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Dear Festival Guests,

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Welcome to the **11th edition of the Amsterdam Spanish Film Festival!** As we step into a new decade of celebrating Spanish cinema in the Netherlands, I am thrilled to introduce this year's program, a carefully curated selection that highlights the diversity, creativity, and boldness of contemporary Spanish filmmaking.

WELCOME

Over the years, ASFF has established itself as a **vital cultural event**, offering Dutch audiences the opportunity to discover **groundbreaking Spanish films**, often through their **Dutch premieres**. This exclusivity reinforces the festival's cultural significance, positioning it as a key gateway for Spanish cinema in the Netherlands. But ASFF is much more than a film showcase. It is a **platform for cultural exchange**, a space where audiences, filmmakers, and industry professionals come together to engage in meaningful conversations. Our **Q&A sessions** with directors, cast, and producers create a direct connection between the films and their audiences, fostering deeper understanding and appreciation of Spanish cinema.

The festival kicks off with a **Double Opening Night** dedicated to the **power of music** in film! Prepare for two unforgettable premieres where cinema and live music come together to create a truly immersive evening. During the Opening Evening, in collaboration with TourSpain and Granada, we will premiere **Segundo Premio** (Saturn Return), a film that captures the raw energy of music, followed by a Q&A with one of the protagonists, musician Cristalino.



1E 5

The Opening Night features **La Guitarra Flamenca de Yerai Cortés,** an intimate exploration of flamenco guitar proficiency. After the screening, immerse yourself in an intimate Q&A with Yerai Cortés, one of today's most exceptional flamenco musicians. But the magic doesn't stop there. Yerai Cortés will take the stage for a **live performance,** joined by one of the film's protagonists, a promising new voice within the flamenco realm: singer La Tania. Join the passion and rhythm of flamenco like never before.

As we enter our second decade, ASFF will support and recognize Spanish film talent by introducing the **Honorary Gieling Award.** Inspired by the Goya de Honor, this award celebrates those who have left a lasting mark on Spanish cinema. It was named in honor of the Dutch filmmaker Ramón Gieling, whose contribution to the **synergy between Dutch and Spanish cinema** aligns perfectly with ASFF's mission. This annual award will debut with a tribute to Spanish director **Icíar Bollaín,** for her impactful filmography and commitment to transformative storytelling. A special gala will feature the award presentation, the premiere of Soy Nevenka (I am Nevenka) and an audience discussion with Ramón Gieling who will personally present the honor.

The festival remains committed through its sections on the program. **ASFF Cares** is dedicated to exploring urgent social issues through film. The **LGBTQIA+ section** will showcase powerful stories that bring visibility to underrepresented voices, contributing to a broader dialogue on inclusion and identity. New this year, we are launching the **Her Voice, Her Power section,** which focuses on films addressing gender equality, consent, and social justice, amplifying the voices of women who have courageously challenged oppressive structures. These films are more than just stories; they are catalysts for reflection and change.

For those with a passion for bold and unconventional storytelling, **Spanish Cinema Without Fear** is an invitation to experience experimental works that push the boundaries of narrative and represent Spain's avant-garde talent, offering **fresh and daring perspectives** that enrich the cinematic landscape.

One of ASFF's most unique aspects is its role as a cultural bridge between Spain and the Netherlands. The **Spain Meets The Netherlands** section makes a reappearance in the program and celebrates the creative synergy between these two countries. The film Muy Lejos (Zo ver Weg) serves as a powerful example of artistic dialogue, where Dutch and Spanish cultures intersect, fostering discussions on their differences, commonalities, and the **dynamic exchange** between both countries.

Additionally, ASFF remains committed to learning. Our **Education Program** introduces younger audiences to the Spanish language and culture through film, offering targeted screenings and workshops designed to inspire and engage. Family-friendly films provide intergenerational experiences, making the festival accessible to all.

And to wrap up on a high note, we present our special **Closing Night:** El 47. The evening will feature a special performance by **singer-songwriter Valeria Castro,** who will take the stage at Pathé Tuschinski to perform El borde del mundo, her Goyanominated song from the soundtrack of our Closing Night film.

### WELCOME

At ASFF, we believe that cinema has the power not only to entertain but to **transform perspectives,** spark dialogue, and inspire change. Through our selection of thought-provoking films, immersive discussions, and interdisciplinary events, we invite you to embark on a journey that goes **beyond the screen.** 

And, of course, no Spanish cultural experience would be complete without its **gastronomy.** Expect special events where Spanish flavors complement the cinematic masterpieces.

Thank you for being part of this new decade of the Amsterdam Spanish Film Festival. Let's celebrate cinema, culture, and connection together!

See you at the festival!

### **Virginia Pablos**

Director & Founder Amsterdam Spanish Film Festival







# YERAI CORTÉS

Yerai Cortés (Alicante, 1995) is part of the new generation of artists who are taking flamenco to uncharted territories. Despite his youth, he already has an extensive career that has led him to collaborate with artists from various genres: from flamenco innovators like Rocío Molina and Niño de Elche, to musicians from different parts of the world such as Judeline, Ralphie Choo, Lola Índigo, and C. Tangana, with whom he toured on the legendary 'Sin cantar ni afinar' tour.

Under the direction of Antón Álvarez, (C. Tangana), he presented *La Guitarra Flamenca de Yerai Cortés* at the San Sebastián International Film Festival (SSIFF), a film that tells the story of his life and family through his music. It premiered alongside the album of the same name in December 2024. Both the film and the album have received recognition and admiration from the public, critics, and media, and were recently awarded two Goya Awards-in the categories of Best Documentary Film, and Best Original Song for *Los Almendros*.





# LA TANIA

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La Tania (Alicante, 1987) embodies both tradition and modernity, a woman who tells her truth and speaks of love without prejudice through music.

She is the protagonist of the film directed by Antón Álvarez, La Guitarra Flamenca de Yerai Cortés, where her sweet voice has been revealed, earning her a Goya Award in the 2025 edition in the category of Best Original Song for Los Almendros.

This track is featured on her latest album, *Amoríos, la verdad de mi copilla*, a unique LP composed of eight captivating songs full of secrets and passion. The album draws from the tradition of *copla*, its interpretation, and contemporary sounds, created in close collaboration with renowned artists such as C. Tangana, Yerai Cortés, and Nussar 3000.

# CRISTINA TENAS

Cristina Trenas' passion for cinema has shaped a dynamic career in audiovisual content creation. She has contributed to productions for global institutions like the United Nations, National Geographic, and Volkswagen. In 2015, she earned a Fulbright scholarship to study screenwriting at UCLA. She later joined Participant Media, working on acclaimed films such as *An Inconvenient Sequel, Wonder, The Post,* and *Human Flow.* Expanding into advertising and music videos, she adapted to new industry trends and formats.



Now based in Madrid, Cristina co-founded Little Spain in 2020, blending creativity with production. In 2024, she co-directed and produced *This Excessive Ambition* and *La Guitarra Flamenca de Yerai Cortés*, both premiering at major festivals, with the latter winning a Goya. Her diverse experience, dedication to impactful storytelling, and global vision have established her as a key figure in the film industry.

## MARTA NIETO

After cultivating her career as an actress, Marta Nieto is taking on new challenges with her directorial debut with *La mitad de Ana (Becoming Ana)*, following her short film *Son*, both exploring trans childhood and identity. Her stage work in *La Infamia* earned her the 2023 Theatre Max Awards for Best Actress, and she continues to shine in drama play *Vania x Vania*, now on tour. Her role in *Madre* by Rodrigo Sorogoyen was a breakthrough, winning her major awards, including Best Actress at Venice Film Festival.



Currently, she juggles projects across Spain (*La manzana de oro, Verano en Rojo, Un pasado por delante*), Italy (*Lasciarsi un Giorno a Roma*), and France (*Tropique, Visions*), solidifying her international presence. Most recently, she joined the cast of the second season of *Berlín* on Netflix as one of the new characters in the series.





# ICÍAR BOLLAÍN

Icíar Bollaín (Madrid, 1967) debuted as an actress at 15 in *El Sur* (1983) by Víctor Erice and has since appeared in over 20 films, including works by Ken Loach, José Luis Borau, and Sebastián Cordero. In 1991, she co-founded the production company La Iguana, directing acclaimed films such as *Hola, ¿estás sola?* (1995), *Flores de otro mundo* (1998), and *Te doy mis ojos* (2003), which won seven Goya Awards. Her latest film, *Soy Nevenka* (2024), premiered at the San Sebastián Film Festival and continues its international run after a successful release in France. Bollaín has received the Seattle Film Festival's New Talent Award (2000) and the Valladolid Film Festival's Espiga de Honor (2018). She is the author of *Ken Loach, un observador solidario*, a founding member of CIMA (Women in Film Association), and a member of both the Hollywood and Spanish Film Academies.

