



42ND

LATINO FILM FESTIVAL

2026

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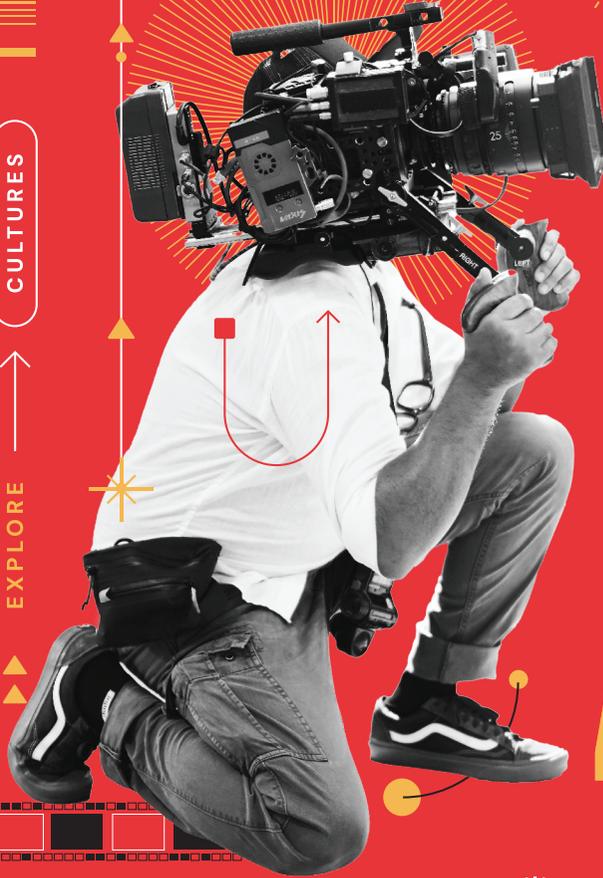


LATINO FILM



42ND

FESTIVAL



APRIL 16 ▶ 27 // 2026

DESIGN BY EDMEJIASTUDIO.COM

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE CHICAGOLATINOFILMFESTIVAL.ORG

@ChiLatinoFilm #42CLFF





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DIRECTOR'S WELCOME



Welcome to the 42nd Chicago Latino Film Festival

We are in a new reality. One where abuse of power seems to be the rule of law. Where empathy is seen as a sign of weakness, where the powerful have free rein over our destinies, and where bullies are celebrated as heroes by some media outlets. The last year left those who escaped authoritarian regimes and came to this country expecting to leave that horrible experience behind, suffering from a severe case of shellshock.

But our communities —yes, in plural— are fighting back in so many inspiring ways. From peacefully confronting these forces of hatred to delivering food and basic needs to those who can't leave their homes. From creating art that speaks to the times we live in to those holding accountable the powers that be that are inflicting so much pain in our cities.

Like many not-for-profit organizations across the country, the International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago has seen a drastic reduction in government funding as a result of this current administration's devastating war against the arts, against culture, against knowledge, and against anything that speaks to the best part of us.

And yet, here we are, still standing, like that Elton John song, determined to, as I wrote last year in my welcome to the 41st edition of the Festival, "give voice to the voiceless through the arts."

Some of the films in our program of 51 features and 31 shorts speak, in their own unique ways, to the times we live in, from Juanjo Pereira's impressionistic collage of recovered and restored archival footage of the Stroessner dictatorship (*Under the Sun, the Flags*) to the almost dystopian Opening Night film (Mariana Rondón's and Marité Ugas' *It Would Be Night in Caracas*). For years, we've searched high and low for quality feature animated films to bring to our Festival and this year we have two: *I am Frankelda* from Mexico and *TheyDream* from Puerto Rico. We do have a greater number of thrillers and genre films than in years past. We also welcome the return to our Festival of such influential directors as Julio Medem, Ana Cristina Barragán, Sergio Olhovich and José María Cabral.

My eternal gratitude to the many people who believe in the role our Festival, the International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago, and the arts play in our society: our funders and sponsors, volunteers, staff, filmmakers, the Film Selection Committee members, our board of directors and, most important of all, *you!!*

See you at the movies!

Pepe Vargas

Founder & Executive Director

International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago

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@ChiLatinoFilm
#42CLFF

ChicagoLatinoFilmFestival.org
(312) 431-1330

THEATERS

Landmark Century Centre Cinema

2828 N. Clark St.
Chicago, IL 60657
773-248-7759

Take the CTA to the Landmark Century Centre Cinema



- **BUS:** #22 Clark and #36 Broadway
- **RAIL:** Brown line to Diversey station, transfer to #76 Diversey and step off at the corner of Clark and Diversey.
- 1-888-968-7282 | transitchicago.com

Wheelchair Access:

All theaters are wheelchair accessible



PARKING AT THE CENTURY CENTRE

Convenient \$6 validated four-hour parking located in Century Shopping Centre lot. Enter on Clark Street.

TICKET INFORMATION

Regular Screenings at Landmark Century Centre Cinema

- General: **\$17**
- Senior/Student/ILCC member (Must Present Valid ID): **\$15**

Monday & Tuesday Discount at Landmark Century Centre Cinema

- All tickets: **\$12**

Film Passport - 10 General Admissions

- General: **\$140** (\$30 Savings)
- Senior/Student/ILCC member: **\$120** (\$50 Savings)

Opening and Closing Night Galas (Includes pre-screening appetizers, DJ and cash bar)

- General: **\$35**
- Senior/Student/ILCC member: **\$25**

Festival Passport tickets are not valid for Opening and Closing Night.

How To Buy Tickets

- Tickets are available for purchase in advance at **ChicagoLatinoFilmFestival.org**. For expedited service please purchase tickets in advance. Tickets will be emailed to print or show on the phone.
- Tickets for regular screenings can also be purchased at the CLFF Box Office in the Landmark Century Centre Cinema's lobby. Box office opens one hour before the first show of the day. **Cash, debit and major credit cards are accepted. Checks are not accepted. All sales are final.**
- For any questions or ticketing issues, please contact ticketing@latinoculturalcenter.org

Festival Information

ILCC MEMBERSHIP

BECOME A MEMBER!

The International Latino Cultural Center is your passport to Latin America, Spain and Portugal!

Become a member today and let us open the doors to a unique cultural experience. Discover and enjoy international films, music, dance, visual and performing arts with our exceptional year-round programming.

Individual Membership \$100

- 20-30% discount on tickets for all ILCC events
- Complimentary tickets for select screenings, concerts and presentations
- Invitation to the exclusive Chicago Latino Film Festival Kick-Off Party



- 20% off all Merchandise sales
- One companion discount to all events
- Discounted Film Festival tickets and passport
- Early Bird specials on select events

To sign up for a membership call our office at 312-431-1330 visit our website: ChicagoLatinoFilmFestival.org

STUDENT OUTREACH PROGRAM

Presently, in its 32nd year, the Student Outreach Program is a fundamental educational platform that continues to channel the cultural significance of film to elementary and high school students. The program began as an event that attracted 1,000 Chicago area students and has grown to serve nearly 5,000 students every year.

The Student Outreach Program provides students the opportunity to learn about the diversity of other cultures, the possibility to connect with their cultural heritage, and the prospect of meeting film directors/actors/producers to discuss viable career options in the arts.



MERCHANDISE INFORMATION

FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE

- Film Festival T-shirt: **\$30 for one and \$50 for two**
- Hoodies: **\$50**
- Festival Tote Bag: **\$30**
- Caps: **\$30 for one and \$50 for two**
- Mugs: **\$15**

Additional items can be found on our website.

ILCC members get a 20% discount on all purchases.

Purchase at Festival Information Table at Landmark Century Center. Cash, debit, Apple Pay and major credit cards are accepted. Checks are not accepted. ILCC members MUST present their membership card to receive their discount.



GOVERNOR'S LETTER



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

Greetings!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome everyone gathered for the 42nd Chicago Latino Film Festival hosted by the International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago. This occasion offers an exciting opportunity for everyone in attendance to celebrate the over 80 feature length and short films from Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, Spain, Portugal, and the United States. I commend the work of all the dedicated filmmakers that help encourage and inspire our community, making Illinois a more enjoyable state.

Our state's tremendous diversity is our greatest strength. As you reflect on your accomplishments, I urge you to make plans for the future of your association that will continue to promote a community of cooperation and diversity built on your past successes. Illinois is proud to have enjoyed your service to our state, and I am grateful for all the ways your organization has supported a more inclusive future for Illinois.

On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable occasion.

Sincerely,

Governor JB Pritzker

MAYOR'S LETTER



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

BRANDON JOHNSON
MAYOR

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the City of Chicago, I welcome all those gathered for the 42nd Annual Chicago Latino Film Festival.

For more than four decades, this Festival has been a cornerstone of our city's vibrant cultural life, celebrating the richness, diversity, and creative power of Latino storytelling from around the world. From Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, Spain, Portugal, and the United States, the films presented this year reflect the global reach and profound impact of Latino cinema.

Chicago is proud to be home to one of the largest and most dynamic Latino communities in the nation. The Chicago Latino Film Festival not only showcases extraordinary artistic achievement, but also strengthens community connections, promotes cross-cultural understanding, and affirms the vital contributions of Latino artists to the cultural fabric of our city.

With more than 80 feature-length and short films, including numerous world, North American, and U.S. premieres, and the participation of filmmakers who will engage audiences in meaningful dialogue, this year's Festival once again demonstrates why Chicago is a world-class destination for arts and culture.

I commend the organizers, filmmakers, sponsors, and volunteers whose dedication and vision have sustained this Festival for 42 remarkable years. Your work continues to inspire, educate, and unite our communities.

Sincerely,

Mayor

Opening Night



Chicago Premiere

IT WOULD BE NIGHT IN CARACAS / AÚN ES DE NOCHE EN CARACAS

Venezuela/Mexico / 2025 / 97 mins.
Directed by Mariana Rondón, Marité Ugás

Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Caracas, 2017. Trapped in a city on the verge of collapse, Adelaida buries her mother and is left completely alone. In the streets of Caracas, anti-government protests are brutally crushed. When she returns home, she discovers her apartment has been overtaken by women aligned with the regime. With no way out, she hides in the flat next door—only to discover her neighbor's corpse. Adelaida descends into a claustrophobic spiral — until she realizes that in order to survive, she must give up her identity and become someone else. In their latest collaboration, Rondón and Ugás deliver a profoundly universal story about the right to exist.

Caracas, 2017. Atrapada en una ciudad al borde del colapso, Adelaida entierra a su madre y queda completamente sola. En las calles de Caracas, las protestas antigubernamentales son brutalmente reprimidas. Al regresar a casa, descubre que su apartamento ha sido ocupado por mujeres afines al régimen. Sin salida, se esconde en un apartamento vecino, solo para descubrir el cadáver de su dueña. Adelaida se hunde en una espiral claustrofóbica hasta que se da cuenta que, para sobrevivir, debe renunciar a su identidad y convertirse en otra persona. En su más reciente colaboración, Rondón y Ugás presentan una historia profundamente universal sobre el derecho a existir.

ADDITIONAL SCREENING (FILM ONLY): Saturday, April 18, 8:15 PM at Landmark Century Centre Cinema



THURSDAY, APRIL 16TH



Landmark Century Centre Cinema
2828 N. Clark St., Chicago



Doors Open: 5:30 PM
Reception: 6:00 PM
Program: 7:00 PM



\$35 - ILCC Member \$25

Includes appetizers, cash bar and DJ music before the movie and a post-screening discussion with the filmmakers. Business casual attire is strongly recommended.

CATERING BY

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Purchase Tickets at [ChicagoLatinoFilmFestival.org](https://www.ChicagoLatinoFilmFestival.org)



★ **Chicago Premiere**

THE DOG, MY FATHER AND US / NOSOTROS, MI PAPÁ Y EL PERRO

Ecuador / 2025 / 90 mins.
Directed by Pablo Arturo Suárez

Genre: Comedy
Spanish w/English subtitles

Sebastián is going through a quiet midlife crisis: he loses his job, his marriage is on the skids, his relationship with his son is strained, and living with his father becomes increasingly difficult. When his younger brother suddenly reappears with a business proposal as absurd as it is desperate, long-buried family wounds resurface, forcing Sebastián to confront everything he has been avoiding for years. "The Dog, My Father and Us" is an intimate comedy about male vulnerability, the complex bonds between fathers and sons, and the need to reconcile with those we love before it is too late.

Sebastián atraviesa una silenciosa crisis de la mediana edad: pierde su trabajo, su matrimonio no va nada bien, la relación con su hijo es tensa y la convivencia con su padre se vuelve cada vez más difícil. Cuando su hermano menor reaparece repentinamente con una propuesta de negocios tan absurda como desesperada, heridas familiares que llevaban años enterradas resurgen, obligando a Sebastián a enfrentarse a todo lo que ha estado evitando durante años. "Nosotros, mi papá y el perro" es una comedia íntima sobre la vulnerabilidad masculina, los complejos vínculos entre padres e hijos y la necesidad de reconciliarse con quienes amamos antes de que sea demasiado tarde.

MONDAY, APRIL 27TH


Landmark Century Centre Cinema
2828 N. Clark St., Chicago


Doors Open: 5:30 PM
Reception: 6:00 PM
Program: 7:00 PM


\$35 - ILCC Member \$25

Includes appetizers, cash bar and DJ music before the movie and a post-screening discussion with the filmmakers. Business casual attire is strongly recommended.

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Purchase Tickets at ChicagoLatinoFilmFestival.org



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Festival Information

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† Deceased

FESTIVAL CREDITS

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Pepe Vargas

Deputy Executive Director

Matthew "Mateo" Mulcahy

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Alejandro Riera

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Gabriela Reyes

Executive Producer & Multimedia Content Creator

James Klein-InSpanish Media & J.KleinCreative (JKleinCreative.com)

Spanish Translations

Alejandro Riera

Portuguese Translations

Alice da Cunha

Print Traffic

Alex Kogan

Photography

Enrique Villalon

Videography

XR Space

PSA Voice-over

Matthew "Mateo" Mulcahy

Graphic Designer

Steve Heinrich-PixelSwim

Graphic Designer

Citlali Renteria

Design & Animation - Poster Design

Ed Mejia

www.edmejiastudio.com

Audience Choice Award Designer

David Camorlinga Tagle

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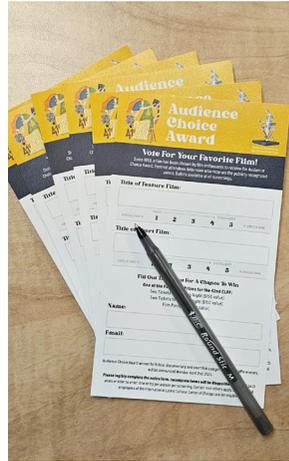
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Fill Out The Ballot For A Chance To Win:

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Audience Choice Award winner for fiction, documentary and short film categories and the raffle winner, will be announced **Monday, May 4th**.



Audience Choice Winner Statuette
Designed by David Camorlinga Tagle

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Death of a Comedian / La muerte de un comediante

Argentina / 2025 / 108 mins.
Directed by Diego Peretti, Javier Beltramino

Genre: Drama
English and Spanish w/English subtitles

Financed through a massive crowdfunding campaign that totalled over 10,000 microinvestors, actor Diego Peretti's and Javier Beltramino's feature debut centers on Juan Debré, an actor who has spent a lifetime playing the lead role in a popular TV series. Diagnosed with a terminal illness, Debré drops everything, including an upcoming film shoot, and travels to Brussels where he embarks on an adventure that seems to come straight out of one of the graphic novels written and drawn by his favorite comic book artist, Monsieur Bickel.

