERNATIONAL FILM & THEATRE PREMIERES AND PIONEERING NEW GROUP EXHIBITION LA MOVIDA

Fri 31 Mar – Mon 17 Apr 2017

- The popular festival returns with a venue-wide, 18-day celebration of Spanish and Latin American culture
- ¡Viva! 2017 commemorates the 40th anniversary of the abolition of censorship in Spain, investigating the transition to democracy era (*La Transición*)
- 29 films and 15 UK Premieres from new and established directors from 10 different countries including Spain, Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela
- Five international theatre productions including three UK Premieres and a World Premiere from Sol Picó, Agrupación Señor Serrano, Emma Frankland and Barcelona playwright Josep Maria Miró Coromina
- HOME, CBRE, First Street and partners present three weekends of live music, dancing and performances, spilling out from HOME into Tony Wilson Place, featuring party nights, DJs plus Spanish-inspired cuisine & drinks
- New group show *La Movida*, a pioneering contemporary exhibition exploring the artistic and socio-cultural movement of post-Franco Spain with new commissions by Luis López Carrasco, Clara Casian and La JohnJoseph and including work by Bruce LaBruce, Derek Jarman and Linder Sterling

# HOME

- **La Movida will be accompanied by major new HOME publications release *Dark Habits*, with contributions from 19 writers including Shumon Basar, Jonathon Kemp, Patricia MacCormack, Heather Phillipson, Adam O'Riordan, & Natasha Stallard**

HOME is delighted to announce **¡Viva! Spanish & Latin American Festival 2017**, the festival's 23rd edition across 18 days of films, theatre shows, exhibitions and events this spring, from across the Spanish-speaking world.

HOME will present a host of strong international performances, with two UK Premieres of Spanish work including *One-Hit Wonders*, marking the 20th anniversary of award-winning contemporary dance company **Sol Picó** (winner of the Spanish National Dance Award 2016), and Barcelona's hottest young theatre company **Agrupación Señor Serrano** with their multimedia performance *Birdie*. **Emma Frankland** and **Keir Cooper** return with the World Premiere of *Republica*, following the sold-out success of *Don Quijote* at the festival in 2016. ¡Viva! 2017 will also present two scratch performances from Barcelona playwright **Josep Maria Miró Coromina** on HOME's main stage, *Smoke* and *The Archimedes Principle*, continuing the strand from last year's festival which presented well-received scratch performances of *Chamaco (Kiddo)* by Cuban playwright Abel González Melo.

The packed film programme features the best in new Spanish and Latin American filmmaking, with an exciting line-up of UK premieres and filmmaker Q&As from ten different countries - Spain, Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela.

¡Viva! 2017 will also present three weekends of live music, dancing and performances at First Street - Tony Wilson Place, alongside party nights, DJs and Spanish food and drink. The fiesta will start on Fri 31 Mar with an opening party and exclusive performance from the Basque Country's indie pop and rock band **Rural Zombies**, in collaboration with Instituto Cervantes and Girando Por Salas.

Commemorating the 40th anniversary of the abolition of censorship in Spain, this year ¡Viva! investigates the transition to democracy era known as **La Transición**, presenting a series of films from and about the period, including *Pepi, Luci, Bom* (**Pedro Almodóvar**, 1980), alongside *Republica* – inspired by another historical period of transition in Spain,



and the last time democracy was seen before the Franco dictatorship – and **La Movida**, a major new contemporary group exhibition reacting to the hedonistic counterculture movement *La Movida madrileña*, curated by Sarah Perks. The show will be accompanied by new creative fiction publication **Dark Habits**, featuring artists from the show and an international selection of contributors.

HOME is also pleased to announce the return of the festival's introduced screenings, the post-screening discussion, the One Hour Intro, the Café Cervantes language learners' event, and the Adult Study Session. Responding to current debates in the industry and to the strength of films made by women in 2017 programme research, *¡Viva!* features a special focus on contemporary women cineastes, with a panel discussion including visiting female filmmakers. The Festival also looks at the flourishing Basque film industry this year, and for the first time invites festivalgoers to try their hand at the Basque language.

## IN BRIEF: *¡Viva!* 2017 – Theatre

- **WORLD PREMIERE**

***Republica***

**Fri 31 Mar & Sat 1 Apr**

**Presented Juan Carlos Otero, Keir Cooper and Lola Rueda in collaboration with Emma Frankland**

**Press night Fri 31 Mar**

Following the sold-out success of *Don Quijote* at last year's *¡Viva!* festival, Emma Frankland and Keir Cooper are back this time with flamenco dancers and choreographers Juan Carlos Otero and Lola Rueda. In a fusion of anarchic theatre and dance, a flamenco dancer, a guitarist and a stripper reclaim the forgotten history of events leading to the Spanish Civil War. With the rise in opposition between anti-austerity and far-right movements all over Europe and the UK, *Republica* is a timely examination of the last time a government dared to take power from the super-rich to distribute it equally amongst its people.