Iciar Bollaín will be specially awarded for her exceptional career during this edition of the ASFF with our new prize: the Honorary Gieling Award.

## PAULA VELEIRO

Paula Veleiro López (Ourense, 1986) studied Audiovisual Communication in Santiago de Compostela and specialized in Film Directing at the CECC (Barcelona). In 2012, she moved to France, where she spent 10 years making music videos, short films, videos for music festivals, concerts, and trailers. In 2024, she premiered her first feature film *Te separas mucho*, which was selected during its production phase for CIMA Impulsa, Novos Cinemas, L'alternativa, and Intersección, and won the Best Editing Award at the Gijón International Film Festival.



In her quest to explore all kinds of languages, she began a new phase as the singer of 'La rate timide', a music band for which she also writes the lyrics.

She is currently working on her first novel, which received support from the Residència Literària Finestres.

## GERARD OMS

Gerard Oms began his film career with Isabel Coixet. He is a regular collaborator with Neus Ballús and an acting coach for actors such as Mario Casas, Bárbara Lennie or Leonardo Sbaraglia, among others. He trained at the *Institut del Teatre de Barcelona* and the *Parnassos School* in Utrecht (Netherlands).

He is also the acting coach behind the success of Mohamed Mellali and Valero Escolar, the plumbers whose performances in Sis dies corrents earned them the Pardo ex-aequo for Best Actor at the *Locarno Film Festival*.



Recently, he has worked on projects such as *Upon Entry* by Alejandro Rojas and Juan Sebastián Vásquez nominated at the *Spirit awards* and *Each of us* (in development) by Neus Ballús, Anne Zohra Berrached, Anna Jadowska and Stina Werenfels, in the roles of acting coach and acting direction advisor.





### CELIA DE MOLINA

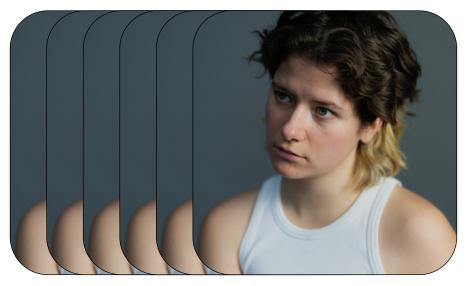
Celia de Molina is an Andalusian filmmaker nominated for a Goya in 2025 for her short film Cuarentena.In 2010, she began her career as a director/creator by founding Garaje Lumière, an interdisciplinary space that hosts the most avant-garde proposals in alternative theater in the Spanish capital. She served as its artistic director for three years. She is the creator of the series El Antivlog (Filmin), featuring, among others, J.A. Bayona, Natalia de Molina, and Úrsula Corberó. As a screenwriter, she has worked on the series Invisible (Disney+), and has developed projects for production companies such as Morena Films, El Terrat, and Alea Media, among others.

She is currently developing her first feature film No soy universal, selected for the Residencies of the Academy of Cinema, winner of Abycine Lanza 2024, and for which she has received direction mentorship from Isabel Coixet. She is the vice president of CIMA (Association of Women in Audiovisual Media) and is a member of the Academy of Cinema of Spain and the Academy of Cinema of Andalusia.



### HANNEKE VAN DER PAARDT

Hanneke (1996) is an actress and (theater)maker from the Netherlands. After she graduated in 2019 she played one of the leading roles in the Dutch series Follow de SOA. She starred in different films and series such as Heartbeats and Goodbye Stranger. Theater is also a big part of her life and she works not only as an actress but also as a writer and maker. She lived in Germany and was part of the ensemble at Theaterhaus Jena. At the moment she is touring through the Netherlands with her play BANG (DE: FEST).



### LAURA WEISSMAHR

Laura Weissmahr studied Film and Television Production at the University of Westminster and also trained in acting in Barcelona. She worked on various documentary projects before making her acting debut in *Júlia Ist*, the feature film directorial debut of Elena Martín Gimeno. She is fluent in Catalan, German, English, Italian, and French. In theater, she has collaborated with artists such as Carlota Subirós, Nao Albet and Marcel Borràs, and Ferran Dordal. She recently premiered *Falseftuff. La muerte de las musas* at the CentroDramáticoNacional.WeissmahrisalsoamemberoftheVVAA collective, with whom she co-wrote and co-directed *Arcas 2020*.



As an actress, singer, and creator, she was part of the performance *Pussy Picnic* and the plays *Wohnwagen* (directed by Anna Serrano and Max Grosse) and *Like si lloras* (directed by Elena Martín and Anna Serrangango). In film, she starred in *Salve María* by Mar Coll, a role that earned her multiple accolades, including the Goya Award





# **RAMÓN GIELING**

Born in 1954, Ramón Gieling is a Dutch filmmaker, photographer, and painter whose career has been profoundly shaped by his enduring connection with Spain. Though educated in visual arts at the Academy in Arnhem, Gieling's creative path has spanned multiple disciplines, from painting and photography to theater and, most notably, cinema. His work is characterized by an exploration of artistic expression, memory, and transcendence—themes that often find their most compelling form in Spanish culture.

Gieling's fascination with Spain began in his youth and became a defining influence throughout his career. At the heart of his cinematic storytelling is the concept of *duende*, the mysterious and electrifying force described by Federico García Lorca as the essence of artistic passion. This idea, which embodies raw emotion and creative rapture, has permeated Gieling's work, from his early films to his later documentaries exploring the profound intensity of human expression.

One of his seminal films, *En un momento dado* (2004), captures the artistry of legendary Dutch footballer Johan Cruijff during his transformative years at FC Barcelona. Beyond just a sports documentary, the film examines Cruijff's near-mystical connection to the game—paralleling the intensity of duende in flamenco with the improvisational brilliance of football. Similarly, Gieling's work has often turned to Spanish music, poetry, and performance as sources of inspiration, reflecting the deep cultural exchanges between the Netherlands and Spain.

# ACHRAF KOUTET

Achraf Koutet was an ensemble member of the most prestigious theatre ensemble in The Netherlands, the International Theatre Amsterdam (ITA) led by critically acclaimed director Ivo van Hove, at the young age of 22. Achraf has performed in plays including Bloedbruiloft (Wim directed by Vandekeybus), Flight 49 (Simon Stone), The Wood (Michiel van Erp), The Cherry Orchard (Simon McBurney) Death in Venice (directed by Ivo van Hove) and Blood Wedding (Wim Vandekeybus).



Achraf starred in the Amazon series De Club and the popular youth series De slet van 6VWO. He had supporting roles in the series Jeuk, Flikken Maastricht and Land van Lubbers but audiences know him for his role in the highly popular series about the Amsterdam drug war, Mocro Maffia. Besides his work on stage and television, Achraf featured in the films Expeditie Cupido, The Columnist (opposite Katja Herbers), Instinct (directed by Halina Reijn) and Alles van Waarde.

## JAVIER REBOLLO

Javier Rebollo writes, directs, and produces both short and feature-length films, including *Lo que sé de Lola* (2006), *La mujer sin piano* (2009), and *El muerto y ser feliz* (2013). He has also worked on films by other directors, such as *Para la guerra* (2018) and *Camionero* by Francisco Marise, currently in production in Argentina, for which he contributed to the script. He has received the FIPRESCI International Critics' Award three times at the San Sebastián, London, and Montevideo festivals, the Silver Shell for Best Director at the San Sebastián International Film Festival, the AFI Best Film Award in Los Angeles, and twice the Best Film Award in Nantes and Toulouse (France) as well as in Seoul (South Korea).



His latest film, *En la alcoba del Sultán* (2025), premiered at the Valladolid International Film Festival (SEMINCI), was nominated for the FEROZ Award for Best Film, and won the Vida en Sombras Award from *Días de Cine* on TVE.





### VALERIA CASTRO

At just 25 years old, Valeria Castro has firmly established herself as a rising star in Spanish-language music.