Financiada a través de una masiva campaña de micromecenazgo que reunió a más de 10,000 micro inversionistas, esta ópera prima del actor Diego Peretti y Javier Beltramino se centra en Juan Debré, un actor que ha dedicado toda su vida a protagonizar una popular serie de televisión. Diagnosticado con una enfermedad terminal, Debré lo deja todo, incluido el rodaje de una nueva película, y viaja a Bruselas, donde se embarca en una aventura que parece sacada de una de las novelas gráficas escritas y dibujadas por su autor favorito de cómics, Monsieur Bickel.

Screenings:

Friday, April 17, 5:15 PM
Saturday, April 18, 3:30 PM



Features: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil



Homo Sapiens? / Homo Argentum

Argentina / 2025 / 98 mins.
Directed by Mariano Cohn, Gastón Duplat

Sixteen self-contained short films plus Guillermo Francella plus the directors of "The Distinguished Citizen" and "Official Competition" equal: one hilarious satire about masculinity. From a tech bro to a DJ who narrates a world cup final as if it were the end of the world, Francella displays his chameleonic abilities and versatility delivering one show stopping performance after another. A box office sensation in Argentina, "Homo Sapiens?" is a sometimes politically incorrect, often brutally honest comedy about the human condition.

Genre: Comedy
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Friday, April 24, 8:15 PM
Saturday, April 25, 8:30 PM

★ Chicago Premiere



Writer / Escritor

Argentina / 2025 / 93 mins.
Directed by Paula de Luque

In 1955, a civil-military coalition under the name "Revolución Libertadora," overthrew the constitutional government of Juan Domingo Perón, replacing him not with one but two dictators. A year later, the dictatorship executed a group of civilians and soldiers suspected of organizing a coup. A young translator, Rodolfo Walsh, receives news that someone survived the massacre, and sets out on a dangerous quest for the truth, leading to the publication of one of history's first non-fiction novels, "Operation Massacre," years before Truman Capote wrote "In Cold Blood."

Genre: Drama/Thriller
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Wednesday, April 22, 6:00 PM
Thursday, April 23, 8:00 PM

★ USA Premiere



Cielo

Bolivia/UK / 2025 / 108 mins.
Directed by Alberto Sciamma

Believing, quite literally, that heaven is a place on Earth, eight-year-old Santa takes her mother's body on a journey across the Bolivian altiplanos after swallowing a fish whole and dispensing with her abusive father. On her way, she meets a group of "cholata" wrestlers and a gruff policeman who believes Santa possesses magical powers. Winner of Best Cinematography at the Fantasia International Film Festival and the Best Cinematography and the Audience Award at Fantasporto, "Cielo" is an ambitious, heartfelt and gorgeously photographed fairy tale.

Genre: Drama/Fantasy
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Wednesday, April 22, 8:00 PM
Sunday, April 26, 7:45 PM

★ Chicago Premiere



Five Kinds of Fear / Cinco Tipos de Medo

Brazil / 2025 / 106 mins.
Directed by Bruno Bini

Murilo, a grieving violinist falls in love with Marlene, a nurse trapped in an abusive relationship with Sapinho, a violent drug dealer. Sapinho is arrested by Luciana, a policewoman driven by a desire for revenge. Ivan, a lawyer, faces a moral dilemma when he accepts to defend Sapinho at the request of Dona Antonia, a community leader who sees the drug dealer as the only person capable of providing security to the residents of the neighborhood. Their lives collide, setting them on a dangerous path.

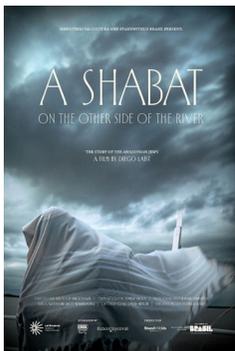
Genre: Drama
Portuguese w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Saturday, April 25, 8:15 PM
Sunday, April 26, 6:00 PM

★ North American Premiere

Murilo, um violinista em luto, se apaixona por Marlene, uma enfermeira que está em um relacionamento abusivo com Sapinho, um traficante violento. Sapinho é preso por Luciana, uma policial movida por vingança. Ivan, um advogado, enfrenta um dilema moral ao aceitar defender Sapinho a pedido de Dona Antônia, uma líder comunitária que vê o traficante como a única forma de garantir segurança aos moradores do bairro. Suas vidas colidem, colocando-os num caminho perigoso.



A Shabbat on the Other Side of the River / Um Shabat na Outra Margem do Rio

Brazil / 2026 / 70 mins.
Directed by Diego Lajst

Set against the sweeping rivers and lush expanse of the Brazilian Amazon, this evocative documentary uncovers the little-known world of the descendants of Moroccan Jews who have called the region home. For more than two centuries, this community has kept alive the practices and traditions of their ancestors, far from the main centers of Judaism. From an old synagogue in Belém to Jewish cemeteries overgrown by the forest, the film follows the history and daily life of a group whose identity has endured despite the challenges imposed by the world's largest tropical rainforest.

Genre: Documentary
Portuguese w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Wednesday, April 22, 8:15 PM
Thursday, April 23, 6:00 PM

Entre os rios imponentes e a exuberante imensidão da Amazônia brasileira, este documentário evocativo revela o mundo pouco conhecido dos descendentes de judeus marroquinos que fizeram da região seu lar. Por mais de dois séculos, essa comunidade preservou os rituais e tradições de seus ancestrais, longe dos principais centros do judaísmo. De uma antiga sinagoga em Belém a cemitérios judaicos tomados pela floresta, o filme acompanha a história e o cotidiano de um grupo cuja identidade perdurou apesar dos desafios impostos pela maior floresta tropical do mundo.

★ Chicago Premiere



A Wolf among the Swans / Um Lobo Entre Os Cisnes

Brazil / 2024 / 112 mins.
Directed by Marcos Schechtman, Helena Varvaki

This inspiring biopic tells the "streets to stages" story of Thiago Soares who for 16 years was the principal dancer of the Royal Ballet in London until he retired in 2020. Raised by his aunt in the suburbs of Rio, Thiago is a young man without many prospects for the future. His school's director introduces him to Cuban dancer and choreographer Dino Carrera (Darío Grandinetti) who imposes a rigorous training routine, stressing the need for dedication, eventually unlocking Thiago's potential as a dancer.

Genre: Drama
Portuguese w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Saturday, April 18, 3:00 PM
Sunday, April 19, 8:30 PM

Esta cinebiografia inspiradora conta a história de Thiago Soares, que saiu das ruas para os palcos, tornando-se bailarino principal do Royal Ballet de Londres por 16 anos, até se aposentar em 2020. Criado pela tia nos subúrbios do Rio de Janeiro, Thiago era um jovem com poucas perspectivas de futuro. O diretor de sua escola o apresenta ao bailarino e coreógrafo cubano Dino Carrera (Darío Grandinetti), que lhe impõe uma rotina de treino rigorosa e o ensina a importância de ser dedicado, revelando o potencial de Thiago como bailarino.

★ Chicago Premiere



The Evil that Binds Us / Todos los males

Chile/Mexico/Argentina / 2025 / 97 mins.
Directed by Nico Postiglione

Valdivia, 1957. Struggling with the recent loss of his mother, thirteen-year-old Daniel is left to the care of his estranged family, the Riedels, in the Chilean countryside. Respected within their insular German community, the Riedels are currently dealing with problems of their own, involving a series of continuous attacks on their livestock by a pack of wild dogs. Daniel befriends Ema, the housekeeper's daughter; through their friendship, he uncovers unsettling secrets about the Riedels and his mother. When Ema's disappearance is covered up by the family, Daniel decides to seek revenge before leaving for good.

Genre: Thriller
Spanish and German w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Saturday, April 25, 8:30 PM
Sunday, April 26, 5:45 PM

Valdivia, 1957. Tras la reciente muerte de su madre, Daniel, de trece años, queda al cuidado de su familia, los Riedel, de los cuales ha estado distanciado. Respetados en su aislada comunidad rural alemana, los Riedel enfrentan sus propios problemas, incluyendo una serie de continuos ataques a su ganado por parte de una jauría de perros salvajes. Daniel se hace amigo de Ema, la hija de la ama de llaves; gracias a su amistad, descubre secretos inquietantes sobre los Riedel y de su madre. Cuando la familia encubre la desaparición de Ema, Daniel decide vengarse antes de marcharse definitivamente.

★ Chicago Premiere



Isla Negra

Chile / 2024 / 105 mins.
Directed by Jorge Riquelme Serrano

Guillermo (Alfredo Castro) and his assistant Carmen (Paulina Urrutia) spend a weekend overseeing the final stages of a large real estate project in Isla Negra, the seaside resort where Pablo Neruda spent his final days. Their tranquility is disrupted by the unexpected arrival of a homeless family, who pitch a tent right outside their home. Their presence triggers a conflict that reveals deep political and social differences between them. As tensions rise, the characters are forced to confront their own contradictions in a power struggle that exposes the stark divides of contemporary Chilean society

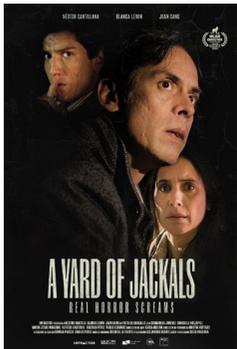
Genre: Drama/Thriller
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Friday, April 17, 6:00 PM
Saturday, April 18, 5:30 PM

Guillermo (Alfredo Castro) y su asistente Carmen (Paulina Urrutia) pasan un fin de semana supervisando las últimas etapas de un gran proyecto inmobiliario en Isla Negra, el balneario donde Pablo Neruda pasó sus últimos días. Su tranquilidad se ve interrumpida por la inesperada llegada de una familia sin hogar, quienes montan una carpa justo afuera de su casa. Su presencia desencadena un conflicto que revela profundas diferencias políticas y sociales entre ambos. A medida que la tensión aumenta, los personajes se verán obligados a enfrentar sus propias contradicciones en una lucha de poder.

★ North American Premiere

Features: Chile, Colombia



A Yard of Jackals / Patio de Chacales

Chile / 2024 / 108 mins.
Directed by Diego Figueroa

Winter, 1975: three years into Pinochet's dictatorship. Raúl Peraltá leads a quiet life, caring for his ailing mother and accompanied only by a pet canary. His routine is shattered when his new neighbors' sinister activities keep him awake at all hours. Turned down by the authorities, Raúl seeks to find out what his neighbors are truly up to. As he desperately clings to the last vestiges of his sanity, the past will collide with the horrors of the present.

Genre: Thriller
Spanish w/English subtitles

Invierno de 1975: tres años después del inicio de la dictadura de Pinochet. Raúl Peraltá lleva una vida tranquila, cuidando a su madre enferma y con la única compañía de su canario. Su rutina se ve alterada cuando las siniestras actividades de sus nuevos vecinos lo mantienen despierto a toda hora. Ignorado por las autoridades, Raúl busca averiguar qué realmente se tienen entre manos sus vecinos. El pasado chocará con los horrores de su presente a medida que se aferra desesperadamente a los últimos vestigios de su cordura.

Screenings:

Tuesday, April 21, 5:30 PM
Wednesday, April 22, 5:15 PM



Chicago Premiere



Enough Mom! / ¡Basta Mamá!

Colombia / 2026 / 77 mins.
Directed by Flora Martínez

After capturing the hearts of our audiences two years ago with "Itzia, Tango y Cacao," Flora Martínez returns to our festival with this delightful comedy about overbearing mothers. Fernando is 45 years old, has a good job, and a secret that doesn't fit on his resume: he still lives with his mother, Victoria, who cares for him with a love so immense it stifles him. Fernando invites Leticia—his girlfriend and, to make matters worse, his boss—to dinner so the two women can meet for the first time. What begins as a cordial dinner turns into a full-blown battle of hints, jealousy, and untouched dishes.

Genre: Comedy
Spanish w/English subtitles

Tras conquistar a nuestro público hace dos años con "Itzia, tango y cacao," Flora Martínez regresa a nuestro festival con esta encantadora comedia sobre madres dominantes. Fernando tiene 45 años, un buen trabajo y un secreto que no cabe en su currículum: aún vive con su madre, Victoria, quien lo cuida con un amor asfixiante. Fernando invita a Leticia —su novia y, para colmo, su jefa— a cenar para que ambas se conozcan. Lo que comienza como una cena cordial se convierte en una batalla campal de indirectas, celos y platillos sin probar.

Screenings:

Sunday, April 19, 6:15 PM
Tuesday, April 21, 8:00 PM



North American Premiere



I Dreamed His Name / Soñé su nombre

Colombia / 2025 / 86 mins.
Directed by Ángela Carabalí

Winner of the Special Jury Prize-International Feature Documentary at HotDocs, Ángela Carabalí's deeply personal documentary tackles the painful legacy of the enforced disappearances of hundreds of thousands of Colombians. Her own father, Esau Carabalí Brand, an Afro-Colombian farmer and activist in the indigenous community of the Nasa, was disappeared when Ángela was only seven-years-old. Thirty years later, he appears to her in a dream, asking her to find him. Alongside sister Juliana, Ángela travels to the Cauca region, where, with the help of the community, she learns about her father's legacy.

Genre: Documentary
Spanish w/English subtitles

Ganadora del Premio Especial del Jurado al Mejor Largometraje Documental Internacional en HotDocs, este documental profundamente personal aborda el doloroso legado de las desapariciones forzadas de cientos de miles de colombianos. Esau Carabalí Brand, campesino afrocolombiano y activista de la comunidad indígena Nasa, desapareció cuando Ángela tenía tan solo siete años. Treinta años después, se le aparece en un sueño y le pide que lo busque. Junto a su hermana Juliana, Ángela viaja a la región del Cauca, donde, con la ayuda de la comunidad, descubre el legado de su padre.

Screenings:

Wednesday, April 22, 8:30 PM
Thursday, April 23, 5:45 PM



Chicago Premiere



Noviembre

Colombia/Brazil/Mexico/Norway / 2025 / 78 mins.
Directed by Tomás Corredor

Tomás Corredor's claustrophobic feature debut tackles one of the darkest chapters of Colombia's recent political history: the takeover of the Palace of Justice by the M-19 guerrilla group on November 6, 1985 and its bloody aftermath. The action takes place inside a bathroom where a group of 70 judges, civilians and office workers are being held hostage by members of the guerrilla group. They represent a nation divided. The tension in this enclosed space is palpable as tanks and soldiers blast their way into the building.

Genre: Thriller

Esta claustrofóbica ópera prima de Tomás Corredor aborda uno de los capítulos más oscuros de la historia política reciente de Colombia: la toma del Palacio de Justicia por la guerrilla del M-19 el 6 de noviembre de 1985 y sus sangrientas consecuencias. La acción se desarrolla dentro de un baño donde un grupo de 70 jueces, civiles y oficinistas son rehenes de la guerrilla. Representan una nación dividida. La tensión en este espacio cerrado es palpable mientras tanques y soldados irrumpen en el edificio.

Screenings:

Sunday, April 19, 8:00 PM
Saturday, April 25, 6:30 PM



USA Premiere



Abril

Costa Rica / 2026 / 107 mins.
Directed by Hernán Jiménez

Recently divorced Abril, a sharp-tongued, exhausted social worker, raises her teenage daughter Valentina in a cramped, precarious domestic rhythm that feels increasingly unsustainable. During a family therapy session, Valentina announces she wants to move in with her father Julián. The decision leaves Abril alone for the first time. She finds an unexpected spark of joy in Gabriel, a charming bartender; the budding romance opens a door to a version of herself unshaped by marriage or motherhood. "Abril" is a portrait of motherhood, identity, and self-discovery.

Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Saturday, April 18, 8:15 PM
Sunday, April 19, 1:00 PM

La recién divorciada Abril, una trabajadora social de lengua afilada, cría a su hija adolescente Valentina a un ritmo que es cada vez más insostenible. Durante una sesión de terapia familiar, Valentina anuncia que quiere irse a vivir con su padre Julián. Sola por primera vez, Abril encuentra una inesperada chispa de alegría en Gabriel, un encantador camarero; el romance en ciernes le abre la puerta a una versión de sí misma no moldeada por el matrimonio ni la maternidad. "Abril" es un retrato de la maternidad, la identidad y el autodescubrimiento.

★ Chicago Premiere



Comandante Fritz

Cuba/Germany/Spain / 2025 / 107 mins.
Directed by Pavel Giroud

Cuba, 1972: Fritz, a young Stasi officer, is sent to Havana to oversee the official handover of Isla Ernesto Thälmann. The island off the Cuban coast is a gift from Fidel Castro to the German Democratic Republic (GDR), a sign of the close friendship between the "socialist brother" states during the Cold War. Fritz's mission is to thwart a possible CIA assassination attempt on Castro during the handover. But his mission does not go according to plan, and when he meets a mysterious Cuban woman named Lola, the Cold War begins to really heat up for Fritz.

Genre: Comedy
Spanish and German w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Saturday, April 25, 6:00 PM
Sunday, April 26, 1:00 PM

Cuba, 1972: Fritz, un joven oficial de la Stasi, es enviado a La Habana para supervisar la entrega oficial de la Isla Ernesto Thälmann, un regalo de Fidel Castro a la República Democrática Alemana (RDA) como muestra de la estrecha amistad entre estos dos "hermanos socialistas" durante la Guerra Fría. La misión de Fritz es frustrar un posible intento de asesinato de la CIA contra Castro durante la entrega. Pero su misión no sale de acuerdo a lo previsto, y cuando conoce a una misteriosa cubana llamada Lola, la Guerra Fría deja de ser fría para Fritz.

★ Chicago Premiere



PARA VIVIR: The Implacable Times of Pablo Milanés / PARA VIVIR: El implacable tiempo de Pablo Milanés

Cuba/Mexico/Spain/USA / 2025 / 106 mins.
Directed by Fabien Pisani

Genre: Documentary
English, Spanish and Portuguese w/English subtitles

Fabien Pisani ("En la caliente: Tales of a Reggaeton Warrior") never imagined his adopted father, Pablo Milanés —alongside Silvio Rodríguez, the founding father of Cuba's New Song Movement—, would die before he completed production of this documentary. Pisani honors his memory with this moving, intimate dialogue between father and son where Pisani tries to understand not only Milanés' choices, ideals, and contradictions, but also his own. Featuring interviews with Chico Buarque, Omara Portuondo, Harry Belafonte, Joan Manuel Serrat, and Fito Paez among many others.

Fabien Pisani ("En la caliente: Tales of a Reggaeton Warrior") nunca imaginó que su padre adoptivo, Pablo Milanés —junto con Silvio Rodríguez, fundador del Movimiento de la Nueva Canción Cubana— moriría antes de completar la producción de este documental. Pisani honra su memoria con este conmovedor e íntimo diálogo entre padre e hijo, donde intenta comprender no solo las decisiones, ideales y contradicciones de Milanés, sino también las suyas propias. Incluye entrevistas con Chico Buarque, Omara Portuondo, Harry Belafonte, Joan Manuel Serrat y Fito Páez, entre muchos otros.

Screenings:
Friday, April 24, 5:45 PM
Sunday, April 26, 3:30 PM

★ Chicago Premiere



42nd Street / La 42

Dominican Republic / 2025 / 91 mins.
Directed by José María Cabral

Festival alum José María Cabral ("Parsley," "The Projectionist") takes us to Santo Domingo's Capotillo neighborhood where dancers and performers inhabit the night to the relentless beat of dembow while confronting police harassment and the weight of stereotypes of violence and drug trafficking. 42nd Street—a source of inspiration for artists such as Bad Bunny and Arcángel— shows us that dance here is more than movement: it is a cry of untamed humanity. A frenetic, sensorial experience that blurs the lines between documentary and fiction.

Genre: Documentary
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Friday, April 17, 5:45 PM
Sunday, April 19, 3:30 PM

José María Cabral ("Perejil," "El proyccionista") nos lleva al barrio de Capotillo en Santo Domingo, donde bailarines y artistas habitan la noche al ritmo implacable del dembow mientras enfrentan el acoso policial y los estereotipos de violencia y narcotráfico que muchos tienen de su barrio. "La 42"—fuente de inspiración para artistas como Bad Bunny y Arcángel— nos muestra que la danza es más que movimiento: es el grito de una humanidad indómita. Una experiencia frenética y sensorial que disuelve las fronteras entre el documental y la ficción.

★ Chicago Premiere

Features: Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador



Melodrama

Dominican Republic / 2025 / 90 mins.
Directed by Andrés Farías

Genre: Drama
Spanish, Haitian Creole, French w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Monday, April 20, 7:45 PM
Tuesday, April 21, 6:00 PM

Andrés Farías ("Candela") joins forces once again with novelist Rey Andújar in this homage to such classic melodramas as Douglas Sirk's "All that Heaven Allows" and "Imitation of Life." Sonia is forced to sell the home she has lived in her entire life and move into a smaller apartment with leaky faucets. Overwhelmed by loss and her tense relationship with her daughter, Sonia's life takes an almost magical and dreamlike turn as she falls in love with Aimé, a Haitian construction worker, just as the government crackdown on the Haitian undocumented community intensifies.

Andrés Farías ("Candela") vuelve a unir fuerzas con el novelista Rey Andújar para brindarnos este homenaje a tales melodramas clásicos como "All that Heaven Allows" e "Imitation of Life" de Douglas Sirk. Sonia se ve obligada a vender la casa donde ha vivido toda su vida y mudarse a un apartamento más pequeño con grifos que gotean. Abrumada por la pérdida y la tensa relación con su hija, la vida de Sonia da un giro casi mágico y onírico al enamorarse de Aimé, un obrero haitiano, justo cuando se intensifica la persecución del gobierno contra la comunidad haitiana indocumentada.



Chicago Premiere



Deep End / Los Ahogados

Ecuador/Uruguay / 2025 / 87 mins.
Directed by Juan Sebastián Jácome, Víctor Mares

Genre: Thriller
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Sunday, April 19, 6:00 PM
Wednesday, April 22, 5:45 PM

Jácome's and Mares' gripping psychological thriller begins, like all good thrillers do, with a body: that of a domestic worker in a swimming pool. As the police proceed with their investigation, Marcela—an aspiring writer and mother—tries to protect her teenage daughter from the growing scandal around the crime. Caught between suspicion, social pressure, and fragmented memories, she clings to the appearance of normalcy as everything around her threatens to spiral out of control.

Este tenso thriller psicológico de Juan Sebastián Jácome y Víctor Mares comienza, como todo buen thriller, con un cadáver: el de una empleada doméstica en una piscina. Mientras la policía avanza en su investigación, Marcela—madre y aspirante a escritora— intenta proteger a su hija adolescente del creciente escándalo que se desarrolla en torno al crimen. Atrapada en medio de la sospecha, la presión social y sus recuerdos fragmentados, Marcela se aferra a una apariencia de normalidad mientras todo a su alrededor amenaza con desmoronarse.



Chicago Premiere



The Ivy / Hiedra

Ecuador/Mexico/Spain/France / 2025 / 98 mins.
Directed by Ana Cristina Barragán

Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Friday, April 24, 5:45 PM
Saturday, April 25, 8:15 PM

Winner of the Venice Film Festival's Orizzonti Award for Best Screenplay, Ana Cristina Barragán continues her exploration of unhealed childhood wounds with this story about Azucena, a 30-year-old woman who searches for fragments of her own past in others. She finds it in the teenagers of a group home, especially in 17-year-old Julio, the leader of the pack. Although they come from very different social backgrounds, their shared traumas guide their journey towards the rocks of a volcano. Barragán avoids the trappings of the traditional linear narrative, opting for a more intimate, tactile form of storytelling.

Ganadora del Premio Orizzonti al Mejor Guión en el Festival de Cine de Venecia, Ana Cristina Barragán continúa su exploración de las heridas infantiles sin sanar con este relato sobre Azucena, una mujer de 30 años que busca fragmentos de su propio pasado en otras personas. Los encuentra en un grupo de adolescentes de un hogar comunitario, específicamente en Julio, de 17 años, su líder. Aunque provienen de entornos sociales muy diferentes, sus traumas compartidos los lleva hacia las rocas de un volcán. Barragán evita las formas de la narrativa tradicional, optando por un estilo más íntimo y táctil.



Chicago Premiere



Fireflies at El Mozote / Luciérnagas en el Mozote

El Salvador/USA / 2026 / 118 mins.
Directed by Ernesto Melara

Genre: Drama/Action
English and Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Thursday, April 23, 8:15 PM
Saturday, April 25, 3:00 PM

On the morning of December 10, 1981, Salvadoran government troops raided the peaceful enclave of El Mozote, massacring the entire population. One survivor, ten-year-old José, is found hiding in the rainforest by the guerrilla unit in charge of Radio Venceremos. Befriended by Alma (Paz Vega), a member of the guerilla, José recovers from the traumatic experience to become a key player in their efforts to expose the government's civil rights violations during this bloody civil war, and bring justice to his dead family.

En la mañana del 10 de diciembre de 1981, tropas del gobierno salvadoreño asaltaron el tranquilo enclave de El Mozote, masacrando a toda la población. Un sobreviviente, José, de diez años, es encontrado escondido en la selva por los guerrilleros a cargo de Radio Venceremos. Con la ayuda de Alma (Paz Vega), José se recupera de la traumática experiencia y se convierte en una pieza clave en sus esfuerzos por exponer las violaciones de derechos civiles cometidas por el gobierno durante esta sangrienta guerra civil y hacer justicia a su familia fallecida.



World Premiere



First, the Rain / Antes la lluvia

El Salvador/Mexico / 2022 / 90 mins.
Directed by Brenda Vanegas

María is a Salvadoran immigrant who lost her job after falling ill and is in the process of ending a painful relationship. Esther, an older woman with Alzheimer's disease, is losing her memory, and with it, her most cherished recollections. Amidst these challenges, they forge a special friendship and engage in profound reflections on the nature of forgetting, leading to a complete transformation for María and prompting her to consider returning home to her son.

Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

María es una inmigrante salvadoreña que perdió su trabajo tras enfermarse y que está en proceso de terminar con una relación dolorosa. Esther, una mujer mayor, está perdiendo la memoria a causa del Alzheimer y, con ella, sus recuerdos más preciados. En medio de estos desafíos, ambas mujeres forjan una amistad especial y reflexionan profundamente sobre la naturaleza del olvido, lo que lleva a María a una transformación completa y la impulsa a considerar regresar a casa con su hijo.

Screenings:
Monday, April 20, 5:30 PM
Tuesday, April 21, 8:00 PM

★ Chicago Premiere



Comparsa

Guatemala/USA / 2025 / 79 mins.
Directed by Vickie Curtis, Doug Anderson

Executive produced by Jayro Bustamante, "Comparsa" fully immerses audiences in the intense world of Ciudad Peronía, Guatemala, where sisters Lesli and Lupe use art to inspire local youth and heal deep wounds. After 41 girls are killed in a state-run "Safe House" and the government refuses to act, the sisters organize a community comparsa —an exuberant street performance featuring towering puppets, fire-breathing stilt walkers, and thundering drums. Their youth movement takes to the streets, confronting corruption and reclaiming public space for women and girls.

Genre: Documentary
Spanish w/English subtitles

Bajo la producción ejecutiva de Jayro Bustamante, "Comparsa" sumerge al público en el intenso mundo de Ciudad Peronía, Guatemala, donde las hermanas Lesli y Lupe utilizan el arte para inspirar a la juventud local y sanar heridas profundas. Tras el asesinato de 41 niñas en una supuesta casa segura estatal y la negativa del gobierno a tomar acción, las hermanas organizan una comparsa comunitaria: un exuberante espectáculo callejero con marionetas gigantes, zanqueros que escupen fuego y tambores atronadores. Su movimiento juvenil sale a las calles, enfrentando la corrupción y reclamando el espacio público para mujeres y niñas.

Screenings:
Thursday, April 23, 5:30 PM
Friday, April 24, 5:15 PM

★ Chicago Premiere



Cordillera de Fuego

Guatemala / 2025 / 94 mins.
Directed by Jayro Bustamante

A new volcano is forming in Guatemala's Cordillera de Fuego, presenting new business opportunities to the government and the private interests it's beholden to. For the endangered indigenous communities living there, the active volcano means losing their homes and way of life. Two dedicated volcanologists are determined to fight corruption in order to evacuate at-risk communities and bring them to safety. Bustamante's new film is the result of a project spearheaded by the Ixchel Project, funded by the UK government's Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) and the Scottish Funding Council to explore the multifaceted nature of volcanic disasters in Guatemala.

Genre: Drama
Kakchiquel, Tz'utujil and Spanish w/English subtitles

Un nuevo volcán se está formando en la Cordillera de Fuego de Guatemala, lo que presenta nuevas oportunidades de negocio para el gobierno y los intereses privados a los que están atados. Para las comunidades indígenas que viven allí, la actividad del volcán significa perder sus hogares y su forma de vida. Dos dedicadas vulcanólogas están decididas a combatir la corrupción para evacuar a las comunidades en riesgo y ponerlas a salvo. La nueva película de Bustamante es el resultado de un trabajo liderado por el Proyecto Ixchel, financiado por el Fondo de Investigación de Desafíos Globales (GCRF) del gobierno del Reino Unido y el Consejo Escocés de Financiamento, para explorar la naturaleza multifacética de los desastres volcánicos en Guatemala.

Screenings:
Friday, April 24, 8:00 PM
Sunday, April 26, 3:45 PM

★ North American Premiere



EVA

Honduras/Colombia / 2025 / 90 mins.
Directed by William Reyes

Eva, a trans woman, takes on the care of her granddaughter after the sudden death of her daughter-in-law. While processing her grief, she tries to help her son connect emotionally with the baby. Amid tensions, reproaches, and silence, mother and son embark on a path toward mutual understanding and the reconstruction of their family bond. In his feature debut, Reyes blends a naturalist aesthetic with an intimate approach to the story and lived-in performances to offer a powerful reflection on embracing one's destiny while reconfiguring family roles beyond social norms.

Genre: Drama/LGBTQ
Spanish w/English subtitles

Eva, una mujer trans, se hace cargo del cuidado de su nieta tras la repentina muerte de su nuera. Mientras procesa su dolor, ella intenta ayudar a su hijo a conectar emocionalmente con la bebé. Entre tensiones, reproches y silencio, madre e hijo emprenden un camino hacia la comprensión mutua y la reconstrucción de su lazo familiar. En esta ópera prima, Reyes combina una estética naturalista con actuaciones que se sienten vividas y un enfoque íntimo para ofrecer una poderosa reflexión sobre la aceptación del destino propio mientras se reconfiguran los roles familiares más allá de las normas sociales.

Screenings:
Saturday, April 25, 3:30 PM
Sunday, April 26, 6:00 PM

★ North American Premiere

Features: Mexico, Panama



1938: When Mexico Recovered Its Oil / 1938: Cuando el petróleo fue nuestro

Mexico / 2025 / 99 mins.
Directed by Sergio Olhovich

Lázaro Cárdenas (Ianis Guerrero, "Club de cuervos") faces the toughest decision of his presidency: the expropriation of British and U.S. oil companies, an idea that obviously doesn't sit well with them. The multi-million dollar compensation Mexico will have to pay these companies makes the decision much harder to make. Featuring an all-star cast that includes Sergio Bonilla, Raúl Briones and Ofelia Medina as the narrator, this Festival presentation of Olhovich's new film marks the end of a project that took over 20 years to complete.

Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Monday, April 20, 6:00 PM
Tuesday, April 21, 8:15 PM

Lázaro Cárdenas (Ianis Guerrero, "Club de cuervos") se enfrenta a la decisión más difícil de su presidencia: la expropiación de compañías petroleras británicas y estadounidenses, una idea que, obviamente, no les sienta bien. La compensación multimillonaria que México deberá pagar a estas compañías dificulta mucho más la decisión. Con un elenco estelar que incluye a Sergio Bonilla, Raúl Briones y Ofelia Medina como narradora, esta presentación en el Festival de la nueva película de Olhovich marca el final de un proyecto que tardó más de 20 años en completarse.

★ **USA Premiere**



I Am Frankelda / Soy Frankelda

Mexico / 2025 / 113 mins.
Directed by Arturo Ambríz, Roy Ambríz, Mireya Mendoza

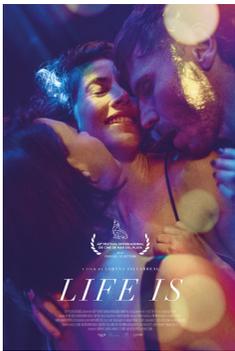
The protagonist of HBO Max's "Frankelda's Book of Spooks" gets her own big screen origin story in the first stop-motion feature fully produced in Mexico. Frankelda is a gifted writer in 19th-century Mexico whose dark tales are ignored and dismissed. The very monsters she created come to life when she is thrust into her subconscious. Guided by Herneval, a tormented prince trapped between dreams and nightmares, she must restore balance between fiction and reality before both realms collapse. Fans of Tim Burton and Laika's ("Coraline," "Paranorman") animated features will get a kick out of the film's overflowing imagination.

Genre: Animation
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Saturday, April 25, 5:45 PM
Sunday, April 26, 5:45 PM

La protagonista de la serie de HBO Max "Frankelda's Book of Spooks" recibe su propia historia originaria en este primer largometraje en stop-motion producido íntegramente en México. Frankelda es una talentosa escritora en el México del siglo XIX, cuyos oscuros relatos son ignorados y descartados. Los monstruos que creó cobran vida cuando queda atrapada en su subconsciente. Con la ayuda de Herneval, un príncipe atrapado entre sueños y pesadillas, Frankelda deberá restablecer el equilibrio entre la ficción y la realidad antes de que ambos reinos se desplomen. Los amantes de las películas animadas de Tim Burton y los estudios Laika ("Coraline," "Paranorman") se deleitarán con su desbordante imaginación.

★ **Chicago Premiere**



Life Is / La vida es

Mexico / 2025 / 118 mins.
Directed by Lorena Villarreal

Nora is about to turn 40 and can't stop wondering: what's the point of it all? With open wounds, unspoken desires, and a past that still hurts, Nora must confront her family history, grief, unemployment, the collapse of her polyamorous relationship, and the urgent need to redefine love, her sexuality, and what she truly wants out of life. What was meant to be a weekend celebration with best friend Ely unravels into a series of unfortunate missteps that push her toward self-discovery.

Genre: Drama/Comedy
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Saturday, April 18, 8:30 PM
Sunday, April 19, 5:45 PM

Nora está a punto de cumplir los 40 y no deja de preguntarse: ¿qué sentido tiene todo esto que ha vivido? Con sus heridas sin sanar, deseos no expresados y un pasado que aún duele, Nora debe afrontar su historia familiar, el dolor, el desempleo, el fracaso de su relación poliamorosa y la urgente necesidad de redefinir el amor, su sexualidad y lo que realmente quiere de la vida. Lo que iba a ser una celebración de fin de semana con su mejor amiga Ely se convierte en una serie de desafortunados tropiezos que la impulsan hacia el autodescubrimiento.

★ **North American Premiere**



Espina

Panama / 2025 / 89 mins.
Directed by Daniel Poler

Inspired by disabled actor Jonathan Benaim's own experiences, and winner of the Audience Award at the 2025 Miami Film Festival, Daniel Poler's feature debut tells the story of a paraplegic Venezuelan expat (Benaim) who, unable to travel far on his own, recruits a down-on-her-luck actress and a cynical playboy as aides for his journey from Mexico City to Panama. Lavishly funded by donations meant for his "surgery," this unlikely trio ventures into Panama's wild side, and it's no longer clear if Jonathan chose his destination for diversion or to avenge a long-held grudge.

Genre: Comedy/Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Monday, April 20, 5:45 PM
Sunday, April 26, 8:15 PM

Inspirada en las propias experiencias del actor discapacitado Jonathan Benaim y ganadora del Premio del Público en el Festival de Cine de Miami 2025, la ópera prima de Daniel Poler narra la historia de un expatriado venezolano parapléjico (Benaim) que, incapaz de viajar lejos solo, recluta a una actriz desafortunada y a un playboy cínico como acompañantes para su viaje de Ciudad de México a Panamá. Financiado generosamente con donaciones destinadas a su "cirugía," este trío improbable se aventura en el lado salvaje de Panamá, aunque no está claro si Jonathan eligió su destino para divertirse o para vengar un rencor arraigado.

★ **Chicago Premiere**



About Astronauts and Ghosts / De Astronautas y Fantasmas

Paraguay/Chile / 2025 / 96 mins.
Directed by Luis R. Vera

Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Sunday, April 19, 8:30 PM
Monday, April 20, 8:30 PM

Three generations of one family and a house that stands as a metaphor for a country's past and its present. A grandfather who claims to have the ability to see the ghosts of Paraguay's past conflicts, from its fight for independence in 1811, 1935's Chaco War and Stroessner's brutal dictatorship. A granddaughter in love with a delivery boy. A mother forced to migrate to Spain to keep her family afloat. Vera's new film expertly mixes the realities of the young taking care of the old while facing a future without hope.

Tres generaciones de una familia y una casa que se erige como metáfora del pasado y el presente de un país. Un abuelo que afirma tener la capacidad de ver los fantasmas de los conflictos pasados de Paraguay, desde su lucha por la independencia en 1811, la Guerra del Chaco de 1935 y la brutal dictadura de Stroessner. Una nieta enamorada de un repartidor. Una madre obligada a emigrar a España para mantener a su familia a flote. En su nueva película, Vera mezcla con maestría las realidades de los jóvenes que cuidan de sus envejecientes mientras enfrentan un futuro sin esperanza.

★ **North American Premiere**



Under the Flags, The Sun / Bajo las banderas, el sol

Paraguay/Argentina/USA/France/Germany / 2025 / 92 mins. Genre: Documentary
Directed by Juanjo Pereira Guarani, Spanish, German, French, English, Portuguese w/ English subtitles

Screenings:
Tuesday, April 21, 5:30 PM
Sunday, April 26, 3:15 PM

The fall of Alfredo Stroessner's 35-year dictatorship in Paraguay in 1989 marked the end of one of the world's longest authoritarian regimes, but also the abandonment of the audiovisual archives that helped cement his power. Decades later, a trove of unseen and long forgotten footage has been recovered from Paraguay and abroad, revealing the hidden mechanisms of power behind Stroessner's rule. A kaleidoscopic view of media during the 20th century, Pereira's documentary excavates the past to contextualize the present in a country where the descendants of the regime's leaders still rule.

La caída de la dictadura de Alfredo Stroessner en Paraguay en 1989, tras 35 años en el poder, marcó el fin de uno de los regímenes autoritarios más longevos del mundo, pero también el abandono de los archivos audiovisuales que contribuyeron a consolidar el mismo. Décadas después, se ha recuperado un tesoro de material inédito y olvidado, tanto en Paraguay como en el extranjero, que revela los mecanismos ocultos del poder de Stroessner. Una visión caleidoscópica de los medios de comunicación durante el siglo XX, Pereira excava en el pasado para contextualizar el presente de un país donde los descendientes de los líderes del régimen aún están en el poder.

★ **Chicago Premiere**



Mistura

Peru / 2024 / 101 mins.
Directed by Ricardo de Montreuil

Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:
Monday, April 20, 8:00 PM
Saturday, April 25, 1:00 PM

Norma's (Bárbara Mori) privileged life in 1960s Lima falls apart after news of her husband's (Christian Meier) affair with a younger woman spreads like wildfire among the city's elite. Encouraged by her chauffeur to pursue her dreams of opening a restaurant, Norma sets out on a transformative journey that challenges society's norms and reveals Peru's authentic identity through a daring culinary venture. "Mistura" is a cinematic feast with a lot on its mind.

La vida privilegiada de Norma (Bárbara Mori) en la Lima de los años 60 se desmorona cuando la noticia del romance de su esposo (Christian Meier) con una mujer más joven se extiende como pólvora entre la élite de la ciudad. Animada por su chofero a perseguir su sueño de abrir un restaurante, Norma emprende un viaje transformador que desafía las normas sociales y revela la auténtica identidad peruana a través de una audaz aventura culinaria. "Mistura" es un festín cinematográfico con mucho en mente.

★ **Chicago Premiere**



Runa Simi

Peru / 2025 / 81 mins.
Directed by Augusto Zegarra

Genre: Documentary
English, Spanish, and Quechua with English subtitles.

Screenings:
Thursday, April 23, 8:00 PM
Saturday, April 25, 3:30 PM

After launching a viral project that reimagines iconic animated scenes in Quechua, Fernando Valencia decides to do the same to a Disney classic: 1994's "The Lion King." Armed with a homemade studio and relentless resolve, Fernando navigates countless ups and downs, yet his determination never wavers, turning his personal mission into a powerful call for language justice and cultural reclamation. Winner of the Albert Maysles Award for Best New Documentary Director last year at the Tribeca Film Festival and the Audience Awards at Biarritz and the Lima Film Festivals.

Tras lanzar un proyecto viral que reimagina escenas animadas icónicas en quechua, Fernando Valencia decide hacer lo mismo con un clásico de Disney: "The Lion King". Armado con un estudio casero y una determinación inquebrantable, Fernando sortea innumerables altibajos, pero su nunca flaquea, convirtiendo su misión personal en un poderoso llamado a la justicia lingüística y la recuperación cultural. Ganador del Premio Albert Maysles al Mejor Director Revelación de Documental el año pasado en el Festival de Cine de Tribeca y de los Premios del Público en los Festivales de Cine de Biarritz y Lima.

★ **Chicago Premiere**

Features: Peru, Portugal, Puerto Rico



To Die For / No Te Mueras Por Mí

Peru / 2025 / 100 mins.
Directed by Daniel Rehder

Rehder's tense thriller depicts the toxic relationship between Cristóbal, a successful businessman, and Emma, a reality TV star. What starts as a passionate love affair spirals out of control and ends up in the courts with both flinging accusations of abuse at each other. The whole scandal turns into fodder for the press, myriad social media and digital platforms, and a public hungry for more. Truth will prove to be as unstable and malleable as public opinion.

Genre: Drama/Thriller
Spanish w/English subtitles

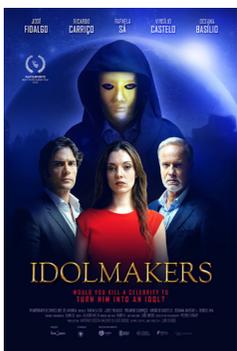
El tenso thriller de Daniel Rehder retrata la tóxica relación entre Cristóbal, un exitoso empresario, y Emma, una estrella de un programa de telerrealidad. Lo que comienza como un apasionado romance se les va de las manos y termina en los tribunales, con ambos acusándose mutuamente de abuso. El escándalo se convierte en pasto para la prensa, innumerables redes sociales y plataformas digitales, y un público ávido de más. La verdad resultará tan inestable y maleable como la opinión pública.

Screenings:

Tuesday, April 21, 8:30 PM
Sunday, April 26, 8:30 PM



Chicago Premiere



Idolmakers / Criadores de ídolos

Portugal / 2025 / 95 mins.
Directed by Luís Diogo

Winner of the Best Portuguese Feature at Fantasporto, Luis Diogo's latest conspiratorial thriller centers on a clandestine cult that forges idols from tragedy. A young woman finds out that her father and grandfather belong to an order responsible for the deaths of Elvis, Marilyn Monroe, John F. Kennedy, and James Dean, among many others. If she wants to become the first woman to enter this clandestine organization, she must plan the death of a celebrity and turn him into an idol. But things get complicated when she falls in love with the target's brother.

Genre: Thriller
Portuguese w/English subtitles

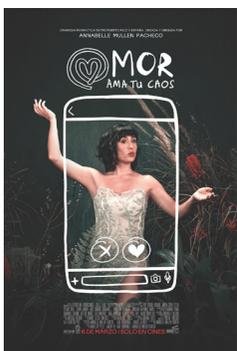
Vencedor do prémio de Melhor Longa-Metragem Portuguesa no Fantasporto, o mais recente thriller de Luís Diogo gira em torno de um culto clandestino que cria ídolos a partir de tragédias. Uma jovem descobre que o seu pai e avô pertencem a uma ordem responsável pelas mortes de Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe, John F. Kennedy e James Dean, entre muitos outros. Para se tornar a primeira mulher a integrar essa ordem, ela precisa planejar a morte de uma celebridade e transformá-la num ídolo. Mas tudo se complica quando ela se apaixona pelo irmão do alvo.

Screenings:

Saturday, April 18, 8:45 PM
Sunday, April 26, 8:30 PM



Chicago Premiere



@love / @amor

Puerto Rico/Spain / 2025 / 95 mins.
Directed by Annabelle Mullen Pacheco

The producer of such groundbreaking Puerto Rican films as "Extra-Terrestres" and "Once Upon a Time in the Caribbean" takes over the director's chair to deliver this highly entertaining romantic comedy. After being diagnosed with pre-cancerous cells, Yuliana (Marisé Álvarez), an overworked film producer, ditches her hectic life and heads to Galicia, Spain for clarity, good wine, tapas...and maybe even love. She impulsively downloads a dating app and as she swipes through a sea of hot bachelors, she discovers that the real key to happiness is learning to embrace her own perfectly imperfect self.

Genre: Comedy
Spanish w/English subtitles

La productora de películas puertorriqueñas tan revolucionarias como "Extraterrestres" y "Érase una vez en el Caribe" asume la dirección con esta entretenida comedia romántica. Tras ser diagnosticada con células precancerosas, Yuliana (Marisé Álvarez), una productora de cine con exceso de trabajo, abandona su ajetreada vida y se dirige a Galicia, España, en busca de claridad, buen vino, tapas... y quizás hasta el amor. Impulsivamente, descarga una aplicación de citas y, mientras explora un mar de solteros atractivos, descubre que la verdadera clave de la felicidad es aprender a aceptar su propia y perfecta imperfección.

Screenings:

Thursday, April 23, 5:30 PM
Friday, April 24, 8:00 PM



Chicago Premiere



Borealis

Puerto Rico / 2026 / 92 mins.
Directed by Heixan Robles

Director of photography Heixan Robles ("Bella," "23 Horas") makes his directorial debut with this sci-fi psychological thriller about identity, loss, and the power we hold to reclaim who we are. After a solar flare wipes out all human memory, Thalia wakes up with no sense of who she is but for one clue: a C-section scar. She sets out in search of her missing child. As new leaders rise from the chaos, Thalia must choose whether to confront the only person who claims to remember everything... or redefine her own truth.