- **UK PREMIERE**

***One-Hit Wonders***

**Sat 1 Apr**

**Presented by Sol Picó**

**Press night Sat 1 Apr**

Ground breaking Spanish choreographer and flamenco star Sol Picó celebrates 20 years at the top of her game with the one-night only, UK premiere of *One-Hit Wonders*. This outstanding solo show, from the winner of 2016's Spanish National Dance Award, is built with fragments of Sol Picó's most iconic works, *D.V.A (Dudoso valor artístico)* (1999); *Bésame el cactus* (2000); *Paella Mixta* (2004); *El Llac de les Mosques* (2009) and *Memòries d'una puça* (2012). She will be accompanied on stage by actor, fakir and machinist Joan Manrique.

- **UK PREMIERE**

***Birdie***

**Thu 6 & Fri 7 Apr**

**Presented by Agrupación Señor Serrano**

**Press night Thu 6 Apr**

*Birdie* is a multimedia performance with live video, objects, Hitchcock's *The Birds* revisited, scale models, 2000 mini animals, wars, smugglers, a massive migration and three performers handling this messy world with wit, criticism and commitment with humankind. Founded in Barcelona, Agrupación Señor Serrano is a theatre company that creates original productions based on stories drawn from contemporary times. They won the Silver Lion 2015 from the Venice Biennale.

- ***Barcelona Now***

**Thu 6 – Sat 8 Apr**

**Presented by HOME**

As part of *¡Viva!* 2017, we explore two scripts from Barcelona playwright Josep Maria Miró Coromina, presented as scratch performances on HOME's main stage with actors from the Greater Manchester area. *Smoke* will be directed by HOME's Artistic Director: Theatre, Walter Meierjohann, and Resident Assistant Director



Samuel Ward (Birkbeck MA in Theatre Directing placement student) will direct *The Archimedes Principle*.

**Scratch Performance: *Smoke***

**Thu 6 & Sat 8 Apr**

**Presented by HOME, directed by Walter Meierjohann**

Two couples meet in the hotel of a developing country, where they are confined for three days due to an outbreak of violence in the area, a situation that has necessitated an escalation of security measures and the temporary closure of the international airport. The older couple, a former diplomat and his wife, has been living comfortably in the area for years. The young couple is there to adopt a baby girl. The encounter exposes the delicate balance of their existence and leads them into a spiral of lies and betrayals.

**Scratch Performance: *The Archimedes Principle***

**Fri 7 & Sat 8 Apr**

**Presented by HOME, directed by Samuel Ward**

How safe are our children in the care of a stranger? How much do we know about the people we work with? How far would we go to protect ourselves? In a town haunted by an incident at the nearby Scouts centre, regular swimming lessons come to a halt when an instructor is accused of inappropriately touching a child during a lesson and the dangers of social media creep to the surface. When history appears to repeat itself, what can we do but expect the worst?

## IN BRIEF: ¡Viva! 2017 – Visual Art

- **La Movida**

**Fri 14 Apr – Mon 17 Jul**

**Preview Thu 13 Apr**

**Curated by Sarah Perks**

**With new commissions by Luis López Carasco, Clara Casian and La JohnJoseph**

This pioneering contemporary visual art group exhibition takes the artistic and socio-cultural movement *La Movida* (literally 'the scene') of post-Franco Spain as its thematic heart. Suddenly the forbidden arenas of politics and sexuality are



open for public debate and creative communities. Excess, clubbing, drugs, artistic freedom, gay rights, pornography and more all collided in an outpouring of freedom from suppression and a desire to make up for lost time in the early 80s in Madrid.

The exhibition sets new commissions reacting to the movement alongside existing international works that explore major conceits of *La Movida* less directly including freedom & excess, civil rights & counterculture, hedonism and transgression. Forty years since the transition to democracy, the exhibition and its related films, performance and literature present a re-imagining of a movement with a strong contemporary artistic and socio-political resonance today.

Major new creative fiction publication *Dark Habits* is also published alongside this exhibition, featuring artists from the show and an international selection of contributors including Patricia MacCormack, Heather Phillipson, Jonathon Kemp, Adam O'Riordan, Shumon Basar & Natasha Stallard.