After a sold-out tour of 82 concerts across more than 10 countries with her debut album, Valeria now presents *El cuerpo después de todo*, her second full-length project. Produced by eight-time Latin Grammy winner Carles Campi Campón (Jorge Drexler, Natalia Lafourcade, Vetusta Morla), this album marks a significant artistic and personal evolution. In it, the singer from La Palma embraces a strong and fearless persona, confronting her fears with courage. The album is a mosaic of emotions that resonates deeply, reminding us of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's famous words in *The Little Prince: "What is essential is invisible to the eye.*"

Recorded between Mexico and Spain, this new album will take Valeria on an international tour spanning at least 17 countries, culminating in a landmark concert at Madrid's Movistar Arena on January 9, 2026—solidifying her status as one of the leading artists of her generation.

Valeria has earned numerous accolades, including two Latin Grammy nominations, two Goya nominations, and awards such as *Best Root Album* and *Breakthrough Artist* at the MIN Awards, the ACAMUS Award for Best Song for Film, and the Gold Medal of the Canary Islands. Throughout her career, she has collaborated with renowned artists such as Julieta Venegas, Alejandro Sanz, La Oreja de Van Gogh, Silvana Estrada, Vetusta Morla, Vicente García, and Sílvia Pérez Cruz, cementing her place as an essential voice in contemporary Spanish music.

# THE HONORARY GIELING AWARD



# ICÍAR BOLLAÍN

As we embark on our second decade, we are thrilled to mark the occasion with a special celebration honoring the talent of filmmakers, actors, and actresses in Spanish cinema. Inspired by the *Goya de Honor*, this award recognizes individuals whose work has made a lasting impact on Spanish cinema. Named **Honorary Gieling Award** in tribute to **Ramón Gieling**, a Dutch filmmaker with deep ties to Spain, our vision is for this award to become an annual tradition, celebrating a different outstanding figure each year.

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For this inaugural edition, we are especially delighted to honor **Icíar Bollaín,** not only for her extraordinary filmography but also for her commitment to a cinema that moves, challenges, and transforms. To commemorate this occasion, we will host a special gala in her honor, where she will be presented with the **Honorary Gieling Award,** followed by the **premiere of** *Soy Nevenka (I am Nevenka)* and a discussion with the audience. This event will offer a unique opportunity to further connect audiences with her powerful storytelling and visionary work. Adding to the significance of the evening, the award will be presented to her by Ramón Gieling himself, making this tribute all the more meaningful.

From her early days as an actress to her evolution into one of Spain's most compelling directors, Bollaín has consistently used film as a powerful medium for storytelling, shedding light on social issues, human resilience, and the complexity of personal and collective struggles.

### ADVERTISING

Since her **directorial debut in 1995** with *Hola, ¿estás sola? (Hi, Are You Alone?),* Bollaín has ensured that her films and characters have a voice of their own, always approaching just causes in a simple and sincere way through **feminist and activist stories.** She has given us complex, real, and wonderful female characters such as Marirrosi in *Flores de otro mundo,* Pilar in *Te doy mis ojos,* Rosa in *La boda de Rosa,* Alma in *El Olivo,* and Maixabel in *Maixabel.* Many of these films have previously been screened at the ASFF.

Her filmography is rich with stories that resonate far beyond the screen, films such as *Te doy mis ojos (Take My Eyes)*, a ground-breaking exploration of **domestic violence**; *También la lluvia (Even the Rain)*, which interweaves historical and contemporary narratives of **exploitation and resistance**; and *Maixabel*, a deeply human look at reconciliation in the aftermath of **terrorism.** Through her work, she has given voice to underrepresented perspectives and sparked essential conversations, making her one of the most socially engaged and influential directors in contemporary Spanish cinema.

By awarding her the Honorary Gieling Award, ASFF not only acknowledges her extraordinary artistic achievements but also her unwavering commitment to a cinema that is both **emotionally powerful** and **socially transformative.** Her films continue to challenge conventions, inspire audiences, and push the boundaries of storytelling, making her a truly deserving recipient of this honor.



A carefully-honed selection of some of the most exciting recent Spanish films from a variety of genres, reflecting the dynamism and creativity of Spanish cinema today.

# CORE PROGRAM

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### SEGUNDO PREMIO Saturn Return

**OPENING EVENING** 



**Directed by** Isaki Lacuesta, Pol Rodríguez **Cast** Daniel Ibáñez, Cristalino, Stephánie Magnin, Mafo, Chesco Ruiz 105 min / 2024 / Drama Spanish with English subtitles **Dutch premiere** 

Saturn Return, the big winner at the 2024 Málaga Film Festival, is a hypnotic tale of music and passion. Inspired by the iconic '90s band Los Planetas, the film follows a Granada indie rock group in crisis. As the bassist seeks a life beyond music and the guitarist spirals into self-destruction, the singer struggles for inspiration. Just as the band nears dissolution, they receive a life-changing offer to record in New York. Directors Isaki Lacuesta and Pol Rodríguez craft a mesmerizing rock drama, blending psychedelia, mystery, and raw authenticity with a cast of real Andalusian musicians. "Saturn Return is a beautiful and dark journey through the lights and shadows of a generation and musicians who reached many highs and many lows, an emotional film told with mystery and risk about dreams and their flipside." — Júlia Olmo, Cineuropa

#### Festivals

35

San Sebastián International Film Festival 2024, Málaga Film Festival 2024

**Goya Awards 2025 Winner** Best Director, Best Editing, Best Sound

#### Special event (4 April)

In collaboration with TourSpain and Granada

Spanish drinks, Iberian ham & tapas will be served after the premiere to welcome you to the festival on the opening night!

	SCREENINGS
4 Apr, 18:00	Pathé Tuschinski
6 Apr, 15:30	Filmkoepel Haarlem

### LA GUITARRA FLAMENCA DE YERAI CORTÉS

**OPENING NIGHT** 

36



**Directed by** Antón Álvarez **Cast** Yerai Cortés, María Merino de Paz, Miguel Cortés, La Tania

Spain / 95 min / 2024 **Amsterdam premiere** 

A thoughtful exploration of gypsy culture, an intimate portrait of flamenco guitar player Yerai Cortés and a healing family exorcism through music. Antón Álvarez (aka C. Tangana) makes his filmmaking debut with this moving documentary. *La guitarra flamenca de Yerai Cortés* by Antón Álvarez, better known for his career as a musician under the alias C. Tangana, was born from a fateful chance encounter. At the very start, Álvarez himself (whose presence is palpable all throughout the film) tells us how he met the immediately bewitching, flamenco guitar player Yerai Cortés. With a compelling screen presence and gifted with exceptional musical talent, Cortés is drawn to explore the story of his family through his art,and he firmly believes that his music can heal their open wounds. The narrative of *La guitarra flamenca de Yerai Cortés* is interspersed with several performances, some more classically staged, others imbued with a contemporary air. In its own way, the film enacts the complexity at the centre of Cortés' personal and musical identity (formed both by the gypsy tradition and by an eclectic number of avant-garde influences). With a soulful connection to Isaki Lacuesta's *La leyenda del tiempo* (2006), this moving documentary explores gypsy culture, flamenco music and family secrets with compassion, curiosity and a good dose of self-reflexive humour. C. Tangana, who has also been in charge of the soundtrack with Cortés, has described the project as *'the coolest thing I've ever done'*.

#### Festivals

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Official selection International Film Festival Rotterdam 2024, San Sebastian International Film Festival 2024, Festival de Cine de Sevilla 2024, Gijón International Film Festival 2024

#### Goya Awards 2025 Winner

Best Documentary Film and Best Original Song

#### **Special event**

Spanish drinks, Iberian ham & tapas will be served after the premiere to welcome you to the festival on the Opening Night!

4 Apr, 20:30	Pathé Tuschinski
5 Apr, 18:30	LAB111
10 Apr, 19:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem

**CLOSING NIGHT** 



**Directed by** Marcel Barrena **Cast** Eduard Fernández, Clara Segura, David Verdaguer Spain / 110 min / 2024 / Drama Catalan & Castellan with English subtitles **Dutch premiere** 

An inspiring and heartwarming film that tells the extraordinary true story of a community's fight for dignity in the face of neglect. Set in 1978 in the marginalized neighborhood of Torre Baró on the outskirts of Barcelona, the film follows Manuel Vital, a determined bus driver portrayed brilliantly by Eduard Fernández, who embarks on a remarkable journey to secure public transport for his community. In a time when the city authorities deemed Torre Baró "inaccessible", the residents lived without basic amenities: no paved streets, no running water, and no public buses. Fueled by frustration and a deep-seated desire for change, Manolo takes the unprecedented step of hijacking the bus of line 47, proving that the steep hills were not an insurmountable barrier. This act of defiance becomes a powerful catalyst for transformation, igniting a collective movement that unites the residents in their struggle for recognition and improved living conditions.

