



# LASA — 1986

## BOSTON

### LATIN AMERICAN

### FILM FESTIVAL<sup>1</sup>

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22**

**6:00 p.m.** **WHO'S RUNNING THIS WAR? — U.S./NICARAGUA 1986 60' COLOR ENGLISH**

*Executive Producer, Frontline: David Fanning. Producer: Martin Smith. Penetrating examination of the Contras, of who is running the war against Nicaragua, of the roll of retired major general Singlaub, and of White House efforts to "sell" the Contras to Congress. Distributor: PBS Video*

**7:00 p.m.** **NICARAGUA: THE DIRTY WAR — NICARAGUA 1985 68' COLOR ENGLISH/SPANISH**

*Directors: Daniele Lacourse, Yvan Patry. Producers: Alter-Cine, National Film Board of Canada. Powerful portrait of the contra war against Nicaragua's civilian population, with testimonies by peasants and social workers of attacks on them and their projects for human development. Distributor: Cinema Guild.*

**8:00 p.m.** **HAVANA REPORT — CUBA 1986 52' COLOR SPANISH/ENGLISH**

*Producer-Directors: Holly Aylett, Michael Chanan.<sup>4</sup> A report on the annual Havana Film Festival, with reflections on cinema by Fidel Castro, Jack Lemmon, Julio Garcia Espinosa, Paul Leduc, Jorge Sanjines, and Fernando Birri. Distributor: Cinema Guild.*

**9:00 p.m.** **IMÁGENES DE REINOS — LATIN AMERICA 1986 24' B&W SPANISH**

*Producer-Director: Robert M. Levine.<sup>4</sup> More than three-hundred still photographs present the world invented by photographers of 19th century Latin America, who portray the poor, blacks, women, and indigenous peoples from the perspective of "order and progress." Distributor: South American Resources.*

**9:30 p.m.** **CENTROAMÉRICA: UN VOLCÁN QUE DESAFÍA — EL SALVADOR 1985 60' COLOR SPANISH**

*Producer: Sistema Radio Venceremos, FMLN. Rigorous analysis of different moments in the revolutionary process of five Central American nations. In a first on camera, the General Command of the FMLN explains its new revolutionary tactics and the ideological, political, and military strengths of the people in their struggle against imperialism. Distributor: Sistema Radio Venceremos.*

**10:30 p.m.** **HOW TASTY WAS MY LITTLE FRENCHMAN<sup>2</sup> — BRAZIL 1971 80' COLOR TUPI/ENGLISH FEATURE**

*Producer-Director: Nelson Pereira dos Santos.<sup>4</sup> Sensitive study on first contacts between the European and Amerindian worlds, in which the French explorer discovers that he is only fully integrated into the society of his Tupi captors, at the moment he is consumed by them. Distributor: New Yorker Films.*

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23**

**12:00 p.m.** **SWEET COUNTRY — CHILE 1986 57' COLOR SPANISH/ENGLISH**

*Producer-Director: Juan-Andrés Racz. Comprehensive anal-*

ysis of contemporary crime includes the "National Security Doctrine," as experienced by agents and victims, the poverty created by the government's economic model, and the popular struggle against the dictatorship, which involves priests, political activists, workers and students, and women's movements. Distributor: Icarus.

**1:00 p.m. GUATEMALA: A JOURNEY TO THE END OF MEMORIES — GUATEMALA 1986 55' COLOR SPANISH/ENGLISH**

*Director: Llan Ziv. On a journey into Guatemala in search of the family of a refugee living in Mexico, the filmmakers visit "model villages" and "reeducation camps," graphic examples of a counter-insurgency state intent on controlling the rural population. Distributor: Icarus.*

**1:55 p.m. THESE PEOPLE MAY PASS — NICARAGUA 1985 21' COLOR SPANISH/ENGLISH**

*Director: Rossana Lacayo. Producer: Incline, Dany Pérez. Impressions by members of the U.S. "Elders for Survival" Brigade, who worked in the Nicaraguan coffee harvest, despite the threat of contra attacks. The diary of brigade member Gadsfrey Boehlen, veteran of the 1930s Abraham Lincoln Brigade, provides the only narration. Distributor: Icarus.*

**2:15 p.m. \*\* ETNOCIDIO, NOTAS SOBRE EL MEZQUITAL — MEXICO 1976 105' COLOR SPANISH.**

*Director: Paul Leduc. Producer: Carlos Resendi. Riveting portrayal of the tragic aculturation suffered by the Otomí minority in the Valle del Mezquital, based on the field notes of sociologist Roger Bartra. Ethnocide, industrial progress, and repressive agrarian exploitation destroy collective work, communal organizations, and encourage migration and dispersion. Distributor: Zafrá, A.C.*