Artists: Oreet Ashery, Bruce LaBruce, Luis López Carrasco, Clara Casian, Alejandría Cinque, Jesse Darling, Patricia Esquivias, Paul Heyer, Derek Jarman, La JohnJoseph, Raisa Maudit, Chim-Pom, Puppies Puppies, Linder Sterling, Esther Teichmann, Stefanos Tsivopoulos

*Presented in partnership with Matadero, Madrid; Madrid Film School; The Estate of Derek Jarman, Wilkinson Gallery, Zabłudowicz Collection and AC/E Spain.*

## IN BRIEF: ¡Viva! 2017 – Film

- **¡VIVA! OPENING NIGHT**

***Cien años de perdón (To Steal from a Thief) + Q&A***

**Fri 31 Mar / Mon 3 Apr**

*Dir Daniel Calparsoro / ES AR FR 2016 / 96 mins/ Cert 15*

*Luis Tosar, Rodrigo De la Serna, Raúl Arévalo, José Coronado, Patricia Vico*

In this stylish thriller set in Valencia, a meticulously planned bank heist goes



dangerously wrong when torrential rain floods the escape route. As the criminal gang desperately search for a way out, it soon becomes clear that what is hidden in the bank's safe deposit boxes could be much more important than a handful of gems and a few wads of bills. Expertly written by Goya winner Jorge Guerricaechevarría - a constant collaborator with Álex de la Iglesia and the co-writer of Pedro Almodóvar's *Carne trémula* – the plot twists and underlying political intrigue combine to create an enjoyably tense and satisfyingly complex action film that's sure to engage and entertain audiences. **We are pleased to welcome special guests for a Q&A following the screening on Fri 31 Mar.**

- **Alba**

**Sat 1 Apr / Thu 6 Apr**

*Dir Ana Cristina Barragán / EC MX GR 2015 / 90 mins / Cert 12A*

*Macarena Arias, Pablo Aguirre Andrade, Amaia Merino*

This debut feature is a testament to the impact of restrained filmmaking, with a pitch-perfect portrait of the growing pains of an 11-year-old girl. Expertly played in the young actress Arias' screen debut, Alba has to come to terms with a terminally ill beloved mother, a strange and estranged father, and all the usual petty bullying and social complexities of adolescence. Drawing you in without relying on a soaring soundtrack to tug the heartstrings, this tender film is bound to touch your emotions as you follow her path towards a greater level of personal strength and maturity.

- **TALK**

***Our Sentiments Exactly: Transition in Spain and Spanish Cinema***

**Sat 1 Apr**

The transition from dictatorship to democracy prompted conflicting emotions including regret, resentment, confusion and relief, as well as new sentiments arising from the expression of previously suppressed identities that were regional, political, sexual, young and different to anything seen in Spain and Spanish cinema before. This illustrated talk traces a path through *La Transición* to show how citizenship in Spain was re-imagined in terms of new sentiments of belonging to communities that had little to do with the state. **Led by Professor Rob Stone, University of Birmingham.**



- ***Pepi, Luci, Bom y otras chicas del montón (Pepi, Luci, Bom and Other Girls on the Heap)***

**Sat 1 Apr**

*Dir Pedro Almodóvar / ES 1980 / 81 mins / Cert 18*

*Carmen Maura, Eva Siva, Alaska (Olvido Gara), Félix Rotaeta, Cecilia Roth, Julieta Serrano*

Pedro Almodóvar's first feature quickly became a cult film, and an icon of the cultural and sexual liberation of *La Movida madrileña*. The plot follows the wild adventures of three friends: Pepi, an independent modern woman; Luci, a mousy, masochistic housewife; and Bom, a lesbian punk rock singer. The eponymous female trio at the centre of this outrageous black comedy confront the heteronormative machismo of 1980s Spain in flamboyant style, with a heady mix of drugs, sex and rock-n-roll that can still challenge audiences today.

- **UK PREMIERE**

***Almacenados (Warehoused)***

**Sat 1 Apr / Mon 17 Apr**

*Dir Jack Zagha Kababie / MX 2015 / 93 mins / Cert PG*

*José Carlos Ruiz, Hoze Meléndez*

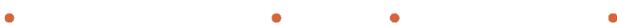
From the director of 2015 Mexican favourite *En el último trago (One for the Road)*, an amusing drama that epitomises the art of engaging minimalism. After 39 years as caretaker at the Salvaleon warehouse, Mr Lino is preparing for retirement, and he spends the last five days at work training Nin, his young replacement. Despite Mr Lino's exacting instructions and bureaucratic obsessions, Nin realises that hardly anything ever actually happens in the quiet building. As time goes by, to the precise rhythm set by meaningless tasks and uncomfortable silences, the mismatched pair overcome their generational conflict and develop a unique bond over the weight of one great lie.

- **Adult Study Session**

***El Comienzo del tiempo***

**Sun 2 Apr**

Ana Valbuena presents our ever-popular study session for adult Spanish language learners. Following an introduction in Spanish and a full screening of *El Comienzo*



*del tiempo*, attendees will practise their Spanish language skills through discussing topics such as: inter-generational relationships, family ties, friendship and social issues. Cert 12A. Conversational Spanish recommended.

- **UK PREMIERE**

***La Madre (The Mother)***

**Sun 2 Apr / Wed 5 Apr**

*Dir Alberto Morais / ES FR RO 2016 / 90 mins / Cert 12A*

*Laia Marull, Nieve de Medina, Javier Mendo, Sergio Caballero, Ovidiu Crisan*

An engaging drama about a 14-year-old Spanish boy trying his best to stay out of the care system, with a single mum who's tragically incapable of providing a stable home life. On the run from Social Services, Miguel seeks refuge with his mother's Romanian ex, but life is tough when you don't truly belong – a deliberate reversal of the usual immigrant role. Miguel is determined but vulnerable, and his dignity and strength in the face of adversity will have you rooting for him all the way, and cheering on those who offer him the kindness and respect he deserves.