In an era where societal progress was slow and often resisted, *El* 47 (*The* 47) shines a light on the unsung heroes who, through their courage and determination, paved the way for a better future. It is a celebration of resilience, identity, and the unbreakable bond of a community that refuses to be silenced. With heart and humor, this film invites audiences to reflect on the shared struggles that define us all, making it a must-see for anyone touched by the narrative of urban transformation and social justice.

Special event

Spanish drinks and tapas will be

the festival edition to a close.

served after the premiere to bring

#### Festivals

San Sebastián International Film Festival 2024, Toronto International Film Festival 2024

### lival 2027

#### Goya Awards 2025 Winner

Best Film (ex aequo), Best Supporting Actor, Best Supporting Actress

	SCREENINGS
13 Apr, 20:30	Pathé Tuschinski
13 Apr, 16:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem
live music by sir	with actor Eduard Fernández and Iger-songwriter Valeria Castro ly in Amsterdam)

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### DESMONTANDO A UN ELEFANTE Dismantling An Elephant



**Directed by** Aitor Echeverría **Cast** Emma Suárez, Natalia de Molina, Darío Grandinetti

Spain / 101 min / 2025 / Drama Spanish with English subtitles **Dutch premiere** 

"The elephant in the room", an issue everyone sees but no one dares to mention, embodies the central conflict of this film. After two months in rehab for a long-term addiction, a seemingly successful architect returns home, becoming the primary concern of her youngest daughter, a professional dancer. Emma Suárez and Natalia de Molina (both two-time Goya winners) bring these two women to life, bound to support each other. Alongside veteran Darío Grandinetti and rising star Alba Guilera, they form a fractured family in Aitor Echeverría's directorial debut. A poignant and mature film about dependence in all its forms; emotional, caregiving, and beyond. It explores commitment, responsibility, and the challenge of rebuilding a life. Sometimes, things must break before they can stand again.

### Festivals

41

Seville European Film Festival 2024, Mar del Plata International Film Festival 2024

S	CREENINGS
5 Apr, 18:30	Filmkoepel Haarlem

### LA INFILTRADA Undercover



**Directed by** Arantxa Echevarría **Cast** Luis Tosar, Carolina Yuste

Spain / 118 min / 2024 Spanish with English subtitles **Dutch premiere** 

Based on the real-life story of Aranzazu Berradre Marín, the pseudonym for the only police officer in Spanish history to infiltrate the terrorist organisation ETA successfully.

After several years undercover, lurking in the circles of the Abertzale left as she pretends to be a young sympathizer of the ETA terrorist group, a police officer finally gets the chance she's been gunning for: ETA gets in touch with her. They need to use her apartment for two ETA members whose objective is to prepare several attacks. The most difficult mission of her life begins now: to inform her superiors while cohabitating with two terrorists who, if at any point they suspect her, would kill her at the drop of a hat. La Infiltrada (Undercover) is a crime thriller featuring Goya Awards-winning talents Luis Tosar and Carolina Yuste. The film unfolds over the eight-year period when Marín was undercover and focuses on the mind-shattering fear of discovery that permeated her days during the mission. The film is defined by intrigue and suspense, offering a gripping portrayal of a woman's extraordinary bravery, willing to risk her life in the line of duty.

### Festivals

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Festival de Cine por Mujeres 2024, Noir in Festival 2024

**Goya Awards 2025 Winner** Best Film (ex aequo), Best Actress

	SCREENINGS
11 Apr, 18:30	Filmkoepel Haarlem
12 Apr, 16:00	LAB111



### LOS DESTELLOS Glimmers



**Directed by** Pilar Palomero **Cast** Antonio de la Torre, Patricia López Arnaiz, Julián López Spain / 101 min / 2024 / Drama Spanish with English subtitles **Dutch premiere** 

Los destellos (Glimmers) is a profound and moving exploration of the complexities of love and loss, centered on Isabel, who, after fifteen years apart from her ex-husband Ramón, is compelled to reconnect with him in his final days. When her daughter Madalen asks her to take care of Ramón, Isabel confronts the resentments she thought she had overcome. As she delves into this unexpected relationship, the pain of her past intertwines with the recognition of shared moments, leading her to a new understanding of what love and family truly mean. With a naturalistic approach and a touch of humor, the film invites us to accompany Isabel on her emotional journey, where each small glimmer of happiness contrasts with the sadness of an impending farewell.

Pilar Palomero delicately portrays the process of saying goodbye, showing that even in the darkest moments, there is beauty in caring for those we love.

*Los destellos* is a reflection on life, death, and the value of human connections, a reminder that despite the pain, there is always space for connection and kindness.

### Festivals

Official selection San Sebastian Film Festival 2024, Gijón International Film Festival 2024

:	SCREENINGS
9 Apr, 19:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem
12 Apr, 18:30	LAB111



### Festivals

Best Actor

47

Cannes Film Festival 2024, San Sebastián International Film Festival 2024, Viennale 2024, BFI London Film Festival 2024, Chicago International Film Festival 2024

**Goya Awards 2025 Nominee** 

#### **Special event**

Spanish drinks will be served before the Premiere courtesy of Mahou.



**Directed by** Jonás Trueba **Cast** Vito Sanz, Itsaso Arana Spain / 114 min / 2024 Spanish with English subtitles **Dutch premiere** 

After 15 years together, Ale (Itsaso Arana) and Alex (Vito Sanz) have come up with the crazy idea of throwing a party to celebrate their recent break up , like a wedding but the other way around. While their loved ones are sceptical, they seem to be sure of their decision. Or are they?

Receiving its world premiere at Cannes' Directors' Fortnight (where it was awarded the Europa Cinemas Label for Best European Film), Trueba's light and airy Madrid-set reverse romcom is meta-cinematic in all the best ways. It captures the poetry of everyday life and leaves you with a fuzzy *feeling in your heart*.

# SCREENINGS 12 Apr, 20:30 EYE Filmmuseum

Followed by an artistic party at murmur to celebrate breakups. More info in the Special Events section

Facing contemporary challenges surrounding consent, gender equality, and social justice.

48

HER

VOICE,

HER

POWER

This selection of films highlights the stories of women who, with determination and courage, have decided to say "We are done" to the power structures that have oppressed and silenced them for generations.

This collection of films reflects the crucial moment that women are experiencing in our society, immersing the audience in stories that centre on the struggle for justice, freedom, and the self-determination of their protagonists.

### SOY NEVENKA I am Nevenka



**Directed by** Icíar Bollaín **Cast** Mireia Oriol, Urko Olazabal Spain / 117 min / 2024 / Drama **Dutch Premiere** 

Inspired by real events, Soy Nevenka portrays its protagonist as a **pioneer of the #MeToo** movement in Spain, the first to bring an influential politician to justice for sexual and workplace harassment. A powerful and highly relevant story for today, it reminds us of the importance of fighting against silence and impunity.

*Soy Nevenka (I am Nevenka)* tells the harrowing story of Nevenka Fernández, the first woman in Spain to accuse a politician of sexual harassment, Ponferrada's mayor, Ismael Álvarez. Despite winning the case, Nevenka received a minimal sentence and was forced to leave her country, unable to find work and constantly scrutinized by a society that judged her harshly. Meanwhile, Álvarez, a popular mayor, received support from his party and much of the local community, leaving Nevenka defenseless.

The film focuses not only on the trial but also on the painful, ongoing process of harassment, often misunderstood as an isolated incident. *Soy Nevenka* reveals how harassment is a constant, emotional violence that strips victims of their identity and paralyzes them. Director Icíar Bollaín invites reflection on harassment in all its dimensions, showcasing Nevenka's courage, who paid a heavy price for standing up to power.

### Festivals

51

San Sebastián International Film Festival 2024, BFI London Film Festival 2024, Vancouver International Film Festival 2024, Zurich Film Festival 2024

#### Goya Awards 2025 Nominee

Best Actor, Best New Actress, Best Adapted Screenplay

#### Special event: The Honorary Gieling Award Ceremony

ASFF will support and recognize Spanish film talent by introducing the Honorary Gieling Award. Inspired by the **Goya de Honor,** this award celebrates those who have left a lasting mark on Spanish cinema. The audience will receive celebratory drinks and Spanish tapas.

\$	SCREENINGS
11 Apr, 20:30	Pathé Tuschinski (Gala)
12 Apr, 18:30	Filmkoepel Haarlem
Followed by a Q	&A with director Icíar Bollaín

### NINA



**Directed by** Andrea Jaurrieta **Cast** Patricia López Arnaiz, Dario Grandineti Spain / 105 min / 2024 **Dutch Premiere** 

Nin $\alpha$  is a gripping revenge thriller in true Almodóvar style, starring Patricia López Arnaiz, protagonist of 20,000 Species of Bees, a film that in 2023 premiered at the ASFF.