**4:00 p.m. \*\*\* JUBIABA — BRAZIL 1986 100' COLOR PORTUGUESE/ENGLISH FEATURE**

*Director: Nelson Pereira dos Santos. \* Producer: Regina Filmes. Race, class, and economic status separate a white girl from the black boy she loves. Under the spiritual leadership of Jubiaba, circumstances reverse. When they meet years later, they reflect upon their lost love and the social barriers that they were unable to transcend. Based on the novel by Jorge Amado. Distributor: Embrafilme.*

**5:55 p.m. LAS MADRES: THE MOTHERS OF PLAZA DE MAYO — ARGENTINA 1985 64' COLOR SPANISH/ENGLISH**

*Directors: Susana Muñoz and Lourdes Portillo. Mothers organize and demand information about 30,000 children, who have "disappeared" in Argentina. Interviews with them and with state officials are combined with footage of an actual government kidnapping, in this tribute to women active in struggle against political oppression. Distributor: First Run Features.*

**7:00 p.m. \*\*\*\* MEMOIRS OF AN EVERYDAY WAR — CHILE 1986 29' COLOR SPANISH/ENGLISH**

*Directors: Gaton Ancelovici, Jaime Barrios\*, René Davila. Producer: Cinemateca Chilena. Daily life in "the culture of death" created by the Pinochet dictatorship is described by a priest, an actor whose son was assassinated, his son's widow, and a community leader, each of whom has taken extraordinary risks to become a catalyst in the broad-based movement for democracy. Distributor: Icarus.*

*All films except Jubiaba are screened in the Stanbro Room, Boston Park Plaza Hotel. Feature films are screened only once.*

*\*Retrospective screening in honor of distinguished guest director, Nelson Pereira dos Santos.*

*\*\*North-American premiere of Jubiaba is shown at 4:00 p.m., October 23, USA Cinema 57, 200 Stuart Street, in Howard Johnson's 57 Park Plaza Hotel, located directly across from the back motor entrance to the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. No admission charge.*

*\*Director in attendance at the 1986 LASA Congress.*

**\*\*\*\*** International Premiere  
**\*\*\*** North-American Premiere

**\*\*** U.S. Premiere  
**\*** Festival Premiere

7:30 p.m. **RETURNING TO CHILE — CHILE 1986 28'**  
\*\* **COLOR SPANISH**

*Director: Estela Bravo. Producer: Producciones America Latina. Emotionally powerful documentary on the kidnapping, torture, and murder of Chilean exiles, who have recently returned to their homeland. Interviews with children of disappeared parents and families of those murdered are intercut with scenes of brutal repression of popular protests. Distributor: The Cinema Guild.*

8:00 p.m. **NICARAGUA INNOVANDO — NICARAGUA**  
\*\*\*\* **1986 30' COLOR SPANISH/ENGLISH**

*Director: John Mraz. Producer: Luis Ocampo Simpson. The "movimiento innovador" embodies the inventive spirit of the Sandinista revolution. In the face of the U.S. blockade and armed aggression, workers fashion replacement parts and meet daily needs of transportation, child care, clothing and food. Distributor: Universidad Autonoma de Puebla, Mexico.*

8:30 p.m. **CABILDO DE MUJERES EN MANAGUA —**  
\*\*\* **NICARAGUA 1986 40' COLOR SPANISH**

*Director: Cesar Rodríguez. Producer: Emilia Vargas. One mechanism for discussing the Nicaraguan draft constitution at the grass-roots level is an open assembly called "cabildo abierto." In the women's "cabildo" of Managua, women from diverse classes and backgrounds speak forcefully to government leaders about the constitution and such issues as abortion, women's rights, the concept of family, women's political participation and role in national defense. Distributor: Sistema Sandinista de Televisión.*

9:15 p.m. **BREAKING THE SILENCE — NICARAGUA**  
1984 15' B&W SPANISH/ENGLISH

*Director: Ivan Arguello. Producer: Incine. Political commitment and technological progress combine in this charming portrait of a volunteer team from the Nicaraguan telephone company who string the first phone lines into isolated Miskito Indian communities against such obstacles as mountains, jungle, and the "contras." Distributor: Icarus.*

9:30 p.m. *Public reception for distinguished Brazilian director, Nelson Pereira dos Santos. Cash bar. Stanbro Room.*

10:00 p.m. **VIDAS SECAS<sup>2</sup> — BRAZIL 1963 115' B&W**  
**PORTUGUESE/ENGLISH FEATURE**

*Director: Nelson Pereira dos Santos. A seminal work in the development of Brazil's Cinema Novo movement, *Vidas Secas* captures the stark existence of hunger, drought, and exploitation of a peasant family in Brazil's northeast sertão. Based on the novel by Graciliano Ramos. Distributor: New Yorker Films.*

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24

12:00 p.m. **THE BATTLE OF VIEQUES — PUERTO**  
**RICO 1986 40' COLOR ENGLISH/SPANISH**

*Producer-Director: Zydnia Nazario. The battle for this island off the coast of Puerto Rico is waged between the U.S. government, who uses it as a Naval base, training ground, and staging point for U.S. military intervention in Latin America, and the residents, merchants, farmers, and fishermen who struggle to get the Navy out. Distributor: The Cinema Guild.*

12:40 p.m. **MEMOIRS OF AN EVERYDAY WAR —**  
\*\*\* **CHILE 1986** See above.