- **UK PREMIERE**

***Pasaje de vida (Safe Passage) + Q&A***

**Sun 2 Apr**

*Dir Diego Corsini / AR ES 2015 / 116 mins / Cert 15*

*Chino Darín, Miguel Ángel Solá, Carla Quevedo, Javier Godino*

A tense political thriller based on real events that lays bare the devastating after effects of an oppressive regime on future generations. In contemporary Spain Mario is struggling to care for his father, Miguel, whose dementia often transports him back to his tumultuous youth in 1970s Argentina. Through the memories of one of their contemporaries, Mario discovers the hidden truth: his parents were radical activists. The young Miguel – played by Chino Darín, son of Ricardo – and his upper-class girlfriend Diana were idealistic revolutionaries under the end of the Perón government, making the deadly transition from peaceful protest to clandestine armed struggle. **We are pleased to welcome director Diego Corsini for a Q&A following the UK premiere on Sun 2 Apr.**



- **UK PREMIERE**

***El Amparo***

**Sun 2 Apr / Fri 14 Apr**

*Dir Rober Calzadilla / VE CO 2016 / 99 mins / Cert 12A*

*Giovanni García, Vicente Quintero, Vicente Peña, Rossana Hernández, Samantha Castillo*

This debut feature is based on the remarkable true story of two survivors of a massacre on the Arauca River in the late 1980s. As the two terrified men take refuge in their local police cell, a growing number of brave voices line up to defend them against the menacing weight of the army and the government. The great performances and beautiful location make it a pleasure to watch this shocking story of institutional corruption. As the director notes, *El Amparo* is not only a Venezuelan or Latin-American drama, it represents all the unsolved cases we don't even hear about: it represents all people who have been somehow erased, silenced, then ignored by power.

- **UK PREMIERE**

***El Cristo ciego (The Blind Christ)***

**Mon 3 Apr**

*Dir Christopher Murray / CL FR 2016 / 85 mins / Cert 15*

*Pedro Godoy, Ana María Henríquez, Bastián Insotroza, Mauricio Pinto, Michael Silva*

Michael believes he is Christ, everyone else thinks he's a fool: only a miracle can repair their faith. Receiving news of an old friend in desperate need, he embarks on a barefoot pilgrimage through the Atacama Desert, an area blighted by an exploitative mining industry and in dire need of faith in something. Chilean director Murray said of his docufiction piece: "Holding no current religious beliefs myself, I made this film because I am convinced that in pondering faith, we can uncover the social conflicts that have historically plagued us as a country and society: those deserts that have marked our humanity."

- ***La Puerta abierta (The Open Door) + La Boda + Q&A***

**Tue 4 Apr**

*Dir Marina Seresesky / ES 2016 / 84 mins / Cert 15*

*Carmen Machi, Terele Pávez, Asier Etxeandía, Paco Tous, Lucía Balas*

Rosa is an aging prostitute resigned to living in misery in the company of her cranky mother, Antonia, from whom she inherited her ancient profession; that is,



until she meets 7-year-old Lyuba and discovers a unique opportunity to achieve happiness. A fabulous cast and witty script complement a plot that is by turns darkly comic and tenderly tragic. A film about family, about women, about a community of prostitutes, and about second chances. This feature film is accompanied by the Argentinian-born director's wonderfully poignant 12-minute short film *La Boda*, a 2013 Goya finalist. An undocumented Cuban immigrant living in Madrid is preparing for her daughter's wedding, but getting there is more difficult than it first appeared. **We are pleased to welcome director Marina Seresesky and producer Álvaro Lavín for a Q&A following the screening on Tue 4 Apr.**

- **UK PREMIERE**

- La Tierra roja (The Red Land)***

- Tue 4 Apr / Thu 13 Apr**

- Dir Diego Martinez Vignatti / AR BE 2015 / 105 mins / Cert 15*

- Geert Van Rampelberg, Eugenia Ramírez, Jorge Aranda, Alexandros Potamianos*

- Described as a contemporary environmental western, this film is set in the remote region of Misiones, bordering Paraguay and Brazil, where a Belgian man has been assigned by a multinational corporation. Pierre has settled in well to his new community, coaching the local rugby team to success and falling for Ana, a beautiful school teacher and single mother. But his role overseeing deforestation and the use of toxic pesticides brings him into direct and violent conflict with the resident activists, the powers that be, and his own moral conscience. A powerful story about grassroots struggle against global capitalism and cynical governance.