The plot follows Nina as she returns to the coastal town where she grew up, with a shotgun in her bag and one goal: to get revenge on Pedro, a famous writer who is now celebrated by the community. However, her return to her hometown, her memories, and Blas, a childhood friend, leads her to question whether revenge is truly her only option. This dramatic thriller is an introspective journey into female empowerment, where the audience experiences Nina's complex internal struggle firsthand. The director delivers a bold narrative, using genre cinema to craft a powerful feminist discourse on consent and justice, keeping tension and drama palpable throughout. Nina fiercely and sensitively tackles a topic of burning relevance, inviting reflection while triumphing in every aspect of its powerful story.

### Festivals

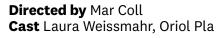
53

San Sebastián International Film Festival 2024, Málaga Film Festival 2024, D'A Film Festival 2024

	SCREENINGS
6 Apr, 16:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem
11 Apr, 18:30	LAB111

# SALVE MARÍA





Spain / 111 min / 2024 Spanish, Catalan **Dutch Premiere** 

Maria, a promising young writer and new mother, stumbles upon a chilling headline: a French woman has drowned her 10-monthold twins in the bathtub. The gruesome act seizes Maria's imagination, becoming an obsession. Why did she do it? From that moment onwards, the specter of infanticide looms over Maria's life as a haunting possibility.

Salve María explores the intimate struggle of María, a young author navigating the overwhelming demands of new motherhood while seeking to reclaim her artistic identity. In a world that imposes rigid roles on women, her journey symbolizes the broader fight for self-determination and freedom from societal pressures. As she grapples with the exhausting reality of motherhood, where emotions and creativity are entangled, María's story reflects a universal conflict many women face: balancing familial responsibilities with personal autonomy. The film directly addresses contemporary challenges surrounding gender equality, consent, and social justice, portraying María's internal battle between nurturing her child and pursuing her creative passions. In doing so, *Salve María* presents a woman breaking free from both external constraints and internalized pressures, inviting the audience to reflect on evolving roles of women in society and reconsider how we define freedom, consent, and empowerment in the face of complex societal expectations.

#### Festivals

55

Locarno Film Festival 2024, Valladolid International Film Festival 2024, São Paulo International Film Festival 2024

SCREENINGS		
5 Apr, 21:00	LAB111	
6 Apr, 18:30	Filmkoepel Haarlem	
<b>Preceded by the short Cuarentena (Quarantine):</b> After 40 days, Marina finally sees the light. A coffee shop, a milk- shake, a croissant and a lot of bad milk.		
	Molina <b>Cast</b> Natalia de Molina, Andrea Ros / panish with English subtitles / <b>Dutch premiere</b>	
Nominated for the Goya 2025 Starring double Goya winner Natalia de Molina		
Followed by a Q&A with Celia de Molina and Laura Weissmahr		

### CASA EN LLAMAS A House On Fire



**Directed by** Dani de la Orden **Cast** Emma Vilarasau, Enric Auquer, Maria Rodríguez Soto, Clara Segura, José Pérez-Ocaña, Macarena García Spain / 108 min / 2024 / Tragicomedy Catalan & Castellan with English subtitles **Dutch premiere** 

HER VOICE, HER POWER

*Casa en llamas,* directed by Dani de la Orden, is a tragicomedy that delves into the complexities of family dynamics. The film follows Montse (Emma Vilarasau), who looks forward to a reunion with her distant children at their summer home after a long divorce. She hopes the weekend will rekindle lost connections, but tensions quickly surface, revealing hidden resentments and secrets. As Montse's ideal family gathering unravels, she takes unexpected actions that stir old wounds. The film portrays family life with sharp humor and naturalistic dialogue, exploring how love can be both selfish and painful. It reflects on the clash between family ideals and reality, showing that beneath the surface, chaos lurks.

*Casa en llamas* addresses the complex role of women approaching their senior years, highlighting the contradictions of a society that idealizes maternal sacrifice but forgets those who have given everything for their families. The film denounces the emotional, physical, and social abandonment faced by these women, who lose their central role in the family after decades of effort and sacrifice. Through its protagonist, it reflects the strength to redefine their identity and seek new forms of empowerment. It is a call to recognize and value the invisible work of mothers and to rethink the value of mature women in society.

*Casa en llamas* examines whether a family can survive the storm of emotional conflict and rediscover what it means to truly be a family.

### Festivals

57

Montecarlo Film Festival 2024, San Sebastián International Film Festival 2024

### Goya Awards 2025 winner

Best Original Screenplay

SCR	EENINGS
7 Mar, 20:30 (launch ev	/ent) Pathé Tuschinski
9 Apr, 19:00	LAB111
12 Apr, 21:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem

### VERANO EN DICIEMBRE Family Affairs



HER VOICE, HER POWER

**Directed by** Carolina África **Cast** Carmen Machi, Victoria Luengo, Bárbara Lennie
Spain / Comedy / 2024 / 97 min **Dutch premiere** 

In Verano en Diciembre, director Carolina África presents a sharp and insightful comedy about the complexities of family dynamics, focusing on the personal struggles and emotional battles of the women at the heart of the story. Teresa (Carmen Machi) is the matriarch, tasked with the emotional and physical labor of caring for her mother-in-law with senile dementia. Her home becomes the setting for a family gathering to commemorate the anniversary of her late husband's death, bringing together her daughters, each with distinct personalities and unresolved issues. The film explores the tensions that arise when the hopes for a harmonious reunion collide with the realities of familial obligations and emotional baggage. The daughters, ranging from the dutiful caregiver to the rebellious free spirit, find themselves grappling not only with their own personal conflicts but also with the weight of the expectations placed on them. In the midst of a comical yet poignant family clash, each woman is forced to confront her own fears, frustrations, and desires for independence.

#### Festivals

59

Valladolid International Film Festival 2024

	SCREENINGS
6 Apr, 18:30	LAB111
12 Apr, 16:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem

SPANISH CINEMA WITHOUT FEAR

60

A special film selection which presents Spanish works that defy tradition and have the courage to experiment with something beyond and on the periphery of the Spanish cinematographic industry.

> SCWF presents the works of Spanish talented filmmakers who are artistic, experimental and Avant-Garde in their nature. We are interested in works that are concerned with artistic expression and that go beyond the boundaries of traditional narrative.

### POR DONDE PASA EL SILENCIO As Silence Passes By



**Directed by** Sandra Romero **Cast** Antonio Araque, Mona Martinez, Nicolás Montoya

Drama / Spain / 98 min / 2024 **Dutch premiere** 

A lost intimacy between two brothers begins to resurface when Antonio returns to his town, to a collapsing family home to help his twin brother Javier, who suffers from a congenital disease. They will have to face conflicts from the past, feelings of loneliness, and reproaches, which will culminate in a confrontation between them. Antonio must confront the dilemma of whether to stay and try to fix things or go back to his own life. In a style that could remind us of Chloé Zhao, Sandra Romero (winner of the Silver Biznaga for Best Director at the Málaga Film Festival in 2020, and co-director of Sorogoyen's new series selected at the Venice Film Festival) directs a universal story full of humanity, extrapolatable to any family and rural community in the world. The film captures the deep-seated need to have a place to return to and reconnect with one's roots, with natural actors representing themselves and shining with incredible authenticity. The light tone in which the problems are approached in the film creates a distinct story that incorporates drama and humor.

### Festivals

63

San Sebastián International Film Festival 2024, D'A Film Festival 2025, L'Alternativa 2024

SCREENINGS		
6 Apr, 16:00	LAB111	
8 Apr, 19:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem	

### POLVO SERÁN They Will Be Dust



**Directed by** Carlos Marqués-Marcet **Cast** Ángel Molina, Alfredo Castro, Mónica Almirall, Patrícia Bargalló, Alván Prado Spain, Switzerland, Italy / 106 min / 2024 / Drama Spanish with English subtitles **Dutch premiere** 

In *Polvo serán (They Will Be Dust),* the latest film by Carlos Marqués-Marcet, contemporary dance and ensemble drama intertwine in a bold and moving exploration of the inevitability of death. Claudia (Ángela Molina), a terminally ill woman, decides not to passively wait for her illness to consume her autonomy. Alongside her lifelong partner, Flavio (Alfredo Castro), they plan a trip to Switzerland to end their lives together. However, what begins as a private farewell turns into an impromptu party when they invite their daughter Violeta (Mònica Almirall) and their other children to celebrate their "final wedding."