Genre: Science Fiction/Thriller
Spanish w/English subtitles

El director de fotografía Heixan Robles ("Bella," "23 horas") debuta como director con este thriller psicológico de ciencia ficción sobre la identidad, la pérdida y el poder que tenemos para reclamar quiénes verdaderamente somos. Tras una erupción solar que borra toda memoria humana, Thalia despierta sin saber quién es, salvo por una pista: la cicatriz de una cesárea y emprende la búsqueda de su hijo desaparecido. A medida que surgen nuevos líderes en el caos, Thalia debe elegir entre enfrentarse a la única persona que dice recordarlo todo... o redefinir su propia verdad.

Screenings:

Friday, April 17, 8:00 PM
Saturday, April 18, 3:15 PM



USA Premiere



De tal Palo

Puerto Rico / 2025 / 96 mins.
Directed by Iván Dariel Ortiz

When his daughter is brutally beaten by her husband, Manuel (José Félix Gómez) takes on the temporary custody of his estranged nine-year-old granddaughter Irene. To make matters worse, Manuel hasn't been feeling quite himself lately. Diagnosed with early onset of Alzheimer's, Manuel finds, through art and photography, the vehicle to open and strengthen links with his granddaughter leading to a loving and independent relationship. Manuel is forced to make some hard choices as social service workers begin to question if Manuel is the right person to take care of Irene.

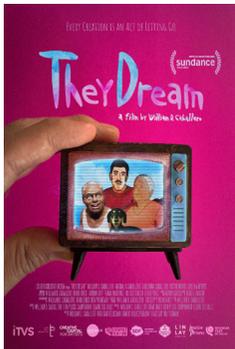
Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Cuando su hija es brutalmente golpeada por su esposo, Manuel (José Félix Gómez) asume la custodia temporal de su nieta Irene, de nueve años, de quien está distanciado. Para colmo, Manuel no se ha sentido del todo bien. Diagnosticado con los primeros síntomas de Alzheimer, Manuel encuentra, a través del arte y la fotografía, la manera de forjar y fortalecer vínculos con su nieta, lo que lleva a una relación independiente y llena de cariño. Manuel se ve obligado a tomar decisiones difíciles mientras los trabajadores sociales comienzan a cuestionar si Manuel es la persona adecuada para cuidar de Irene.

Screenings:

Friday, April 24, 5:15 PM
Saturday, April 25, 3:15 PM

★ North American Premiere



TheyDream

Puerto Rico/USA / 2026 / 91 mins.
Directed by William D. Caballero

Rooted in the death of his grandmother Isolina, Caballero's film follows his mother as she deals with the guilt of not having been by Isolina's side in her final moments. Caballero hands his mother a camera and the tools of animation to help bring her mother back to life through film. Interweaving new 2D and 3D animations with vérité footage, archival materials, and intimate mother-son conversations, "TheyDream" becomes a testament to how creative collaboration can resurrect memory and restore connection.

Genre: Animation
English

A raíz de la muerte de su abuela Isolina, Caballero sigue a su madre mientras ésta lidia con la culpa de no haber estado a su lado en sus últimos momentos. Caballero le entrega a su madre una cámara y las herramientas de animación para ayudarla a revivir a Isolina a través del cine. Entrelazando nuevas animaciones en 2D y 3D con imágenes "vérité", materiales de archivo y conversaciones íntimas entre madre e hijo, "TheyDream" es un testimonio de cómo la colaboración creativa puede revivir la memoria y restaurar la conexión.

Screenings:

Saturday, April 18, 6:00 PM
Sunday, April 19, 3:30 PM

★ Chicago Premiere



8

Spain / 2025 / 132 mins.
Directed by Julio Medem

Built around eight sequence shots, Julio Medem's daring new film explores the tribal history of 20th Century Spain through two characters born on the same day, kilometers apart: Octavio and Adela. When they first meet, Octavio is a supporter of Franco's nationalists and Adela the daughter of a Republican schoolteacher later executed by a firing squad. Their lives will intertwine in the shape of the number 8 for the next 90 years. A companion piece to his critically acclaimed "Lovers of the Arctic Circle" (1998), Medem once again offers a love story that transcends time and space.

Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Filmada en ocho planos secuencia, la nueva y audaz película de Julio Medem explora la historia tribal de la España del siglo XX a través de dos personajes nacidos el mismo día, a kilómetros de distancia: Octavio y Adela. Cuando se conocen, Octavio es partidario de los nacionalistas franquistas y Adela es la hija de un maestro republicano, posteriormente fusilado. Sus vidas se entrelazan en la figura del número 8 durante los siguientes 90 años. En esta película que puede ser vista como complemento a su aclamada "Los amantes del círculo polar" (1998), Medem vuelve a ofrecer una historia de amor que trasciende el tiempo y el espacio.

Screenings:

Saturday, April 18, 6:00 PM
Friday, April 24, 8:15 PM

★ Chicago Premiere



Deaf / Sorda

Spain / 2025 / 99 mins.
Directed by Eva Libertad

Genre: Drama
Spanish sign-language and Spanish w/English subtitles

Winner of three Goyas (Best Supporting Performance, Best New Actress and Best New Director), Eva Libertad's feature debut expands on the ideas she and her sister, deaf actress Miriam Garlo, explored in a previous short of the same name. Ángela (Garlo) is expecting a child with her hearing partner Héctor. They are aware that their daughter has a 50% chance of being deaf. Giving birth to Baby Ona was difficult but so is being the best mother she can in spite of all the challenges. Featuring an outstanding performance from Garlo, "Deaf" honestly portrays the complexities of being deaf in a hearing world.

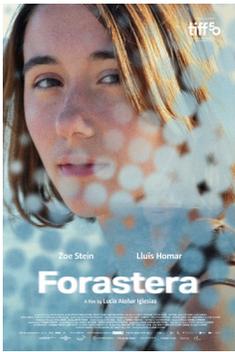
Ganadora de tres Goyas (Mejor dirección novel, mejor actor de reparto y mejor actriz revelación), la ópera prima de Eva Libertad profundiza en las ideas que ella y su hermana, la actriz sorda Miriam Garlo, exploraron en el cortometraje del mismo nombre. Ángela (Garlo) está esperando una hija con su pareja oyente, Héctor; ambos son conscientes de que su hija tiene un 50% de probabilidad de salir sorda. Dar a luz a Ona fue difícil, pero también lo es ser la mejor madre posible a pesar de todos los desafíos. Con una interpretación excepcional de Garlo, "Sorda" retrata con honestidad las complejidades de ser sordo en un mundo oyente.

Screenings:

Friday, April 17, 7:45 PM
Sunday, April 26, 3:15 PM

★ Chicago Premiere

Features: Spain, Uruguay



Forastera

Spain/Italy/Sweden / 2025 / 97 mins.
Directed by Lucía Aleñar Iglesias

Genre: Drama
English, Catalan and Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Sunday, April 19, 8:15 PM
Saturday, April 25, 6:00 PM

Sisters Cata and Eva are spending their summer vacation at their grandparents' house in Mallorca when tragedy strikes after Cata discovers her grandmother's dead body. Unable to process her grief, Cata begins to wear her grandmother's dresses and even mimic her gestures. Her grandfather (Lluís Homar) often mistakes her for his wife, so alike are they physically and even temperamentally. Featuring a memorable performance from Zoe Stein as Cata, Aleñar Iglesias' coming-of-age tale is a moving meditation on the many ways we deal with death.

Las hermanas Cata y Eva pasan las vacaciones de verano en casa de sus abuelos en Mallorca cuando la tragedia les golpea al morir su abuela. Incapaz de procesar su dolor, Cata comienza a usar los vestidos de su abuela e incluso a imitar sus gestos. Su abuelo (Lluís Homar) a menudo la confunde con su esposa, tan parecidas son ambas física e incluso temperamentamente. Con una memorable interpretación de Zoe Stein como Cata, este relato sobre el paso de la infancia a la adultez es una conmovedora reflexión sobre las múltiples maneras en que lidiamos con la muerte.



Chicago Premiere



Leo & Lou

Spain / 2025 / 102 mins.
Directed by Carlos Solano

Genre: Drama/Comedy
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Sunday, April 19, 3:30 PM
Tuesday, April 21, 5:15 PM

Leo, a mute ten-year-old orphan, escapes from the children's home where she lives to travel to a fishing competition. On the way, Lou, a non-conformist with barely a penny to his name, finds the little girl on the road, hitchhiking. Unaware of Leo's real objective, he agrees to give her a ride, believing he's taking her back home to her family. Thus begins this peculiar journey of a girl who doesn't speak and a man who doesn't want to listen. But in spite of everything, they become inseparable and discover the extraordinary meaning of the word family.

Leo, una huérfana muda de diez años, se escapa del hogar infantil donde vive para asistir a una competición de pesca. Lou, un inconforme con apenas un centavo encima, encuentra a la niña en la carretera, haciendo el dedo. Sin conocer el verdadero objetivo de Leo, acepta llevarla, creyendo que la devolverá a casa con su familia. Así comienza este peculiar viaje de una niña que no habla y un hombre que no quiere escuchar. A pesar de todo, ambos se vuelven inseparables y descubren el extraordinario significado de la palabra familia.



Chicago Premiere



A Bright Future / Un futuro brillante

Uruguay/Argentina/Germany / 2025 / 98 mins.
Directed by Lucía Garibaldi

Genre: Drama/Science-fiction
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Sunday, April 19, 6:15 PM
Monday, April 20, 8:00 PM

Eighteen-year-old Elisa lives with her mother in a housing complex suspended in time, where the most promising young people are sent to the North, a land where "history is being rewritten without mistakes." Elisa, the last young person in her community, is selected to go. Her mother, a devoted believer in the North, works double shifts to win a coveted travel auction. Winner of the Viewpoints Section Award at Tribeca last year, Garibaldi's new film stands as a metaphor about how society values age in a capitalist system.

Elisa, de dieciocho años, vive con su madre en un complejo de viviendas suspendido en el tiempo, donde los jóvenes más prometedores son enviados al Norte, una tierra donde "la historia se reescribe sin errores." Elisa, la última joven de su comunidad, es seleccionada para ir hacia el Norte. Su madre, una fiel creyente, trabaja a doble turno para ganar una codiciada subasta de viajes. Ganadora del Premio de la Sección Viewpoints en Tribeca el año pasado, la nueva película de Garibaldi se erige como una metáfora sobre cómo la sociedad valora la edad en un sistema capitalista.



Chicago Premiere



The Whisper / El susurro

Uruguay/Argentina / 2025 / 100 mins.
Directed by Gustavo Hernández Ibañez

Genre: Horror
Spanish w/English subtitles

Screenings:

Friday, April 17, 8:30 PM
Wednesday, April 22, 8:00 PM

Fleeing from their violent father, siblings Lucía and Adrián take refuge in a remote mansion. With the help of a hidden micro-camera on a cat, Lucía uncovers a terrifying secret: their neighbors are part of a criminal network that kidnaps teenage girls to make snuff films, and they intend to get rid of the siblings. That is just the beginning; Hernández Ibañez ("The Silent House") throws children with supernatural powers, vampires and even a bit of folk horror into the mix, delivering a frightening film that is not for the faint of heart.

Huyendo de su violento padre, los hermanos Lucía y Adrián se refugian en una mansión remota. Con la ayuda de una microcámara oculta en su gato, Lucía descubre un secreto aterrador: sus vecinos forman parte de una red criminal que secuestra a adolescentes para hacer películas snuff, y quieren deshacerse de los hermanos. Esto es solo el principio: Hernández Ibañez ("La casa silenciosa") mezcla en su aterrador brebaje tales ingredientes como niños con poderes sobrenaturales, vampiros e incluso un toque de terror "folk", resultando en una película aterradora, no apta para cardíacos.



North American Premiere



Becoming Vera

USA / 2025 / 87 mins.
Directed by Sergio Vizueta

In Miami, 18-year-old pianist Vera, a foster child aging out of the system, struggles to pursue her passion for Latin Jazz amidst poverty and exploitation. After landing a freelance job painting a music studio, she impresses Hector, the studio owner and music producer, who offers her a chance to compose. However, Hector exploits her talent, stealing her composition for his own gain. Faced with betrayal and self-doubt, Vera almost gives up her dream. But with determination and the support of friends, she finds her voice and takes one final step toward a future in music.

Genre: Drama
English

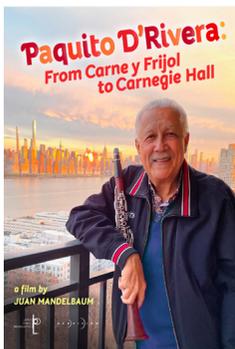
En Miami, Vera, una pianista de 18 años que está a punto de ser expulsada de un hogar de acogida por su edad, lucha por seguir su pasión por el jazz latino en medio de la pobreza y la explotación. Tras conseguir un trabajo pintando un estudio de música, Vera impresiona a Héctor, el dueño del estudio y productor musical, quien le ofrece la oportunidad de componer. Sin embargo, Héctor explota su talento, robándole sus composiciones para su propio beneficio. Ante esta traición, Vera casi renuncia a su sueño. Pero con determinación y el apoyo de sus amigos, encuentra su voz y da un gran paso hacia un futuro en la música.

Screenings:

Friday, April 17, 5:30 PM
Saturday, April 18, 6:00 PM



Chicago Premiere



Paquito D'Rivera: From Carne y Frijol to Carnegie Hall

USA / 2025 / 73 mins.
Directed by Juan Mandelbaum

This lively and heartfelt documentary traces the remarkable life and career of Paquito D'Rivera, a 16-time Grammy and Latin Grammy-winning artist whose boundless musical curiosity defies genre. A virtuoso clarinetist, saxophonist, and composer, D'Rivera left Cuba in 1980 at great personal risk, forging an immigrant success story defined by brilliance, humor, and reinvention. Filmed across New York, Boston, Miami, and Uruguay, the film features intimate performances and collaborations with D'Rivera's longtime friend Chucho Valdés and world-renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma.

Genre: Documentary
English, Spanish w/English subtitles

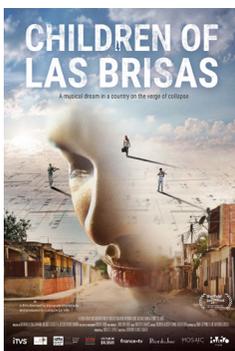
Este vibrante y emotivo documental relata la extraordinaria vida y carrera de Paquito D'Rivera, artista ganador de 16 premios Grammy y Grammy Latino, cuya inagotable curiosidad musical desafía los géneros del jazz y la música clásica. Clarinetista, saxofonista y compositor virtuoso, D'Rivera abandonó Cuba en 1980 asumiendo un gran riesgo personal, forjando una historia de éxito como inmigrante, definida por la inteligencia, el humor y la reinención. Filmada en Nueva York, Boston, Miami y Uruguay, la película presenta actuaciones íntimas y colaboraciones con Chucho Valdés, amigo de toda la vida de D'Rivera, y el violonchelista de renombre mundial Yo-Yo Ma.

Screenings:

Sunday, April 19, 3:45 PM
Monday, April 20, 5:45 PM



Chicago Premiere



The Children of Las Brisas / Los niños de Las Brisas

Venezuela / 2022 / 92 mins.
Directed by Marianela Maldonado

Maldonado's documentary feature debut follows three Venezuelan children from the impoverished Las Brisas neighborhood in their quest to become professional musicians within the ranks of "El Sistema," the publicly financed, voluntary sector music-education program. For close to a decade, Edixon, Dissandra and Wuilly try to achieve a better future as they face the great challenges of a society taken over by an autocratic regime. "Children of Las Brisas" is a story of resistance, resilience and perseverance that explores the power of discipline and classical music as tools for survival.