- The screening on Thu 13 Apr will be introduced by Dr Ignacio Aguiló, University of Manchester.**

- **ONE HOUR INTRO**

- Film and Spain's Transition to Democracy**

- Wed 5 Apr**

- This one-hour introduction will provide some useful background context to the exciting explosion of filmmaking in Spain that followed the death of General Franco in 1975 and that is the focus of this year's ¡Viva! retrospective screenings. Topics that will be covered include: political filmmaking; the abolition of



censorship; women filmmakers; gender and sexuality on screen; politics and popular forms; regional and national identities. **Led by Dr Andy Willis from the University of Salford and Dr Carmen Herrero from the Manchester Metropolitan University.**

- ***Siete días de enero* (Seven Days in January)**

**Wed 5 Apr**

*Dir Juan Antonio Bardem / ES 1979 / 170 mins / CTBC*

*Manuel Angel Egea, Madeleine Robinson, Virginia Mataix, Jacques François, Alberto Alonso*

This 1979 political drama is a reconstruction of the tragic events of January 1977 known as the Massacre of Atocha, when right-wing extremists stormed the offices of a group of employment lawyers with links to the Spanish Communist Party, leaving 5 dead and 4 gravely injured. The attack, carried out in the name of *La Triple A* (Anti-Communist Apostolic Alliance), was the most serious incident during the *transición* to democracy in Spain, a period of extreme socio-political agitation. The film aligns itself with the theory that there was a so-called “strategy of tension” intended to destabilise the fledgling democracy and provoke a coup d’état.

- ***Rara***

**Thu 6 Apr / Fri 14 Apr**

*Dir Pepa San Martín / CL AR 2016 / 88 mins / Cert 12A*

*Julia Lübbert, Emilia Ossandon, Mariana Loyola, Agustina Muñoz, Daniel Muñoz*

Another excellent debut feature: a coming-of-age story within a non-traditional family, where two sisters live happily with their mother and her female partner. Despite her loving and stable home life, as Sara approaches 13 she is suffering from typical teenage angst – her first crush, the vagaries of playground politics, and a burgeoning desire for independence. Add to this an insidious homophobia from school staff and some other parents, and their domestic harmony starts to come under threat. With its great cinematography, acting and script, there's a wonderfully natural feel to the film, especially in the love-hate relationship between the young sisters. A joy to watch.



- **Panel Discussion**

***Contemporary Female Filmmakers in Spain***

**Thu 6 Apr**

Responding to current debates in the industry and to the strength of films made by women discovered during our programme research, we feature a special focus on contemporary women filmmakers. An informal and informative discussion with visiting female filmmakers Nely Reguera, director of ¡Viva! 2017 film *María (y los demás)*, and Mariela Artilles of Candella Films. Open to everyone, from the general public to aspiring filmmakers and film students, and all those interested in the experience of women in film. **Chaired by Dr Carmen Herrero, Manchester Metropolitan University.**

- ***La Novia (The Bride)***

**Thu 6 Apr**

*Dir Paula Ortiz / ES DE 2015 / 96 mins / Cert 15*

*Inma Cuesta, Álex García, Asier Etxeandia, Luisa Gavasa, Carlos Álvarez-Nóvoa, Leticia Dolera*

Based on the famous Federico García Lorca play *Bodas de sangre*, *La Novia* tells the story of a young woman caught between the two men she loves, with the background of a blood feud between their families. As the wedding day approaches The Bride's loyalty to The Groom is tested by the presence of her former lover Leonardo, and their passion threatens to explode with devastating consequences. With its poetic language and starkly beautiful landscapes this is a wonderfully epic tale of betrayal that makes for some visually stunning cinema.

- **UK PREMIERE**

***El Soñador (The Dreamer)***

**Fri 7 Apr / Sun 16 Apr**

*Dir Adrián Saba / PE 2016 / 80 mins / Cert 15*

*Gustavo Borjas, Elisa Tenaud, Herbert Corimanya, Valentín Prado*

Sebastian, nicknamed Chaplin, leads a life of petty crime in Lima, Peru. After a violent incident and a forbidden liaison turn his gang members against him, Chaplin can no longer retreat to his dreams to escape. Wonderfully shot with a beautiful colour palette, the lyrical flow between reality and dreams, past and present, all falls into place in the poignant denouement. Contemplating *El*



*Soñador* and his masterful debut *El Limpiador*, Saba said: "I am interested in the marginalised, the forgotten, and more than anything the people that consciously or unconsciously look for the purpose in their lives. I always wonder if we can change our paths or if there is no way out."