The film, awarded the prestigious Platform Prize at the Toronto Film Festival, blends moments of profound emotion with sharp humor, challenging conventions around grief and death. As the children arrive, astonished to join this celebration, Violeta becomes the bridge between her parents and the legacy they are about to leave behind. With a meticulous approach, Marqués-Marcet captures the harsh reality of human existence, using movement and music to express what words often cannot.

Through dance sequences that evoke both joy and sadness, *They Will Be Dust* invites us to reflect on life and love in its purest and most vulnerable form. The story becomes a mirror that reveals not only the protagonists' desire to find dignity in death but also the struggle of those left behind to understand and accept this complex reality. With masterful performances and a narrative that defies expectations, this film is a celebration of humanity in all its beauty and chaos, reminding us that even in death, there is room for connection and joy.

#### Festivals

65

Toronto International Film Festival 2024, Valladolid International Film Festival 2024, Zurich Film Festival 2024



**TE SEPARAS MUCHO** 



**Directed by** Paula Veleiro **Cast** José Luis Pérez Veleiro, Luz María López Castro, Joy Thomas, Paula Veleiro Spain / 67 min / 2024 Spanish with English subtitles **Dutch premiere** 

In 1989, José Luis and Luz María, a young couple living in Galicia and who have just had a daughter, get divorced. José Luis films the entire process of their breakup with his camera. In 2019, their daughter Paula, who has lived in France for ten years with her girlfriend Joy, also separated. Paula, like her father, has recorded her love story and its end throughout this time. The editor Paula Veleiro tackles her first feature as a director with brutal visceral intensity, confronting her own emotional breakdown after a romantic breakup. The domestic images of her family's past turn into both tangible and ghostly memories. Fragments of a shipwreck, but also the lifeline upon which she tries to interpret the present. Juxtaposing, fantasizing, and reconstructing, Veleiro manages to shed light on the way we beautify memories and our relationship with their audiovisual record. This documentary uses intimate archival material to initiate a dialogue between two breakups thirty years apart, attempting to answer the question: what remains when love ends?

#### Festivals

67

Festival Internacional de Cine de Gijón 2024, Novos Cinemas 2024

	SCREENINGS
5 Apr, 21:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem
6 Apr, 12:00	LAB111
Followed by a Q	&A with director Paula Veleiro

### EN LA ALCOBA DEL SULTÁN *Close To The Sultan*



**Directed by** Javier Rebollo **Cast** Félix Moati, Pilar López de Ayala, Iliès Kadri, Farouk Saidi, Jan Budař Spain, France / 97 min / 2024 Arabic, English, French, Spanish with English Subitules **International Premiere** 

Since its earliest days, cinema has captivated all who encounter its magical ability to capture the world. Javier Rebollo, winner of the Best Director Award at the San Sebastián Film Festival for *La mujer sin piano* (2010) and the Critics' Award for *El muerto y ser feliz* (2012), presents a film starring Pilar López de Ayala that looks back to the dawn of the 20th century and the mythological origins of cinema. Gabriel Veyre, inventor and cameraman for the Lumière brothers, accepts the alluring invitation of the Venerable Sultan and sets sail for the exotic Land of Nour, bringing the mysteries of the cinematograph to the East.

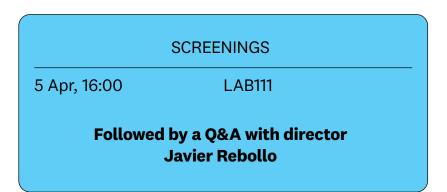
Santiago Racaj's delicate cinematography, heavily associated with filmmakers like Jonás Trueba and Carla Simón, immerses us in the daring curiosity surrounding the mechanics of a camera. The film unfolds as a ghostly tale set in a land of legend, a dreamlike ode to cinema's pioneers and the first great adventures that accompanied the seventh art when it straddled the line between science and illusion.

### Festivals

69

Seminci Valladolid International Film Festival 2024

#### Awards 2024 Best Film Nominee



To celebrate the heritage, culture and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex groups. Raising awareness and advancing education on matters affecting the LGBTQIA+ community.

ASFF does not want to be simply a cultural event where films about gender and sexuality are screened, but a place through which the political lives of LGBTQIA+ persons become intelligible.

70

ASFF LGBTQIA+



## LA MITAD DE ANA Becoming Ana



**Directed by** Marta Nieto **Cast** Marta Nieto, Nahuel Pérez Biscayart Spain / 89 min / 2024 Spanish with English Subitules **Dutch Premiere** 

Ana balances her job as a museum gallery guard with caring for Son, her eight-year-old daughter. Long separated, her routine is disrupted at the start of the school year when Son begins exploring her identity. Feeling disoriented, Ana starts to see things differently and will gradually have to reconnect with the woman she was before becoming a mother. To be able to support her daughter, Ana will have to become Ana again. Director Marta Nieto creates a portrait of a woman haunted by several issues, with child transsexuality in the background. Through the conflict of the social environment changing the generalised and reductive binary view of her child, she herself must begin to see the world ,and above all her own life , in a new light and not only as an exclusively devoted parent. As a result, we are faced with a double transition, as one will push the other: from the son and the mother - who has pushed aside her dreams, pleasures and ambitions, hidden behind her mission as a carer, towards her deepest and freest self.

#### Festivals

Seminci Valladolid International Film Festival 2024

#### Awards 2024

Best Film Nominee, D'A Film Festival 2025

	SCREENINGS	
11 Apr, 21:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem	
12 Apr, 21:00	LAB111	
Followed by a Q&A with director Marta Nieto		



# **TE SEPARAS MUCHO**



**Directed by** Paula Veleiro **Cast** José Luis Pérez Veleiro, Luz María López Castro, Joy Thomas, Paula Veleiro

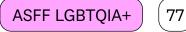
Spain / 67 min / 2024 Spanish with English subtitles **Dutch premiere** 

In 1989, José Luis and Luz María, a young couple living in Galicia and who have just had a daughter, get divorced. José Luis films the entire process of their breakup with his camera. In 2019, their daughter Paula, who has lived in France for ten years with her girlfriend Joy, also separated. Paula, like her father, has recorded her love story and its end throughout this time. The editor Paula Veleiro tackles her first feature as a director with brutal visceral intensity, confronting her own emotional breakdown after a romantic breakup. The domestic images of her family's past turn into both tangible and ghostly memories. Fragments of a shipwreck, but also the lifeline upon which she tries to interpret the present. Juxtaposing, fantasizing, and reconstructing, Veleiro manages to shed light on the way we beautify memories and our relationship with their audiovisual record. This documentary uses intimate archival material to initiate a dialogue between two breakups thirty years apart, attempting to answer the question: what remains when love ends?

#### Festivals

Festival Internacional de Cine de Gijón 2024, Novos Cinemas 2024

;	SCREENINGS	
5 Apr, 21:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem	
6 Apr, 12:00	LAB111	
Followed by a Q&A with director Paula Veleiro		



# WHEN CHUECA DIES



Directed by Ramón Gieling

Spain / 98 min / 2025 English and Spanish with English subtitles **World premiere** 

In Madrid's Chueca area, we witness a vivid love story of human contradiction as LGBTQIA+ characters step into the roles of their adversaries. Chueca in central Madrid is an oasis of freedom for the LGTBQIA++ community. But recently, hate speech from politicians has placed it under scrutiny. The film contains a vibrant cast; trans people, drag queens, young married lesbians, refugees, and a politician proclaiming a heterosexual-free society. At its core is Radio Chueca Libertaria, broadcasting from the Berkana Bookstore about local struggles and global LGBTQIA+ challenges. In intense scenes, characters step into the roles of their adversaries.

S	SCREENINGS	
7 Apr, 19:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem	
10 Apr, 19:00	LAB111	
Followed by a Q&A with director Ramón Gieling (only in LAB111)		

# MUY LEJOS Zo ver weg



**Directed by** Gerard Oms **Cast** Mario Casas, David Verdaguer, Ilyass El Ouahdani

Spain, Netherlands / 106 min / 2024 **Dutch Premiere** 

*Muy lejos* is a captivating odyssey about personal discovery and emotional survival. Starring Mario Casas as Dani, the film follows the young man who, after travelling to Utrecht with his family for a sports event, makes an impulsive decision following a panic attack: to stay in the Netherlands and sever all ties with his past. Without money, friends, or knowledge of the language, Dani must face a new environment while struggling to find purpose. As he distances himself from his previous life, the protagonist embarks on an internal journey as challenging as his external one. *Muy lejos* is more than a survival story; it is a profound reflection on identity, loneliness, and the need for reinvention. Through Dani's disconnection, the film invites the audience to explore fear, isolation, and the desperate desire to find oxygen in a stifling life. With a seamless blend of cultures, this Spanish-Dutch co-production offers an intimate and moving experience, reminding us that sometimes, losing ourselves is the only way to truly find who we are.

