

CUBAN CULTURAL CENTER OF NEW YORK PRESENTS

2022 CUBAN FILM FESTIVAL: 'WOMEN IN FOCUS'

A series of highly acclaimed shorts, documentaries and feature films celebrating the multifaceted role of Cuban women in cinema—whether as director, producer, screenwriter, historical character or protagonist.



Heidi Hassan and Patricia Pérez
A MEDIA VOZ / IN A WHISPER
2019, 1 hr. 20 min.
In Spanish, with English subtitles.

Friends since childhood, two filmmakers reflect on immigration, uprootedness, frustrated ambitions, motherhood and gender inequality through video letters and brief meetings. Top-prize winner at the 2019 International Film Festival in Amsterdam. **Sat 20 at 3 pm / Sat 27 at 6 pm**

~ Followed by a live Q&A via Zoom with directors Heidi Hassan and Patricia Pérez on 8/20.



Adriana Bosch
LETTERS TO ELOÍSA / CARTAS A ELOÍSA
2020, 54 min.
In English and Spanish, with subtitles

A fascinating documentary based on the letters that Cuban literary giant Jose Lezama Lima wrote to his sister, who was in exile. Regarded as one of the greatest poets and novelists of the 20th century, Lezama's letters intertwine his complex and painful relationship with the Cuban government and his views on the creative process.

Sat 20 at 6 pm / Wed 24 at 8 pm ~ Followed by a live Q&A via Zoom with director Adriana Bosch on 8/24.



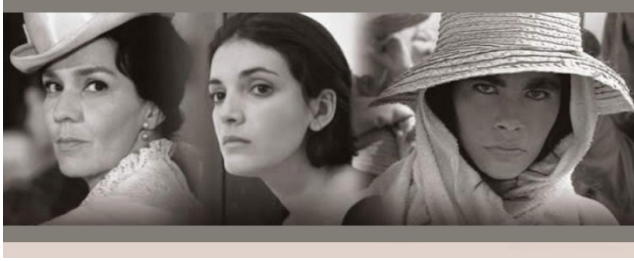
Maryulis Alfonso
LAS VENTANAS / THE WINDOWS
2014, 20 min.
RESINA / RESIN (US Premiere)
2014, 9 min.
SIRENAS / SIRENS (US Premiere)
2015, 20 min.
In Spanish, with English subtitles

Las Ventanas: Lucía, an artisan who makes clay dolls to support her family, can only escape her empty life and frustrations in an imaginary world, where she becomes the woman she would like to be.

Resina: A coming-of-age story, where the contradictions and complex feelings of a young girl are symbolically manifested through her desire to go to a freak show to see a snake with two heads.

Sirenas: A powerful story about a single mother and her two daughters. When the mother starts a relationship with an acquaintance, one of the daughters decides to put an end to it.

Sun 21 at 3 pm / Mon 29 at 8 pm ~ Followed by a live Q&A via Zoom with director Maryulis Alfonso on 8/21.



Humberto Solás

LUCÍA

1968, 2 hrs. 40 min.

In Spanish with English subtitles.

A treasured classic in Cuban cinema, the late Humberto Solás's iconic film focuses on the oppressive life of three Cuban women, all named Lucía, from three different historical periods: 1895, during the War of Independence; the 1930s, during the government of Gerardo Machado; and the 1960s, during the first years of the Cuban Revolution.

Sun 21 at 6 pm and Sun 28 at 6 pm ~ Followed by a short series of interviews with the three main protagonists of the film on 8/21.



Oneyda González and Gustavo Pérez

SEVERO SECRETO

2016, 64 min.

In Spanish with English subtitles

An insightful documentary on the life of Cuban writer Severo Sarduy, the creator of the neo-baroque in Cuban literature. Based on extensive interviews with his friends and colleagues in Cuba and in France, including members of the Tel Quel group.

Mon 22 at 6 pm / Tue 30 at 6 pm ~ Followed by a live Q&A via Zoom with director Oneyda González on 8/22.



Luis Pérez Tolón

EMILIA, AN UNTOLD

CUBAN-AMERICAN STORY

2017, 51 min.

In English and Spanish, with subtitles.