- **UK PREMIERE**

***María (y los demás) (María (and Everybody Else)) + Q&A***

**Fri 7 Apr**

*Dir Nely Reguera / ES 2016 / 90 mins / Cert 12A*

*Bárbara Lennie, José Ángel Egido, Rocío León, Pablo Derqui, Vito Sanz, Julián Villagrán*

María has been a homemaker for her brothers and father for the past twenty years; responsible and controlling, she is proud to be the pillar of the family. But at the age of 35 she suddenly finds herself superfluous to requirements, and seemingly condemned to orbit around the lives of others. Her increasingly desperate attempts to be at the centre of something – family, friends, love life or work – generate plenty of laughs as well as sympathy. With a wonderful cast and perfect comic timing, a great debut feature from Catalan filmmaker Reguera. Peppered with Galician delicacies, classic family squabbles, and some excruciatingly misguided choices, this film is a delight. **We are pleased to welcome director Nely Reguera for a Q&A following the screening on Fri 7 Apr.**

- **UK PREMIERE**

***Distancias cortas (Walking Distance)***

**Fri 7 Apr**

*Dir Alejandro Guzmán Álvarez / MX 2015 / 104 mins / Cert 12A*

*Luca Ortega, Mauricio Isaac, Joel Figueroa*

This funny and poignant debut is a wonderful urban fairy-tale of love, friendship and the pursuit of a dream. Morbidly obese, Fede struggles to move about, let alone leave his Mexico City home. He keeps to a routine marked by jewellery making and Sunday visits from his domineering sister Rosaura and sympathetic brother-in-law Ramón. When he finds an old undeveloped camera film he is inspired to venture out to a photography studio, where he meets spiky-haired punk rock and comic book enthusiast Paulo. Fede, Ramón and Paulo form an unlikely friendship that changes their lives forever.



- **UK PREMIERE**

- KIMUAK 2016 + Q&A**

- Sat 8 Apr / Sat 15 Apr**

- Dir* various / *ES* 2016 / 95 mins / Basque, Spanish, English & Italian wEngST / Cert 15

- The latest edition of the KIMUAK collection of Basque short films. Full details to be announced in February 2017. **We are pleased to welcome director María Elorza from Las Chicas de Pasaik for a Q&A following the screening on Sat 8 Apr.**

- **Basque Language Taster**

- Sat 8 Apr**

- Basque speakers and learners of all levels, even absolute beginners, are welcome to this relaxed introduction to the language, to celebrate the vibrant Basque film industry and wider Basque culture. Are you a fan of the world-class Basque cuisine, the haunting music of the *bertsolaris*, Bilbao's Guggenheim Museum, or the San Sebastián International Film Festival? Come along to pick up your first words of *euskara*, the only surviving pre-Indo-European language in Western Europe. **This informal session will be led by staff from the Instituto Cervantes, with special guests. Free, booking required.**

- **Pikadero + Q&A**

- Sat 8 Apr**

- Dir* Ben Sharrock / *ES UK* 2015 / 99 mins / Basque wEngST / Cert 12A

- Bárbara Goenaga, Ylenia Baglietto, Joseba Usabiaga, Itziar Lazkano*

- Unable to fly the nest due to the economic crisis that grips Spain, a young couple have trouble consummating their relationship. Increasingly desperate and with no money for a hotel, they are forced to look for local public hotspots used for sex, known as *pikaderos*. However, things are never easy and their relationship is quickly tested as they try to break free from the shackles of a crumbling economy. A quirky delight, *Pikadero* depicts the quiet humiliations of the economic crisis with a simple narrative that unfolds through tableaux of observational deadpan humour. This Spain-UK co-production with a Scottish director won the prestigious award for Best British Feature Film at the 2016 Edinburgh International Film Festival. **We are pleased to welcome director Ben Sharrock and producer Irune Gurtubai**



**for a Q&A following the screening on Sat 8 Apr.**

- **Camino a La Paz (Road to La Paz)**

**Sat 8 Apr / Wed 12 Apr**

*Dirs Francisco Varone / AR 2015 / 90 mins / Cert 12A*

*Rodrigo De la Serna, Ernesto Suarez, Elisa Carricajo, Maria Canale*

This debut feature is delightful odd-couple road movie about two very different men who drive more than 1800 miles from Buenos Aires to the Bolivian city of La Paz, which literally translates as 'peace'. To a great bluesy soundtrack from Argentina's seminal 60s rock band Vox Dei, a fractious but enlightening relationship develops between thirty-something slacker Sebastian and elderly Sufi Muslim Jalil – perfectly played by acclaimed theatre actor Suarez in his screen debut at the age of 75. Both laugh-out-loud and moving, this is a tale of two dreamers looking for fulfilment and a fascinating glimpse of an Argentinian Muslim community.

- **CLASSIC**

***El Mundo sigue (Life Goes On)***

**Sun 9 Apr / Tue 11 Apr**

*Dir Fernando Fernán Gómez / ES 1965 / 121 mins / CTBC*

*Lina Canalejas, Fernando Fernán Gómez, Gemma Cuervo, Milagros Leal, Francisco Pierrá*

Two sisters, with an extreme case of sibling rivalry, each try to find success, love and status in 1960s Madrid. A melodrama inspired by Juan Antonio de Zunzunegui's novel of the same name, this indisputable jewel of Spanish filmmaking was anathema to the Franco-era censors and its original release limited to a single commercial cinema. Rereleased in 2015, this portrayal of moral misery under the dictatorship is a forgotten masterpiece in the Italian neorealist style. A rarely seen portrait of life in Madrid, and a tableau of different social classes entwined in a tragic tale: abortion, prostitution, gambling, envy, hate, resentment, deceit, and above all the terrible plight of women in such a society.