Genre: Documentary
Spanish w/English subtitles

El primer largometraje documental de Marianela Maldonado sigue a tres niños venezolanos del empobrecido barrio de Las Brisas en su búsqueda por convertirse en músicos profesionales dentro de "El Sistema"; el programa de educación musical voluntario y financiado con fondos públicos. Durante casi una década, Edixon, Dissandra y Wuilly intentan alcanzar un futuro mejor mientras enfrentan los grandes desafíos de una sociedad dominada por un régimen autocrático. "Los niños de las brisas" es una historia de resistencia, resiliencia y perseverancia que explora el poder de la disciplina y la música clásica como herramientas de supervivencia.

Screenings:

Wednesday, April 22, 5:30 PM
Thursday, April 23, 8:15 PM



Chicago Premiere



Zafari

Venezuela/Peru/Mexico/Brasil/France/Chile/Dominican Republic / 2024 / 100 mins. / Directed by Mariana Rondón

The arrival of the hippopotamus Zafari at a small depopulated zoo in an anonymous Latin American city is celebrated by neighbors from opposing social classes. Ana, Edgar and their son Bruno watch all the action from the windows of their decadent high-class building. Amidst shortages of food, water and electricity, Ana scavenges for food in the building's abandoned apartments; but strange noises in the dark corridors drive her deeper into a paranoid state of mind. Zafari is a bold and unsettling exploration of a society pushed to its limits.

Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

La llegada del hipopótamo Zafari a un pequeño zoológico despoblado en una anónima ciudad latinoamericana es celebrada por vecinos de clases sociales opuestas. Ana, Edgar y su hijo Bruno observan todo desde las ventanas de su decadente y lujoso apartamento. En medio de la escasez de comida, agua y electricidad, Ana busca comida en los apartamentos abandonados del edificio; pero ruidos extraños en los oscuros pasillos la hunden aún más en un estado de paranoia. Zafari es una exploración audaz e inquietante de una sociedad llevada al límite.

Screenings:

Friday, April 17, 8:15 PM
Saturday, April 18, 3:30 PM



Chicago Premiere

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★ North American Premiere

Final Scene / Escena final

Argentina / 2025 / 20 mins.
Directed by Diego Kompel
Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

A theater class for six strangers starts with basic acting drills but quickly turns into a profound exploration of personal boundaries. As they dig deeper into their roles, their buried emotions rise, leading to an intense, unpredictable experience.

Una clase de teatro para seis desconocidos comienza con ejercicios básicos de actuación, y rápidamente se transforma en una profunda exploración de los límites personales. A medida que profundizan sus roles, emergen emociones enteradas, dando lugar a una experiencia intensa e impredecible.

Shown with **Deep End / Los Ahogados** (Pg. 16)

Screenings:

Sunday, April 19, 6:00 PM
Wednesday, April 22, 5:45 PM



★ USA Premiere

La Cerrillana

Argentina / 2025 / 15 mins.
Directed by Andrea Urquiola
Genre: Drama/LGBTQ
Spanish w/English subtitles

A woman comes to understand her son's transition after meeting a young trans man from her small town. In him, she sees a reflection of what her son could aspire to be if he had more confidence. This experience ultimately serves as a bridge for her to reconnect with her family and with herself.

Una mujer empieza a comprender la transición de su hijo tras conocer a un joven trans de su pequeño pueblo. En él ve un reflejo de lo que su hijo podría aspirar a ser si tuviera más confianza. Esta experiencia le sirve como puente para reconectar con su familia y consigo misma.

Shown with **EVA** (Pg. 17)

Screenings:

Saturday, April 25, 3:30 PM
Sunday, April 26, 6:00 PM



★ World Premiere

The Disappeared / Desaparecidos

Bolivia / 2025 / 17 mins.
Directed by Fernando Arze Echalar
Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

South America, circa 1999. A brother and sister are kidnapped by a stranger and driven to a remote location in the Andes Mountains. Terrified and confused, their captor reveals his true identity: a paramilitary assassin who has carried out unspeakable acts for one dictatorship after another.

Suramérica, hacia 1999. Un hermano y una hermana son secuestrados por un desconocido y llevados a un lugar remoto en la cordillera de los Andes. Aterrorizados y confundidos, su captor revela su verdadera identidad: un asesino paramilitar que ha cometido actos indescriptibles al servicio de una dictadura tras otra.

Shown with **Writer / Escritor** (Pg. 12)

Screenings:

Wednesday, April 22, 6:00 PM
Thursday, April 23, 8:00 PM



★ North American Premiere

Nativity Scene / Presépio

Brazil / 2025 / 18 mins.
Directed by Felipe Bibian
Genre: Drama
Portuguese w/English subtitles

On Christmas Eve, Dejar, a former resistance fighter against the military dictatorship, gathers with his family in the backyard. A water gun gift leads Dejar to denounce the absurdity of giving a child a weapon.

Na véspera de Natal, Dejar, ex-combatente da resistência contra a ditadura militar, está com a sua família no quintal. Uma pistola de água como presente leva Dejar a denunciar o absurdo de dar uma arma a uma criança.

Shown with **Under the Flags, the Sun / Bajo las banderas, el sol** (Pg. 19)

Screenings:

Tuesday, April 21, 5:30 PM
Sunday, April 26, 3:15 PM



★ Chicago Premiere

Resonance / Ressonância

Brazil / 2025 / 20 mins.
Directed by Anna Zêpa
Genre: Drama
Portuguese w/English subtitles

The desire for freedom still resonates in Margarida and the idea of being stuck in a daily routine leaves her suffocated.

O desejo de liberdade ainda vive em Margarida, e a ideia de ficar presa a uma rotina diária a sufoca.

Shown with **De tal Palo** (Pg. 21)

Screenings:

Friday, April 24, 5:15 PM
Saturday, April 25, 3:15 PM



★ USA Premiere

The Lolol Hot Springs / Las Termas de Lolol

Chile / 2025 / 20 mins.
Directed by Francisco Paredes Bassi
Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Leonardo arrives in Lolol in search of the hot springs he visited as a child. Along the way, he meets Catalina, with whom he forms an unexpected connection. Lolol's countryside inhabitants intertwine with their journey.

Leonardo llega a Lolol en busca de las aguas termales que visitó de niño. En el camino, conoce a Catalina, con quien establece una conexión inesperada. Los habitantes del campo de Lolol se entrelazan en su viaje.

Shown with **About astronauts and Ghosts / De Astronautas y Fantasmas** (Pg. 19)

Screenings:

Sunday, April 19, 8:30 PM
Monday, April 20, 8:30 PM



★ USA Premiere

Ballad of Fishes and Birds / Balada de peces y pájaros

Colombia/Spain / 2025 / 6 mins.
Directed by Anny Uribe Zambrano, Juan José Arévalo Reyes
Genre: Animation
Spanish w/English subtitles

Carlina lost her father in the Colombian armed conflict and lives alone with her mother. The pain is still overwhelming, and they both hold on to their memories and personal objects in order to survive. Everything changes with the appearance of a mystical fish that will be Carlina's guide during her adventure.

Carlina perdió a su padre en el conflicto armado colombiano y vive sola con su madre. El dolor aún es abrumador, y ambas se aferran a sus recuerdos y objetos personales para sobrevivir. Todo cambia con la aparición de un pez místico que guiará a Carlina en su aventura.

Shown with **TheyDream** (Pg. 21)

Screenings:

Saturday, April 18, 6:00 PM
Sunday, April 19, 3:30 PM



★ Chicago Premiere

The Great Feat / La gran hazaña

Colombia / 2024 / 15 mins.
Directed by Luber Yesid Zúñiga Ordóñez
Genre: Drama/Family
Spanish w/English subtitles

Ten-year-old Pablo needs to rescue his friend Pascualina, a hen, who ends up kidnapped by the town shopkeeper after the boy breaks the bucket of eggs he was bringing to pay him a debt owed by his family. The only option is to bet a new bucket in a spinning top duel.

Pablo, de diez años, necesita rescatar a su amiga Pascualina, una gallina ponedora, que termina secuestrada por el tendero del pueblo, después de que el niño quebrara la cubeta de huevos que llevaba para pagarle una deuda de su familia. La única opción es apostar una nueva cubeta en un duelo de trompo.

Shown with **The Children of Las Brisas / Los niños de Las Brisas** (Pg. 23)

Screenings:

Wednesday, April 22, 5:30 PM
Thursday, April 23, 8:15 PM



★ **Chicago Premiere**

Rodrigo Branquias

Colombia / 2024 / 16 mins.
Directed by Andres Guevara Espinosa
Genre: Fantasy
Spanish and Creole w/English subtitles

A 9-year-old boy with an extraordinary talent for holding his breath underwater dreams of taking part in a freediving tournament. He wants to prove to his mother that dreams, with passion and perseverance, can become true.

Un niño de 9 años con un talento extraordinario para contener la respiración bajo el agua, sueña con participar en un campeonato de apnea y al mismo tiempo, demostrarle a su madre que los sueños, con pasión y perseverancia, se pueden realizar.

Shown with **Runa Simi** (Pg. 19)

Screenings:
Thursday, April 23, 8:00 PM
Saturday, April 25, 3:30 PM



★ **World Premiere**

Barrio Chino Havana

Cuba / 2025 / 11 mins.
Directed by Jalena Keane-Lee, Dr. Kiona
Genre: Documentary
Spanish w/English subtitles

This documentary explores the rich, but forgotten, history of the Chinese in Cuba through the stories of four elders: Pedro, Mauro, Caridad, and Georgina. It's believed that 1 in 6 Cubans have a Chinese ancestor. But of the original Chinese who helped build Barrio Chino, there are only a handful left.

Este documental explora la rica, pero olvidada, historia de la comunidad china en Cuba a través de las historias de cuatro personas mayores: Pedro, Mauro, Caridad y Georgina. Se cree que uno de cada seis cubanos tiene un ancestro chino. Sin embargo, de los chinos originales que ayudaron a construir el Barrio Chino, solo quedan unos pocos.

Shown with **A Shabbat on the other side of the river / Um Shabat na Outra Margem do Rio** (Pg. 13)

Screenings:
Wednesday, April 22, 8:15 PM
Thursday, April 23, 6:00 PM



★ **World Premiere**

First Out

Cuba/USA / 2025 / 13 mins.
Directed by Michelle Salcedo
Genre: Drama
English and Spanish w/English subtitles

A hustling sports agent will stop at nothing to get two Cuban brothers to defect to the United States for a chance to play in the major leagues.

Un agente deportivo ambicioso no se detendrá ante nada para lograr que dos hermanos cubanos migren a los Estados Unidos para tener la oportunidad de jugar en las grandes ligas.

Shown with **Idolmakers / Criadores de ídolos** (Pg. 20)

Screenings:
Saturday, April 18, 8:45 PM
Sunday, April 26, 8:30 PM



★ **World Premiere**

White Crows / Cuervos blancos

El Salvador / 2025 / 8 mins.
Directed by Sofía Samour
Genre: Drama/Comedy
Spanish w/English subtitles

After losing all their money, Clara and Roberto meticulously craft a scam, using their impeccable appearance and "rich" status to deceive their victims, including their close friend, Javier. The setting? An abandoned estate, where they have created an almost theatrical setting to execute their scam.

Tras perder todo su dinero, Clara y Roberto organizan meticulosamente una estafa, valiéndose de su impecable apariencia y su estatus social para engañar a sus víctimas, incluyendo a su mejor amigo Javier. ¿El escenario? Una finca abandonada donde han creado un escenario casi teatral para ejecutar su estafa.

Shown with **Zafari** (Pg. 23)

Screenings:
Friday, April 17, 8:15 PM
Saturday, April 18, 3:30 PM



★ **Chicago Premiere**

5 STEPS (For a farewell) / 5 PASOS (para una despedida)

Mexico / 2025 / 16 mins.
Directed by Julio César Rubio
Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Due to the nomadic work of his father, a military man, Pato has moved from city to city, in the process creating a manual to constantly say goodbye. Pato has only a couple of hours left to say goodbye to Isa, his first love and the first person immune to the manual.

Debido al trabajo nómada de su padre, un militar, Pato ha tenido que mudarse de ciudad en ciudad y crear un manual para despedirse constantemente. A Pato sólo le quedan un par de horas para despedirse de Isa, su primer amor y la primera persona inmune al manual.

Shown with **Leo & Lou** (Pg. 22)

Screenings:
Sunday, April 19, 3:30 PM
Tuesday, April 21, 5:15 PM



★ **World Premiere**

I F*cking Hate You! / ¡Cómo te odio!

Mexico, USA / 2025 / 12 mins.
Directed by Gabriela Paciel
Genre: Drama/Comedy
English

A flat tire leaves Michelle and her brother, David, stranded on their way to her wedding. Now, the two siblings must put their differences aside if they want to survive.

Una llanta pinchada deja a Michelle y a su hermano, David, varados camino a la boda de Michelle. Ahora, los dos hermanos deberán dejar de lado sus diferencias si quieren sobrevivir.

Shown with **Espina** (Pg. 18)

Screenings:
Monday, April 20, 5:45 PM
Sunday, April 26, 8:15 PM



★ **USA Premiere**

In The Still Of The Night / En la quietud de la noche

Mexico/USA / 2025 / 15 mins.
Directed by Aristides Mantilla
Genre: Drama/Fantasy
Spanish w/English subtitles

Featuring Oscar nominated actress Yalitza Aparicio, this magical story happens on the Day of the Dead where 10-year-old Jesús, longs to meet his paternal grandfather, Rubén, whom he never met. Convinced that Rubén will visit him that night, Jesus is excited to set up an altar for the first time.

Con la participación de Yalitza Aparicio, nominada al Oscar, esta mágica historia transcurre la noche de Día de Muertos, donde Jesús, un niño de 10 años, anhela reencontrarse con su abuelo paterno, Rubén, a quien nunca conoció. Convencido de que Rubén lo visitará esa noche, Jesús se emociona al preparar un altar por primera vez.

Shown with **Forastera** (Pg. 22)

Screenings:
Sunday, April 19, 8:15 PM
Saturday, April 25, 6:00 PM



★ **Chicago Premiere**

Tito Ritmo

Mexico/USA / 2025 / 15 mins.
Directed by Ulises Córdova
Genre: Drama/Comedy
English and Spanish w/English subtitles

In early 1941, a zoot suit toting mechanic entered a "dance till you drop" competition in order to win a new car. In 2009, the grandson attempts to sell the car, part of the family's legacy, out of financial desperation.

A principios de 1941, un mecánico con traje zoot, participó en un concurso de baile para ganar un coche nuevo. En 2009, el coche pasó a manos de la familia, y su nieto, desesperado por su situación económica, intenta venderlo.

Shown with **Becoming Vera** (Pg. 23)

Screenings:
Friday, April 17, 5:30 PM
Saturday, April 18, 6:00 PM

Shorts: Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico, Spain



★ **North American Premiere**

One Last Bolero / Un último bolero

Panama / 2025 / 8 mins.
Directed by Roberto Thomas Díaz
Genre: Drama/LGBTQ
Spanish w/English subtitles

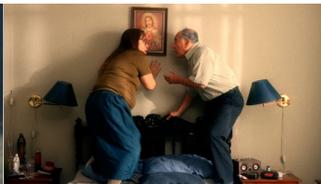
A visit to a bedridden lover from several decades ago takes Silka on a painful journey through her memory, where she confronts the romantic and political betrayal she thought she had left behind.

Una visita a un amante de hace varias décadas, postrado en cama, lleva a Silka a un doloroso viaje por su memoria en el que se enfrenta a la traición amorosa y política que pensó haber dejado atrás.