A revealing documentary about Emilia Teurbe Tolón, the woman who sewed the first Cuban flag in 1849, while living in exile in New York. A strong advocate for social justice, she became a symbol of women's contributions to Cuban independence.

Mon 22 at 8 pm / Thu 25 at 6 pm ~ Followed by a live Q&A via Zoom with director Luis Pérez Tolón on 8/25.



Sandra Álvarez

INHOSPITABLE

2021, 1 hr. 41 min.

In English

A poignant critique of American hospitals and the broken healthcare system in the U.S. The lens follows hospital workers and vulnerable patients as they band together to fight for better health service and more benefits.

Tue 23 at 8 pm / Fri 26 at 8 pm ~ Followed by a live Q&A via Zoom with director Sandra Álvarez on 8/26.



Photo collage: Luis Casas

The World Gone Astray: In collaboration with three choreographers of Karen Peterson and Dancers, the film fuses dance performed specifically for the camera, in a collage that evokes displacement, uncertainty, and the scrutiny of others. Video concept, production and postproduction by Maria Lino.

nightmare: an embracing couple's agitated sleep echoes a mother's grief about her veteran son with PTSD, the consequence of war, and its impact on the returning soldiers' mental health. In collaboration with Karen Peterson and Dancers and Patricia Figueroa Sowers, founder and director of WARMAMAS. Video concept, production/post-production by Maria Lino.

Mujeres con la cámara: Shorts by ten women who participated in an independent 16 mm workshop co-founded by Aimara Fernández and Juan Carlos Alom in Havana. Each film reflects a personal exploration of cinematographic language through a distinct creative craftsmanship and theme, developed and directed by each woman. **Tue 23 at 6 pm / Sat 27 at 3 pm ~**

Followed by a live Q&A via Zoom with filmmakers Aimara Fernández and Juan Carlos Alom on 8/23 and María Lino on 8/27.

María Lino

THE WORLD GONE ASTRAY (NYC Premiere)

2017, 12:55 min.

NIGHTMARE (NYC Premiere)

2019, 2:18 min.

In English

Aimara Fernández and Juan Carlos Alom

MUJERES CON LA CÁMARA (US Premiere)

2022, 31:22 min.

In Spanish



Oneyda González

ESPERANDO QUE CAIGA EL JABALÍ

(US Premiere) 2013, 26 min. *In Spanish.*

Milena Almira

UNO AL OTRO

2011, 25 min.

QUÓRUM

2009, 14:30 min.

In Spanish.

Esperando que caiga el jabalí A man fears losing his horse, his only source of sustenance to support his family. A sensitive poetic rendition of the interdependency of humans and animals.

Uno al otro A young couple reflects on their relationship. Although both are artists, their biggest challenge is communication.

Quórum A woman and her disciples agree to meet at an old cemetery. Together they try to confront the mystery of life as they search for answers. **Wed 24 at 6 pm / Sun 28 at 3 pm ~**

Followed by a live Q&A via Zoom with directors Oneyda González and Milena Almira on 8/28.



Gloria Rolando

REEMBARQUE / RESHIPMENT

(NYC Premiere) 2014, 58 min.

In Spanish, with English subtitles

A documentary about the discrimination and abuse suffered by the Haitian laborers who came to Oriente, Cuba to work in the sugar industry in the early 20th century, and who were later shipped back in the 1930s due to the economic crisis in Cuba.

Thu 25 at 8 pm / Mon 29 at 6 pm ~ Followed by a live Q&A via Zoom with director Gloria Rolando on 8/29



Laura Cazador and Fernando Pérez
INSUMISAS / DEFIANT SOULS

2019, 1 hr. 34 min.

In Spanish, with English subtitles

Based on real events, the film relates the life of Enriqueta Faber, a Swiss woman who, disguised as a man, studies medicine, travels to Cuba in 1820, marries, and advocates for women's rights and the abolition of slavery. Soon his high-pitched voice and frail appearance make him suspicious and he is thrown in jail. The film has resonated and gained a large following among the LGBT community.

Fri 26 at 6 pm / Tue 30 at 8 pm ~ Followed by a live Q&A via Zoom with director Laura Cazador on 8/30

This film festival is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the governor and the New York State Legislature.