#### Festivals

Málaga Film Festival 2025





Highlighting the inevitable synergy between the Netherlands and Spain, we organize an event that is deeply enrooted in the DNA of our festival: an event where Dutch and Spanish culture collide and discussions are stimulated about cultural differences, similarities and exchange between both countries.

# MUY LEJOS Zo ver weg



Directed by Gerard Oms S Cast Mario Casas, David Verdaguer, I Ilyass El Ouahdani

Spain, Netherlands / 106 min / 2024 **Dutch Premiere** 

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#### Festivals

83

Málaga Film Festival 2025



# WHEN CHUECA DIES



Directed by Ramón Gieling

Spain / 98 min / 2025 English and Spanish with English subtitles **World premiere** 

In Madrid's Chueca area, we witness a vivid love story of human contradiction as LGBTQIA+ characters step into the roles of their adversaries. Chueca in central Madrid is an oasis of freedom for the LGTBQIA++ community. But recently, hate speech from politicians has placed it under scrutiny. The film contains a vibrant cast; trans people, drag queens, young married lesbians, refugees, and a politician proclaiming a heterosexual-free society. At its core is Radio Chueca Libertaria, broadcasting from the Berkana Bookstore about local struggles and global LGBTQIA+ challenges. In intense scenes, characters step into the roles of their adversaries.

:	SCREENINGS	
7 Apr, 19:00	Filmkoepel Haarlem	
10 Apr, 19:00	LAB111	
Followed by a Q&A with director Ramón Gieling (only in LAB111)		

This showcase highlights the rich cultural exchange and collaboration between the two regions, offering audiences a glimpse into the diverse narratives and storytelling traditions shared between Spain and Latin America.

86

FOCUS LATINO

# LOS REYES DEL MUNDO The Kings Of The World



**Directed by** Laura Mora **Cast** Carlos Andrés Castañeda, Davidson Andrés Flórez, Brahian Stiven Acevedo, Cristian Camilo, David Mora Colombia, Luxembourg, France, Mexico, Norway / 110 min / 2022 Spanish with English subtitles

"One day all men fell asleep... and the rims of the world burned".

Los reyes del mundo is a film about the disobedience, friendship and dignity that exist in resistance. Rá, Culebro, Sere, Winny and Nano. Five boys who live on the streets of Medellín. Five kings with no kingdom, no law, no family, set out on a journey in search of the promised land. A subversive tale told through a wild and endearing clan, somewhere between reality and delirium. A journey to nowhere, where everything happens.

#### COLOMBIAN EMBASSY / AIR EUROPA / THE LATIN EXPERIENCE

This premiere will be hosted by the Colombian Embassy and offered as a free screening. To create an immersive night where we celebrate Latin American culture, the festival has also partnered up with Amsterdam based network The Latin Experience and AirEuropa, who is offering the chance to win two flights to a Latin American country. In short: a special night to celebrate some unique aspects of Latin American culture. **More info at** *Special Events* section.

	SCREENINGS	
9 Apr, 18:00	Pathé Tuschinski	
Free event: courtesy of the Colombian Embassy		



# EL JOCKEY *Kill The Jockey*



**Directed by** Luis Ortega **Cast** Nahuel Perez Biscayart, Ursula Corberó, Daniel Gimenez Cacho

Argentina, España, México, Denmark, United States 96 min / 2024 Spanish with English subtitles

Remo Manfredini is a legendary jockey whose self-destructive behaviour overshadows his talents. He races mainly to pay off his debts to a criminal gang, headed by the seedy boss Sirena. On the day of the most important race of his life, things go thoroughly wrong. Remo gets into an accident, killing one of the most precious horses. He flees and wanders around the dark streets of Buenos Aires. While assuming a new identity, he must stay out of the hands of Sirena and his henchmen, who want to track him down at all costs, dead or alive. Argentine director Luis Ortega turned *Kill the Jockey* into a psychological black comedy with touches of a thriller. The film is Argentina's entry for the Oscars.



Every year ASFF offers the very best in contemporary Spanish cinema to schools with the aim of introducing students to the languages and cultures of this territory.

# EDUCA-TIONAL PROGRAM

92

The ASFF Education Program caters to schools from elementary to high school.

## EL 47 *The* 47



**Directed by** Marcel Barrena **Cast** Eduard Fernández, Clara Segura, David Verdaguer Spain / 110 min / 2024 / Drama Catalan & Castellan with English subtitles **Dutch premiere** 

An inspiring and heartwarming film that tells the extraordinary true story of a community's fight for dignity in the face of neglect. Set in 1978 in the marginalized neighborhood of Torre Baró on the outskirts of Barcelona, the film follows Manuel Vital, a determined bus driver portrayed brilliantly by Eduard Fernández, who embarks on a remarkable journey to secure public transport for his community. In a time when the city authorities deemed Torre Baró "inaccessible", the residents lived without basic amenities: no paved streets, no running water, and no public buses. Fueled by frustration and a deep-seated desire for change, Manolo takes the unprecedented step of hijacking the bus of line 47, proving that the steep hills were not an insurmountable barrier. This act of defiance becomes a powerful catalyst for transformation, igniting a collective movement that unites the residents in their struggle for recognition and improved living conditions.

In an era where societal progress was slow and often resisted, *El* 47 (*The* 47) shines a light on the unsung heroes who, through their courage and determination, paved the way for a better future. It is a celebration of resilience, identity, and the unbreakable bond of a community that refuses to be silenced. With heart and humor, this film invites audiences to reflect on the shared struggles that define us all, making it a must-see for anyone touched by the narrative of urban transformation and social justice.

#### Festivals

95

San Sebastián International Film Festival 2024, Toronto International Film Festival 2024

#### Goya Awards 2025 Winner

Best Film (ex aequo), Best Supporting Actor, Best Supporting Actress

#### Special event

Spanish drinks and tapas will be served after the premiere to bring the festival edition to a close.



# MUY LEJOS Zo ver weg



Directed by Gerard Oms S Cast Mario Casas, David Verdaguer, I Ilyass El Ouahdani

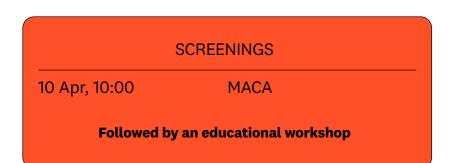
Spain, Netherlands / 106 min / 2024 **Dutch Premiere** 

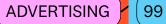
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#### Festivals

97

Málaga Film Festival 2025





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ESPANAL



100 MONTADITOS

(Valid during March and April 2025. Not applicable to other promotions.

# SPECIAL EVENTS

#### OPENING NIGHT: MUSIC ON SCREEN with cristalino, yerai cortés and la tania

Enjoy an Opening Night full of live music alongside the screenings of *Segundo premio* and *La guitarra flamenca de Yerai Cortés*. Actor and musician Cristalino will attend a Q&A with the audience after the first screening during the Opening Evening. After the opening film, Guitarist Yerai Cortés and singer La Tania will discuss the documentary with the audience and perform their Goya Awardwinning song *Los Almendros*.



#### **Opening Night in Haarlem**

For the second year in a row, the ASFF has spread its wings to Haarlem, a culturally diverse city with a rich cinematic history. The ASFF is hosted by the Filmkoepel, a large, new arthouse cinema located in a former prison. The festival in Haarlem has this unique mixture of classic ASFF elements like you are used to (such as Q&A's, Spanish drinks and atmosphere) mixed with the unmistakably new elements added by the vibrancy of a new city. Come celebrate the expansion of the ASFF with us and meet new audiences.

Spanish drinks, tapas and iberian ham will be served.

**OPENING NIGHT AMSTERDAM:** 

**OPENING NIGHT HAARLEM:** 

Friday 4 April • 18:00 Pathé Tuschinski Saturday 5 April • 15:30 Filmkoepel Haarlem

Friday 4 April • 20:30 LAB111



#### Dutch premiere 'Salve María' & short film 'Cuarentena' with celia de molina and laura weissmahr





ASFF presents the Dutch premiere of *Salve María*, alongside the short film *Cuarentena*, in a special evening featuring Celia de Molina and Laura Weissmahr, who will attend a Q&A with the audience.