Shown with **To die for / No Te Mueras Por Mí** (Pg. 20)

Screenings:

Tuesday, April 21, 8:30 PM
Sunday, April 26, 8:30 PM



★ **North American Premiere**

Thin Walls / La mudanza

Peru / 2025 / 18 mins.
Directed by Ariana Andrade Castro
Genre: Comedy
Spanish w/English subtitles

An elderly couple's quiet routine is thrown off balance by the passionate sounds coming from their new neighbors. As the days go by, their well-ordered life begins to unravel in unexpected ways.

En una vida marcada por la rutina, una pareja de ancianos ve su tranquilidad interrumpida por los ruidos apasionados de sus nuevos vecinos. Lo que comienza como una simple molestia desata una inesperada sacudida en su mundo íntimo.

Shown with **@love / @amor** (Pg. 20)

Screenings:

Thursday, April 23, 5:30 PM
Friday, April 24, 8:00 PM



★ **USA Premiere**

Amanece

Puerto Rico / 2025 / 15 mins.
Directed by Julián Fernández Garnik
Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

Iker, a 9-year-old boy in Puerto Rico, navigates the thin line between fantasy and reality after a striking event tears at the fabric of family and safety on the island.

Iker, un niño de 9 años en Puerto Rico, navega la cuerda floja entre lo real y lo fantástico luego de que un evento traumático sacude la seguridad de todas las familias en la isla.

Shown with **I Dreamed His Name / Soñé su nombre** (Pg. 14)

Screenings:

Wednesday, April 22, 8:30 PM
Thursday, April 23, 5:45 PM



★ **Premiere**

Chulo

Puerto Rico / 2026 / 14 mins.
Directed by Joshua Hernández
Genre: Drama/LGBTQ
English and Spanish w/English subtitles

Gael visits their family in Puerto Rico at the height of summer, and soon meets Mateo, a handsome local who changes their life forever.

Gael visita a su familia en Puerto Rico en pleno verano, y pronto conoce a Mateo, un apuesto joven que cambia su vida para siempre.

Shown with **Mistura** (Pg. 19)

Screenings:

Monday, April 20, 8:00 PM
Sunday, April 25, 1:00 PM



★ **Chicago Premiere**

Mulata

Puerto Rico / 2025 / 16 mins.
Directed by Yarielis Ramos López
Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

In 1850 Puerto Rico, thirteen-year-old Adina, a "mulata" of mixed heritage, is hidden away at a homestead, cared for by her half-brother and her nanny. When she discovers a connection to her African roots, she is determined to embrace her identity and fights to prove herself as a bomba dancer.

En 1850 en Puerto Rico, Adina, de trece años, una "mulata" de ascendencia mixta, reside escondida en una hacienda, cuidada por su medio hermano y su niñera. Cuando descubre una conexión con sus raíces africanas, está decidida a demostrarse a sí misma como bailarina de bomba.

Shown with **42nd Street / La 42** (Pg. 15)

Screenings:

Friday, April 17, 5:45 PM
Sunday, April 19, 3:30 PM



★ **USA Premiere**

Marie's Ambition / La ambición de Marie

Spain / 2024 / 17 mins.
Directed by Manu Fernández
Genre: Thriller
Spanish w/English subtitles

Marie faces the reigning chess master. During the tournament, at a speakeasy, a high-ranking official of an organization will make an attractive but crazy proposal to the French player to improve her game.

Marie se enfrenta al hegemónico rey del ajedrez y, durante el torneo, en un bar clandestino, un alto funcionario de una organización le hará una atractiva pero alocada propuesta para mejorar su juego.

Shown with **Borealis** (Pg. 20)

Screenings:

Friday, April 17, 8:00 PM
Saturday, April 18, 3:15 PM



★ **Chicago Premiere**

One-Way Cycle

Spain/Portugal / 2025 / 10 mins.
Directed by Alicia Núñez Puerto
Genre: Animation/Comedy
Spanish w/English subtitles

Adela was born in Spain in 1910. After years of washing clothes and living with constant ovary pain, Adela decides to emigrate to Cuba to follow her sister. Painful menstruation can be a heavy burden, but it can also be the driving force behind a life change.

Adela nace en España en 1910. Tras varios años lavando ropa y viviendo con un fuerte dolor de ovarios, decide emigrar a Cuba siguiendo a su hermana. Una dolorosa menstruación puede ser un pesado estorbo, pero también puede ser el motor de un cambio.

Shown with **The Ivy / Hiedra** (Pg. 16)

Screenings:

Friday, April 24, 5:45 PM
Saturday, April 25, 8:15 PM



★ **North American Premiere**

Thirteen Cats / Trece Gatos

Spain / 2025 / 13 mins.
Directed by David Gaspar
Genre: Drama/Comedy
Spanish w/English subtitles

Laura adopts a cat every time life overwhelms her, and she already has thirteen. One day, on her way to the animal shelter, she seeks out a therapist, hoping for help to break the cycle. A dramedy about emotional avoidance, and feline instincts.

Laura adopta un gato cada vez que algo le abruma, y ya van trece. Un día camino al refugio protector de animales acude a una terapeuta para que le ayude a impedir que lo vuelva a hacer. Una tragicomedia sobre la evasión emocional, el trauma y los instintos felinos.

Shown with **First, the Rain / Antes la lluvia** (Pg. 17)

Screenings:

Monday, April 20, 5:30 PM
Tuesday, April 21, 8:00 PM



Chicago Premiere

Abel

USA (Chicago) / 2025 / 20 mins.
Directed by Brian Zalm
Genre: Documentary
English

Abel Berumen, an accomplished Mexican-American photographer, woke up blind one day as a result of a rare disease called Pseudoxanthoma Elasticum. This film, made seven years after the unexpected event, reflects on the paradox of his disability: how his loss of vision has enabled him to truly see.

Abel Berumen, un reconocido fotógrafo mexicano-estadounidense, se despertó un día ciego a causa de una rara enfermedad llamada Pseudoxanthoma Elasticum. Esta película, realizada siete años después de este inesperado suceso, reflexiona sobre la paradoja de su discapacidad: cómo la pérdida de la vista le ha permitido de verdad ver.

Shown with **Deaf / Sorda** (Pg. 21)

Screenings:

Friday, April 17, 7:45 PM
Sunday, April 26, 3:15 PM



World Premiere

Cake / Pastel

USA (Chicago) / 2025 / 17 mins.
Directed by Erick Juárez
Genre: Drama/Comedy
English and Spanish w/English subtitles

Set in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood, Rosy is a proud and resilient single mother determined to give her little son, Alex, the most beautiful CAKE he deserves. With limited resources and mounting financial pressure, Rosy is reminded of what truly matters.

Ambientada en el barrio de Pilsen de Chicago, Rosy es una madre soltera, orgullosa y resiliente, decidida a darle a su pequeño hijo, Alex, el pastel más hermoso que se merece. Con recursos limitados y una creciente presión financiera, Rosy recuerda lo que realmente importa.

Shown with **Enough Mom! / ¡Basta Mamá!** (Pg. 14)

Screenings:

Sunday, April 19, 6:15 PM
Tuesday, April 21, 8:00 PM



World Premiere

Created with Purpose

USA (Chicago) / 2025 / 20 mins.
Directed by Ashley Ephraim
Genre: Documentary
English

Filmmaker Ashley Ephraim partners with Tamika Lecheé Morales, founder of The Autism Hero Project, to illuminate the stories and strengths of individuals with autism in Chicago. This powerful documentary goes beyond awareness, calling on communities to actively engage with and understand their autistic neighbors.

La cineasta Ashley Ephraim colabora con Tamika Lecheé Morales, fundadora de The Autism Hero Project, para mostrar las historias y fortalezas de las personas con autismo en Chicago. Este impactante documental va más allá de la concientización, invitando a las comunidades a interactuar activamente con sus vecinos autistas y comprenderlos.

Shown with **Comparsa** (Pg. 17)

Screenings:

Thursday, April 23, 5:30 PM
Friday, April 24, 5:15 PM



World Premiere

Lluvia

USA (Chicago) / 2025 / 11 mins.
Directed by Nathan Suggs
Genre: Horror
English and Spanish w/English subtitles

Lluvia, a young woman, is denied a rightfully earned promotion, triggering memories of past abuse, further spiraling her down a path of madness and violence.

Lluvia, una mujer joven, le es negado un buen merecido ascenso, lo cual despierta memorias de abuso en el pasado, hundiéndose cada vez más en la locura y la violencia.

Shown with **The Whisper / El susurro** (Pg. 22)

Screenings:

Friday, April 17, 8:30 PM
Wednesday, April 22, 8:00 PM



Premiere

A Peculiar Morning

USA / 2025 / 12 mins.
Directed by Emmylou Díaz
Genre: Drama/Comedy
English

A grieving woman lies on her bed in a studio apartment. As she moves through her morning ritual, we discover that she's afraid to leave her house, and has built a community from the inanimate objects surrounding her. Then, the doorbell rings and everything changes.

Una mujer en duelo pasa los días en cama en su pequeño apartamento, aferrada a sus rutinas. A lo largo de su ritual cotidiano, descubrimos que le teme al mundo exterior y que ha creado su propia comunidad con los objetos que la rodean. Todo cambia cuando suena el timbre.

Shown with **Melodrama** (Pg. 16)

Screenings:

Monday, April 20, 7:45 PM
Tuesday, April 21, 6:00 PM



Chicago Premiere

Beyond / Más Allá

Venezuela/Canada/Colombia/USA / 2025 / 15 mins.
Directed by Bettina López Mendoza
Genre: Drama
Spanish w/English subtitles

After being separated from her mother while crossing the treacherous jungle between Colombia and Panama, Zuli, a young Venezuelan migrant, is forced to abandon her childhood to survive in this dangerous place.

Después de ser separada de su madre mientras cruzaba la peligrosa selva entre Colombia y Panamá, Zuli, una joven migrante venezolana, se ve obligada a abandonar su infancia para sobrevivir en este peligroso lugar.

Shown with **Cordillera de Fuego** (Pg. 17)

Screenings:

Friday, April 24, 8:00 PM
Sunday, April 26, 3:45 PM



World Premiere

Resonance

Venezuela/USA / 2026 / 6 mins.
Directed by Dani Orlando
Genre: Drama
English and Spanish w/English subtitles

A gifted but disillusioned Venezuelan janitor and a Mexican scholarship student form an unlikely bond through late-night piano sessions in an empty university hall, rediscovering hope, identity, and connection through music.

Un talentoso pero desilusionado conserje venezolano y un estudiante becado mexicano forman un vínculo improbable a través de sesiones de piano nocturnas en un salón universitario vacío, redescubriendo la esperanza, la identidad y la conexión a través de la música.

Shown with **Paquito D'Rivera: from Carne y Frijol to Carnegie Hall** (Pg. 23)

Screenings:

Sunday, April 19, 3:45 PM
Monday, April 20, 5:45 PM

“

Of the people,
by the people,
for the people

– Abraham Lincoln

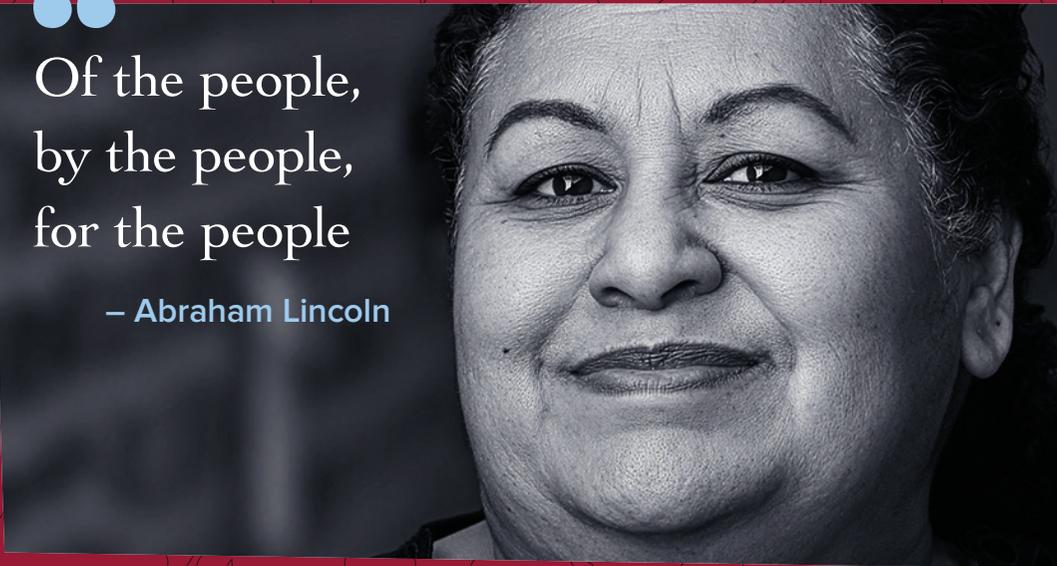


Photo: Teresa Crawford for WTTW

FIRSTHAND DEMOCRACY

Watch Isabel's story:

wttw.com/firsthand



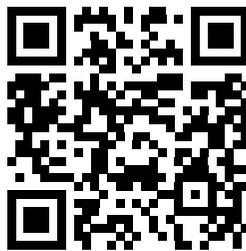
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JESSICA SUÁREZ
REPORTERA DE ENTRETENIMIENTO

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Chicago Latino Film
Festival

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THEATRE SCHEDULE

Landmark Century Centre Cinemas | 2828 N. Clark St. • Chicago, IL 60657 | 773-248-7759

THEATRE 1

6:00 PM **Isla Negra**
Chile / 105 mins.
Dir. Jorge Riquelme Serrano

8:30 PM **The Whisper / El susurro**
Uruguay/Argentina / 100 mins.
Dir. Gustavo Hernández Ibañez
Shown with **Luvia**
USA (Chicago) / 11 mins.
Dir. Nathan Suggs

3:30 PM **A Wolf among the Swans / Um Lobo Entre Os Cisnes**
Brazil / 112 mins.
Dir. Marcos Schechtman, Helena Varvaki

5:30 PM **Isla Negra**
Chile / 105 mins.
Dir. Jorge Riquelme Serrano

8:15 PM **It Would be Night in Caracas /
Aún es de noche en Caracas**
Venezuela/Mexico / 97 mins.
Dir. Mariana Rondón, Manté Ugás

3:45 PM **Paquito D'Rivera: from Carne y Frijol to Carnegie Hall**
USA / 73 mins.
Dir. Juan Mandelbaum
Shown with **Resonance**
Venezuela/USA / 6 mins.
Dir. Dani Ofarido

5:45 PM **Life Is / La vida es**
Mexico / 118 mins.
Dir. Lorena Villarreal

8:30 PM **A Wolf among the Swans / Um Lobo Entre Os Cisnes**
Brazil / 112 mins.
Dir. Marcos Schechtman, Helena Varvaki

THEATRE 2

5:30 PM **Becoming Vera**
USA / 87 mins.
Dir. Sergio Vizuale
Shown with **Tito Ritmo**
Mexico/USA / 15 mins.
Dir. Ulises Córdova

8:00 PM **Borealis**
Puerto Rico / 92 mins.
Dir. Heixan Robles
Shown with **Marie's Ambition / La ambición de Marie**
Spain / 17 mins.
Dir. Manu Fernández

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Dir. Heixan Robles
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6:00 PM **Becoming Vera**
USA / 87 mins.
Dir. Sergio Vizuale
Shown with **Tito Ritmo**
Mexico/USA / 15 mins.
Dir. Ulises Córdova