1:15 p.m. **CENTROAMÉRICA: UN VOLCÁN QUE**  
\*\* **DESAFÍA — EL SALVADOR 1985** See above.

2:15 p.m. **BREAKING THE SILENCE — NICARAGUA**  
1984 See above.

2:30 p.m. **SWEET COUNTRY — CHILE 1986** See above.

3:30 p.m. **RETURNING TO CHILE — CHILE 1986** See  
\*\* above.

4:00 p.m. **LAS MADRES: THE MOTHERS OF PLAZA**  
**DE MAYO — ARGENTINA 1985** See above.

5:00 p.m. **WORKSHOP: "Making Films Work in the Classroom: Approaches to Style, Image, and Sound."**

Sponsor: LASA Film Council. Organizer: Julianne Burton, Stanbro Room.

6:30 p.m. **NICARAGUA: THE DIRTY WAR — NICARAGUA 1985** See above.

7:40 p.m. **THESE PEOPLE MAY PASS — NICARAGUA 1985** See above.

8:00 p.m. **NICARAGUA INNOVANDO — NICARAGUA 1986** See above.

8:30 p.m. **LEJANÍA — CUBA 1985 100' COLOR SPANISH/ENGLISH FEATURE**

Director: Jesús Díaz. Producer: ICAIC. Ten years ago, Susana abandoned her country and her son for the United States. Now she returns to Cuba, laden with material gifts and the idea that they can resume their former relationship. Amid memories and conflicts, characters culturally and ideologically distanced, try to overcome their lejanía, their parting of ways. Distributor: The Cinema Guild.

10:15 p.m. **GENTILE ALOUETTE — CHILE/France 1985 105' COLOR SPANISH/ENGLISH/FRENCH FEATURE.**

Producer-Director: Sergio Castilla. Within poetical games of fantasy and reality, a tyrannical, old Colonel-actor attempts to impose his patriarchal vision and perverse interpretation of love on the creative, free-spirited "Sweet Lark," Angela. In isolation and impotence, only his companion Ortiz writes to the Colonel to sustain his fantasy. Angela: Geraldine Chaplin; Colonel: Hector Alterio; Ortiz: John Leguizamo. Distributor: Sergio Castilla.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

12:00 p.m. **CABILDO DE MUJERES EN MANAGUA — NICARAGUA 1986** See above.

12:40 p.m. **GUATEMALA: A JOURNEY TO THE END OF MEMORIES — GUATEMALA 1986** See above.

1:30 p.m. **THE BATTLE OF VIEQUES — PUERTO RICO 1986** See above.

2:15 p.m. **IMÁGENES DE REINOS — LATIN AMERICA 1986** See above.

2:45 p.m. **HAVANA REPORT — CUBA 1986** See above.

3:45 p.m. **ETNOCIDIO, NOTAS SOBRE EL MEZQUITAL — MEXICO 1976** See above.

5:30 p.m. **WHO'S RUNNING THIS WAR? — U.S./NICARAGUA 1986** See above.

### DISTRIBUTORS OF FESTIVAL FILMS

Cinema Guild, 1697 Broadway, New York, New York 10019. (212) 246-5522.

Embrafilme, Rua Maricá Beiga, 28, Centro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

First Run Features, 153 Waverly Place, New York, New York, 10014. (212) 243-0600.

Icarus Films, 200 Park Avenue South, Suite 1319, New York, New York 10003. (212) 674-3375

New Yorker Films, 16 West 61st Street, New York, New York 10023. (212) 247-6110.

PBS Video, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1698. (703) 739-5380.

Sergio Castilla, 195 Hicks Street, Apt. 6C, Brooklyn, New York 11201. (718) 624-5576.

Sistema Radio Venceremos del FMLN, El Salvador.

Sistema Sandinista de Televisión, Managua, Nicaragua.

South American Resources, 40 East 62nd St., New York, New York 10021. (212) 838-1732.

Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Centro de Información y Documentación de la Cultura Audio Visual, Puebla, Mexico. (905) 688-2420.

Zagra, A.C. Cine Difusión, Leonardo da Vinci 82, Mexico 19, D.F., Mexico. 598-72-15.

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