Spanish drinks and tapas will be served.

Saturday 5 April • 20:30 • Pathé Tuschinski

#### VERMUTADA AT LAB111 & PREMIERE: 'Te separas mucho' 0&A WITH PAULA VELEIRO



For the first time, Vermutada at LAB111 will preceed the premiere of *Te separas mucho*, a film that invites us to reflect on the origins of cinema, and there couldn't be a better venue for it! Director Paula Veleiro will attend a Q&A with the audience.

Before the premiere, join us for a few festive hours at a traditional Spanish *Vermutada*. Drinking Spanish vermouth is more than just a tradition, it's a social ritual, a time to gather with friends on a Sunday afternoon to connect and enjoy each other's company. Savor a vermouth by Aquí No Hay Vermut, a community founded by two Spanish women who will bring you the best of Spanish vibes, music, and, of course, vermouth! Join them for a few hours of fun before the day's screening at LAB111.

Sunday 6 April • 12:00 • LAB111



# EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM: 'El 47' and 'Muy Lejos'



As part of ASFF's education program, our young audience will enjoy two films on two days, where schools will dive into the Spanish language through cinema. Both screenings will be accompanied by workshops, and the *Muy lejos* screening will include a Q&A with the producer and cast.

Wednesday 9 April • 10:00 • MACA Thursday 10 April • 10:00 • MACA

#### FOCUS LATINO: 'Los reyes del mundo' PRESENTED BY COLOMBIA EMBASSY + THE LATIN EXPERIENCE PARTY BY AIR EUROPA



The Embassy of Colombia collaborates with ASFF for the Focus Latino section, presenting a FREE screening of *Los Reyes del Mundo (The Kings of the Word)*. This special occasion will be followed by an event hosted by Air Europa, organized by The Latin Experience, where we'll dance and dream about booking a flight to Air Europa's Latin American and Caribbean destinations! This is a FREE event courtesy of the Colombian Embassy.

Wednesday 9 April • 18:00 • Pathé Tuschinski

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#### SPECIAL AVANT PREMIERE: 'When Chueca dies' with ramón gieling



ASFF proudly presents the special avant premiere of Ramón Gieling's latest film, *When Chueca Dies*, at LAB111. The director will attend a Q&A with the audience after the screening.

Thursday 9 April • 19:00 • LAB111

#### HONORARY GIELING AWARD GALA And premiere of 'Soy Nevenka' with Icíar Bollaín and Ramón Gieling



The inaugural Honorary Gieling Award Gala takes place at Pathé Tuschinski, featuring the premiere of *Soy Nevenka*. Icíar Bollaín will attend a Q&A with the audience and receive her award in a ceremony where Ramón Gieling himself will present it to her.

Spanish drinks and tapas will be served.

Friday 11 April • 20:00 • Pathé TUSCHINSKI

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# AMSTERDAM PREMIERE: 'Volveréis' AND ARTISTIC CUMBIA PARTY AT MURMUR

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The celebratory premiere kicks off at the Eye Filmmuseum, for the Dutch premiere of the film *Volveréis*. With Spanish drinks and a festive vibe we celebrate the success of this beautiful film. Afterwards, the night continues with a premiere party, inspired by the "break up party" that is so characteristic of the narrative of the film.

ASFF and Murmur bring you an immersive night of experimental sound and digital imagery. Live AV performances by **Mauricio Moquillaza** and **Jonathan Castro**, blending modular synthesis with striking visuals. Followed by a b2b set from **Stefhanja & Jonathan Castro**, carrying the night into deep sonic exploration. Opening concerts and **Cumbia afterparty** included.

#### SPANISH – DUTCH INTERCAMBIO by taalhuis amsterdam

Join us for a unique language exchange event hosted by Taalhuis at the Amsterdam Spanish Film Festival! Whether you're looking to practice your Spanish or Dutch skills, our informal and engaging setting provides the perfect opportunity to converse with fellow language learners.



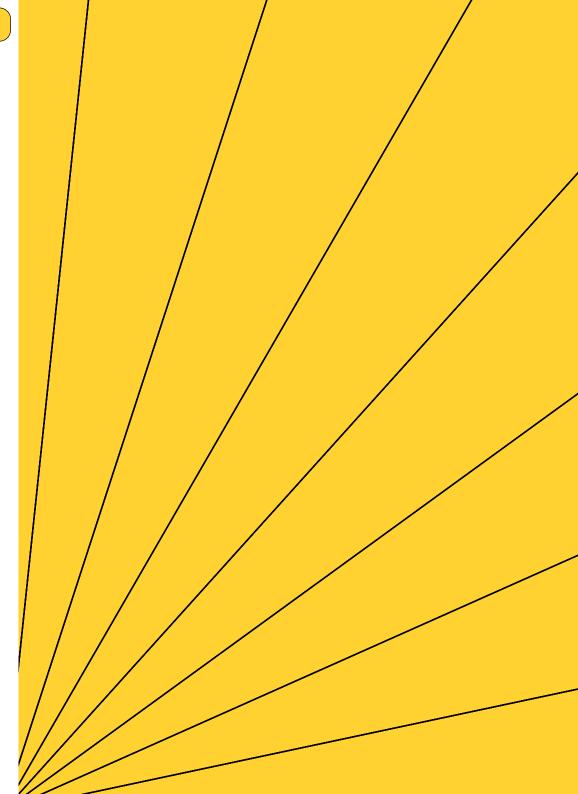
Guided by experienced teachers, you'll have the chance to engage in conversations, share cultural insights, and enhance your language proficiency in a relaxed environment. How does it work? For just five euros (including your first drink), you can participate in this enriching language exchange experience. Whether you're a beginner or an advanced learner, everyone is welcome to join us for an evening of language practice and cultural exchange. Secure your spot at the Taalhuis website. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to connect with others while improving your language skills! We look forward to seeing you there. SPECIAL EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE: 'Muy lejos' AT EYE FILMMUSEUM



Spanish meets the Netherlands with this international premiere of *Muy lejos*. This co-production hosts its international premiere during the Amsterdam Spanish Film Festival, where both the Spanish and Dutch cast accompany the film. After the movie, the Spanish and Dutch cast members will engage in a deepening discussion about co-production opportunities within both countries. Come celebrate the synergy between both cinematic countries with us and meet the cast and crew members.

Sunday 13 April • 19:00 • EYE Filmmuseum



## VENUES

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**PATHÉ TUSCHINSKI** Regulierbreestraat 26-34 1017 CN Amsterdam Open daily from 9:30 www.Pathé.nl **TICKETS** €16 (regular)



**EYE FILMMUSEUM** IJpromenade 1 1031 KT Amsterdam Open Sun-Thu: 10h-22h Fri & Sat : 10h-23h www.eyefilm.nl **TICKETS** €13,5 (regular) FREE Cineville pass holders

# PRACTICAL INFO



PRACTICAL INFO



## VENUES



**LAB111** Arie Biemondstraat 111 1054 PD Amsterdam Open daily from 10:00 www.lab111.nl **TICKETS** €13,5 (regular) FREE Cineville pass holders

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FILMKOEPEL HAARLEM Koepelplein 1b 2031 WL Haarlem Open daily from 11:00 www.filmkoepel.nl **TICKETS** €13,5 (regular) FREE Cineville pass holders



#### MACA

Ms. van Riemsdijkweg 61 1033 RC Amsterdam Open during events only www.maca.amsterdam



#### Kristina Dol Sonia Otero Torres Veláz Melchior Sw

# ACKNOW-LEDGEMENTS

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# **SPECIAL THANKS**

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# TEAM

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Founder, Director & Film Programmer Virginia Pablos General Coordinator Bloem van der Linde Head of Marketing Nela Linares Antequera Marketing Intern Sofia Crespo Online Marketeer & Social Media Maria Antonia Valencia Press & Social Media Intern Sara Gancedo Producer Selena Martí Volunteer Coordinator Iria Rodriguez Hospitality Coordinator Clara Estrada Hospitality Assistants Elena Herranz, Angela Bermúdez **Design & Creative Direction** What The Studio Production Intern Tomás Webster Ayuso **Fundraising** Auke Kranenborg Head of Finance Elena Herranz **Presenter** Maarten Dannenberg **Interpreter** Jasper Jacobs **Trailer** Noelia Nicolás Board Members Mercedes Martínez-Abarca. Elena Herranz, Daniella Koot