**Dr Stuart Green from the University of Leeds joins us for a post-screening discussion following the screening on Sun 9 Apr.**



- **¡Viva! 2017 Café Cervantes**

**Sun 9 Apr**

The welcome return of the Café Cervantes, an informal gathering of Spanish-speaking film lovers. Come and practise your language skills while sharing your opinions and recommendations for this year's ¡Viva! programme. HOME recommends language learners have intermediate level Spanish or above to participate fully in this event. **This event will be led by staff from the Instituto Cervantes. Free, booking required.**

- **UK PREMIERE**

***Santa y Andrés (Santa and Andrés)***

**Sun 9 Apr**

*Dir Carlos Lechuga / CU CO FR 2016 / 105 mins / Cert 18*

*Lola Amores, Eduardo Martínez, Cesar Domínguez, Luna Tinoco*

Cuba, 1983. The story of an improbable friendship between Santa, a revolutionary country girl, and Andrés, a gay writer blacklisted by the government for having 'ideological problems'. Gradually these two people, apparently so very different, realise that the things that bring them together are more important than those that separate them. This is a film about friendship, union, tolerance and the freedom to be different. Great central performances make it a pleasure to watch the blossoming relationship, expressing the director's belief that "friendship, love and art foster enduring bonds capable of bridging any political or ideological gap."

- ***El Diputado (The Deputy)* + intro**

**Sun 9 Apr**

*Dir Eloy de la Iglesia / ES 1978 / 110 mins / CTBC*

*José Sacristán, José Luis Alonso, María Luisa San José, Agustín González*

The eponymous deputy, Roberto Orbea, is a left-wing politician elected in the immediate aftermath of the end of the Franco dictatorship. Set up by his right-wing establishment rivals, the married Orbea's clandestine homosexuality is used against him in a blackmail plot when he falls in love with an adolescent boy. Made by the prolific gay socialist filmmaker Eloy de la Iglesia, this film takes advantage of the end of cinematic censorship in Spain to deal with formerly



taboo topics. **Introduced by Dr Andy Willis, University of Salford.**

- **UK PREMIERE**

***Presos (Imprisoned)***

**Mon 10 Apr / Mon 17 Apr**

*Dir Esteban Ramírez / CR CO 2015 / 97 mins / Cert 12A*

*Natalia Arias, Leynar Gomez, Alejandro Aguilar, Daniel Marin*

The story of a teenage girl from a religious and respectable family who gets involved with a prison inmate, leading to serious consequences for everyone concerned and the ultimate moral dilemma – how far would you go to protect someone you care about? *Presos* was Costa Rica's entry for the Best Foreign Language Film Oscar, and is based on a documentary about Costa Rican prisons made by the director's father in 1975. The work, family and romantic relationships are extremely well drawn, fully engaging the audience for the tense denouement and leaving plenty to discuss as the credits roll.

- **UK PREMIERE**

***Kalebegiak***

**Mon 10 Apr / Thu 13 Apr**

*Dirs various / ES 2016 / 112 mins / Basque, Spanish & English wEngST / Cert 15*

Twelve portraits of the city of San Sebastian, European Capital of Culture 2016. Full details to be announced in February 2017.

- **UK PREMIERE**

***Aislados (Isolated)***

**Tue 11 Apr**

*Dir Marcela Lizcano / CO EC MX 2016 / 73 mins / Cert PG*

This debut feature length documentary from Colombian filmmaker Lizcano is going to look spectacular on the big screen. An exquisite portrait of life on a group of minute artificial islands off the Caribbean coast near Cartagena: a community of 800 people – descended from slaves and inhabiting the islands for around 200 years – eke out their existence crammed into just 1200 square metres of space. The film raises issues around sustainable fishing and marine conservation; community activism and self-determination for marginalised groups; and how this



island culture serves as a metaphor for our whole planet. **Introduced by Dr Ignacio Aguiló, University of Manchester.**

- **UK PREMIERE**

- La Propera pell (The Next Skin)***

- Wed 12 Apr / Sun 16 Apr**

- Dirs Isaki Lacuesta & Isa Campo / ES CH 2016 / 103 mins / Catalan, French & Spanish wEngST / Cert 15*

- Àlex Monner, Emma Suárez, Sergi López, Greta Fernández, Bruno Todeschini*

- Teenager Leo, apparently suffering from a case of dissociative amnesia after a psychological shock, is identified in a French delinquency centre as Gabriel, Ana's long-lost son. Set in a small Catalan village on the Spanish side of the Pyrenees, during an atmospherically dark and snowy winter, the film effectively plays with character perspectives and shifting sympathies to keep you guessing until the end when the final layer of mystery is peeled away. With carefully nuanced performances from the central roles, including Almodóvar actress Suárez as Ana, this is an intriguing and original drama.

- **Arrebato (Rapture) + intro**

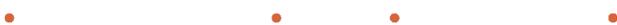
- Fri 14 Apr**

- Dir Iván Zulueta / ES 1980 / 105 mins / CTBC*

- Eusebio Poncela, Cecilia Roth, Will More, Marta Fernández Muro, Carmen Giral, Helena Fernández-Gómez*

- José receives a mysterious package from an old acquaintance Pedro P: a cassette tape, a reel of super-8 film and the key to his apartment. José listening to the tape and watching the reel then combines with flashbacks to the start of his relationship with Pedro, who claims he has developed a special sensitivity towards filmed images which allows him to reach the mystical state he calls *arrebato* (rapture). Despite being lauded by the likes of Álex de la Iglesia and Pedro Almodóvar, after suffering a series of breakdowns Zulueta never made another film; *Arrebato* has achieved legendary status as a unique and intoxicating experience and an emblem of radically different cinema in 1980s Spain.

- Introduced by Dr Andy Willis, University of Salford.**



- **El Comienzo del tiempo (The Beginning of Time)**

**Sat 15 Apr**

*Dir Bernardo Arellano / MX 2014 / 110 mins / Cert 12A*

*Francisco Barreiro, José Sefami*

Antonio and Bertha, a couple in their 90s living in Mexico City, experience extreme financial hardship when social security pensions are suspended during a crisis. Apparently abandoned by their children, they resort to hawking street food, selling their belongings, and even stealing. Things change when their son Jonas and grandson Paco, absent for over a decade, appear unexpectedly once again. The leitmotif imagery of clocks, watches and snails underline themes of mortality and the passage of time; a wonderfully moving and inspiring film that will very likely make you laugh and cry, but definitely leave you smiling.

- **El Pico (Overdose) + intro**

**Sat 15 Apr**

*Dir Eloy de la Iglesia / ES 1983 / 105 mins / Spanish and Basque wEngST*

*José Luis Manzano, Javier García, José Manuel Cervino, Luis Iriondo*

Eloy de la Iglesia's biggest box office hit was made in a rough, neo-realist style suitable to its gritty themes of drug addiction, juvenile delinquency and Basque nationalism in 1980s Spain. The cold, dark atmosphere of the Basque country is a perfect backdrop to this tragic tale of love, friendship, and heroin addiction. Paco and Urko, two Bilbao teenagers, are firm friends despite their disparate backgrounds – Paco's family are right wing and traditional, Urko lives with his single father, a left wing pro-independence politician. Partly they bond over a shared desire for Betty, a young Argentinian prostitute, but most of all over a shared addiction to heroin. **Introduced by Dr Andy Willis, University of Salford.**

**¡Viva! 2017 Festival partners are the Spanish Embassy in London, Instituto Cervantes, First Street, CBRE and. The Festival is supported by Acción Cultural Española, the BFI, INNSIDE by Melia and Palax.**

– ends –

[HOMEmcr.org/viva\\_2017](http://HOMEmcr.org/viva_2017)

#Viva2017



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For further information, images or review ticket requests please contact:

Elisa Ruff, HOME Senior Media and Communications Manager, +44 (0)161 212 3461, or [elisa.ruff@HOMEmcr.org](mailto:elisa.ruff@HOMEmcr.org)

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

**HOME**, Manchester's centre for international contemporary art, theatre, film and books, officially opened its doors over the 2015 May Bank Holiday weekend. Designed by Dutch architects Mecanoo and featuring a 500-seat theatre; a 150-seat flexible theatre; a 500m<sup>2</sup>, 4m high gallery space; five cinema screens; digital production and broadcast facilities; a café bar and restaurant. HOME's theatres are a platform for questioning and ambitious artistic projects that involve audiences with new and extraordinary theatrical experiences. The international contemporary visual art programme is dedicated to presenting new commissions by emerging and established artists of regional, national and international significance, with a bold, proactive policy of visual, innovative storytelling with the ability to experiment and explore, probe and provoke, creating a distinct experience for both artists and audiences. HOME's five cinemas showcase the very best in contemporary and classic cinema, screening works by artists and filmmakers both established and new. HOME is a centre for co-production, talent development and artistic creation, dedicated to learning, for people of all ages. A place for new work and playful ideas; of festivals and commissions; of artists and of audience engagement. The patrons of HOME are Danny Boyle, former National Theatre Artistic Director Nicholas Hytner, actress Suranne Jones, playwright and poet Jackie Kay MBE, artists Rosa Barba and Phil Collins, filmmaker Asif Kapadia, and actress and author Meera Syal CBE. [www.homemcr.org](http://www.homemcr.org) | @HOME\_mcr