8:30 PM **Life Is / La vida es**
Mexico / 118 mins.
Dir. Lorena Villarreal

3:30 PM **TheyDream**
Puerto Rico/USA / 91 mins.
Dir. William D. Caballero
Shown with **Ballad of Fishes and Birds /
Balada de peces y pájaros**
Colombia/Spain / 6 mins.
Dir. Army Uribe Zambrano, Juan José Arévalo Reyes

6:15 PM **A Bright Future / Un futuro brillante**
Uruguay/Argentina/Germany / 98 mins.
Dir. Lucía Genbaldi

8:00 PM **Noviembre**
Colombia/Brazil/Mexico/Norway / 76 mins.
Dir. Tomás Corredor

THEATRE 4

5:15 PM **Death of a Comedian / La muerte de un comediante**
Argentina / 108 mins.
Dir. Diego Peretti, Javier Beltramino

7:45 PM **Deaf / Sorda**
Spain / 99 mins.
Dir. Eva Libertad
Shown with **Abel**
USA (Chicago) / 20 mins.
Dir. Brian Zahm

3:30 PM **Death of a Comedian / La muerte de un comediante**
Argentina / 108 mins.
Dir. Diego Peretti, Javier Beltramino

6:00 PM **TheyDream**
Puerto Rico/USA / 91 mins.
Dir. William D. Caballero
Shown with **Ballad of Fishes and Birds /
Balada de peces y pájaros**
Colombia/Spain / 6 mins.
Dir. Army Uribe Zambrano, Juan José Arévalo Reyes

8:15 PM **Abril**
Costa Rica / 107 mins.
Dir. Hernán Jiménez

1:00 PM **Abril**
Costa Rica / 107 mins.
Dir. Hernán Jiménez

3:30 PM **Leo & Lou**
Spain / 102 mins.
Dir. Carlos Solano
Shown with **5 STEPS (For a farewell) /
5 PASOS (Para una despedida)**
Mexico / 16 mins.
Dir. Julio César Rubio

6:15 PM **Enough Mom! / ¡Basta Mamá!**
Colombia / 77 mins.
Dir. Flora Martínez
Shown with **Cake / Pastel**
USA (Chicago) / 17 mins.
Dir. Erick Juárez

8:15 PM **Forastera**
Spain/Italy/Sweden / 97 mins.
Dir. Lucía Aleñar Iglesias
Shown with **In The Still Of The Night / En La Quietud
De La Noche**
Mexico/USA / 15 mins.
Dir. Aristides Mantilla

THEATRE 6

5:45 PM **42nd Street / La 42**
Dominican Republic / 91 mins.
Dir. José María Cabral
Shown with **Mujata**
Puerto Rico / 16 mins.
Dir. Yanilis Ramos López

8:15 PM **Zafarí**
Venezuela/Peru/Mexico/Brazil/France/Chile/Dominican Republic / 100 mins.
Dir. Mariana Rondón
Shown with **White Crows / Cuervos Blancos**
El Salvador / 8 mins.
Dir. Sofia Samour

3:30 PM **Zafarí**
Venezuela/Peru/Mexico/Brazil/France/Chile/Dominican Republic / 100 mins.
Dir. Mariana Rondón
Shown with **White Crows / Cuervos Blancos**
El Salvador / 8 mins.
Dir. Sofia Samour

6:00 PM **8**
Spain / 132 mins.
Dir. Julio Medem

8:45 PM **Idolmakers / Criedores de idólos**
Portugal / 95 mins.
Dir. Luis Diogo
Shown with **First Out**
Cuba/USA / 13 mins.
Dir. Michele Salcedo

3:30 PM **42nd Street / La 42**
Dominican Republic / 91 mins.
Dir. José María Cabral
Shown with **Mujata**
Puerto Rico / 16 mins.
Dir. Yanilis Ramos López

6:00 PM **Deep End / Los Ahogados**
Ecuador/Uruguay / 87 mins.
Dir. Juan Sebastián Jácome, Víctor Mares
Shown with **Final Scene / Escena Final**
Argentina / 20 mins.
Dir. Diego Kompel

8:30 PM **About Astronauts and Ghosts /
De Astronautas y Fantasmas**
Paraguay/Chile / 96 mins.
Dir. Luis R. Vera
Shown with **The Loloi Hot Springs /
Las Termas de Loloi**
Chile / 20 mins.
Dir. Francisco Paredes Bassi

FRIDAY, APRIL 17TH

SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH

SUNDAY, APRIL 19TH



MONDAY, APRIL 20TH	TUESDAY, APRIL 21ST	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22ND	THURSDAY, APRIL 23RD
<p>5:45 PM Paquito D'Rivera: from Carne y Frijol to Carnegie Hall USA / 73 mins. Dir. Juan Mandelbaum Shown with Resonance Venezuela/USA / 6 mins. Dir. Dani Ofarido</p> <p>7:45 PM Melodrama Dominican Republic / 90 mins. Dir. Andrés Farías Shown with A Peculiar Morning USA / 12 mins. Dir. Emmylou Diaz</p>	<p>6:00 PM Melodrama Dominican Republic / 90 mins. Dir. Andrés Farías Shown with A Peculiar Morning USA / 12 mins. Dir. Emmylou Diaz</p> <p>8:30 PM To Die For / No te mueras por mí Peru / 100 mins. Dir. Daniel Rehder Shown with One Last Bolero / Un último bolero Panama / 8 mins. Dir. Roberto Thomas Díaz</p>	<p>6:00 PM Writer / Escritor Argentina / 93 mins. Dir. Paula de Luque Shown with The Disappeared / Desaparecidos Bolivia / 17 mins. Dir. Fernando Arze Echalar</p> <p>8:30 PM I Dreamed His Name / Soñé su nombre Colombia / 86 mins. Dir. Angela Carabali Shown with Amanece Puerto Rico / 15 mins. Dir. Julián Fernández Gamik</p>	<p>5:45 PM I Dreamed His Name / Soñé su nombre Colombia / 86 mins. Dir. Angela Carabali Shown with Amanece Puerto Rico / 15 mins. Dir. Julián Fernández Gamik</p> <p>8:00 PM Writer / Escritor Argentina / 93 mins. Dir. Paula de Luque Shown with The Disappeared / Desaparecidos Bolivia / 17 mins. Dir. Fernando Arze Echalar</p>
<p>5:30 PM First, the Rain / Antes la lluvia El Salvador/Mexico / 90 mins. Dir. Brenda Vanegas Shown with Thirteen Cats / Trece Gatos Spain / 13 mins. Dir. David Gaspar</p> <p>8:00 PM A Bright Future / Un futuro brillante Uruguay/Argentina/Germany / 98 mins. Dir. Lucía Gambaldi</p>	<p>5:30 PM A Yard of Jackals / Patio de Chacales Chile / 108 mins. Dir. Diego Figueroa</p> <p>8:00 PM First, the Rain / Antes la lluvia El Salvador/Mexico / 90 mins. Dir. Brenda Vanegas Shown with Thirteen Cats / Trece Gatos Spain / 13 mins. Dir. David Gaspar</p>	<p>5:30 PM The Children of Las Brisas / Los niños de Las Brisas Venezuela / 92 mins. Dir. Mariamela Maldonado Shown with The Great Feat / La gran hazaña Colombia / 15 mins. Dir. Luber Yesid Zúñiga Oroñez</p> <p>8:00 PM Cielo Bolivia/UK / 108 mins. Dir. Alberto Siamma</p>	<p>5:30 PM Comparsa Guatemala/USA / 79 mins. Dir. Vickie Curtis, Doug Anderson Shown with Created with Purpose USA (Chicago) / 20 mins. Dir. Ariana Andrade Castro</p> <p>8:15 PM Fireflies at El Mozote / Luciérnagas en el Mozote El Salvador/USA / 118 mins. Dir. Ernesto Melara</p>
<p>5:45 PM Espina Panama / 89 mins. Dir. Daniel Póler Shown with I Fcking Hate You! / ¡Cómo te odio! Mexico, USA / 12 mins. Dir. Gabriela Paez</p> <p>8:00 PM Mistura Peru / 101 mins. Dir. Ricardo de Monteuli Shown with Chulo Puerto Rico / 14 mins. Dir. Joshua Hernández</p>	<p>5:15 PM Leo & Lou Spain / 102 mins. Dir. Carlos Solano Shown with 5 STEPS (For a farewell) / 5 PASOS (para una despedida) Mexico / 16 mins. Dir. Julio César Rubio</p> <p>8:00 PM Enough Monti / ¡Basta Mamá! Colombia / 77 mins. Dir. Flora Martínez Shown with Cake / Pastel USA (Chicago) / 17 mins. Dir. Erick Juárez</p>	<p>5:15 PM A Yard of Jackals / Patio de Chacales Chile / 108 mins. Dir. Diego Figueroa</p> <p>8:00 PM The Whisper / El susurro Uruguay/Argentina / 100 mins. Dir. Gustavo Hernández Ibañez Shown with Luvia USA (Chicago) / 11 mins. Dir. Nathan Suggs</p>	<p>5:30 PM @love / @amor Puerto Rico/Spain / 95 mins. Dir. Annabelle Mullen Pacheco Shown with Thin Walls / La mudanza Peru / 18 mins. Dir. Ariana Andrade Castro</p> <p>8:00 PM Runa Simi Peru / 81 mins. Dir. Augusto Zegarra Shown with Rodrigo Branquias Colombia / 16 mins. Dir. Andres Guevara Espinosa</p>
<p>6:00 PM 1938: When Mexico Recovered Its Oil / 1938: Cuando el petróleo fue nuestro Mexico / 99 mins. Dir. Sergio Olhovich</p> <p>8:30 PM About Astronauts and Ghosts / De Astronautas y Fantasmas Paraguay/Chile / 96 mins. Dir. Luis R. Vera Shown with The Loloi Hot Springs / Las Termas de Loloi Chile / 20 mins. Dir. Francisco Paredes Bassi</p>	<p>5:30 PM Under the Flags, The Sun / Bajo las banderas, el sol Paraguay/Argentina/USA/France/Germany / 92 mins. Dir. Juango Pereira Shown with Nativity Scene / Presépio Brazil / 18 mins. Dir. Felipe Bibian</p> <p>8:15 PM 1938: When Mexico Recovered Its Oil / 1938: Cuando el petróleo fue nuestro Mexico / 99 mins. Dir. Sergio Olhovich</p>	<p>5:45 PM Deep End / Los Ahogados Ecuador/Uruguay / 87 mins. Dir. Juan Sebastián Jácome, Victor Mares Shown with Final Scene / Escena final Argentina / 20 mins. Dir. Diego Kempel</p> <p>8:15 PM A Shabbat on the Other Side of the River / Um Shabbat na Outra Margem do Rio Brazil / 70 mins. Dir. Diego Lajst Shown with Barrio Chino Havana Cuba / 11 mins. Dir. Jalena Keane-Lee, Dr. Kiona</p>	<p>6:00 PM A Shabbat on the Other Side of the River / Um Shabbat na Outra Margem do Rio Brazil / 70 mins. Dir. Diego Lajst Shown with Barrio Chino Havana Cuba / 11 mins. Dir. Jalena Keane-Lee, Dr. Kiona</p> <p>8:15 PM The Children of Las Brisas / Los niños de Las Brisas Venezuela / 92 mins. Dir. Mariamela Maldonado Shown with The Great Feat / La Gran Hazaña Colombia / 15 mins. Dir. Luber Yesid Zúñiga Oroñez</p>

FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH	THEATRE 1	THEATRE 2	THEATRE 4	THEATRE 6
<p>5:15 PM De tal Palo Puerto Rico / 96 mins. Dir. Iván Darriel Ortiz Shown with Resonance / Ressonancia Brazil / 20 mins. Dir. Anna Zépa</p> <p>8:00 PM Cordillera de Fuego Guatemala / 94 mins. Dir. Jayro Bustamante Shown with Beyond / Más Allá Venezuela/Canada/Colombia/USA / 15 mins. Dir. Betinna López Mendoza</p> <p>3:15 PM De tal Palo Puerto Rico / 96 mins. Dir. Iván Darriel Ortiz Shown with Resonance / Ressonancia Brazil / 20 mins. Dir. Anna Zépa</p> <p>6:00 PM Forastera Spain/Italy/Sweden / 97 mins. Dir. Lucia Aleliar Iglesias Shown with In The Still Of The Night / En La Quietud Mexico/USA / 15 mins. Dir. Antistides Mantilla</p> <p>8:15 PM Five Kinds of Fear / Cinco Tipos de Miedo Brazil / 106 mins. Dir. Bruno Bini</p> <p>3:45 PM Cordillera de Fuego Guatemala / 94 mins. Dir. Jayro Bustamante Shown with Beyond / Más Allá Venezuela/Canada/Colombia/USA / 15 mins. Dir. Betinna López Mendoza</p> <p>6:00 PM Five Kinds of Fear / Cinco Tipos de Miedo Brazil / 106 mins. Dir. Bruno Bini</p> <p>8:30 PM To Die For / No Te Mueras Por Mi Peru / 100 mins. Dir. Daniel Rehder Shown with One Last Bolero / Un último bolero Panama / 8 mins. Dir. Roberto Thomas Diaz</p>	<p>5:15 PM Comparsa Guatemala/USA / 79 mins. Dir. Vickie Curtis, Doug Anderson Shown with Created with Purpose USA (Chicago) / 20 mins. Dir. Ashley Ephraim</p> <p>8:00 PM @love / @amor Puerto Rico/Spain / 95 mins. Dir. Annabelle Mullen Pacheco Shown with Thin Walls / La Mudanza Peru / 18 mins. Dir. Ariana Andrade Castro</p> <p>3:00 PM Fireflies at El Mozote / Luciérnagas en el Mozote El Salvador/USA / 118 mins. Dir. Ernesto Melara</p> <p>6:30 PM Noviembre Colombia/Brazil/Mexico/Norway / 76 mins. Dir. Tomás Corredor</p> <p>8:30 PM The Evil that Binds Us / Todos los males Chile/Mexico/Argentina / 97 mins. Dir. Nico Postiglione</p> <p>3:30 PM PARA VIVIR: The Implacable Times of Pablo Milanes / PARA VIVIR: El implacable tiempo de Pablo Milanes Cuba/Mexico/Spain/USA / 106 mins. Dir. Fabien Pisani</p> <p>7:45 PM Cielo Bolivia/UK / 108 mins. Dir. Alberto Salamma</p> <p>8:30 PM The Evil that Binds Us / Todos los males Chile/Mexico/Argentina / 97 mins. Dir. Nico Postiglione</p>	<p>5:45 PM PARA VIVIR: The Implacable Times of Pablo Milanes / PARA VIVIR: El implacable tiempo de Pablo Milanes Cuba/Mexico/Spain/USA / 106 mins. Dir. Fabien Pisani</p> <p>8:15 PM Homo Sapiens? / Homo Argentum Argentina / 98 mins. Dir. Mariano Cohn, Gastón Duplat</p> <p>1:00 PM Mistura Peru / 101 mins. Dir. Ricardo de Monteuli Shown with Chulo Puerto Rico / 14 mins. Dir. Joshua Hernández</p> <p>3:30 PM Runa Simi Peru / 81 mins. Dir. Augusto Zegarra Shown with Rodrigo Branquias Colombia / 16 mins. Dir. Andres Guevara Espinosa</p> <p>5:45 PM I Am Frankelda / Soy Frankelda Mexico / 113 mins. Dir. Arturo Ambroz, Roy Ambroz, Mireya Mendoza</p> <p>8:30 PM Homo Sapiens? / Homo Argentum Argentina / 98 mins. Dir. Mariano Cohn, Gastón Duplat</p> <p>3:15 PM Deaf / Sorda Spain / 99 mins. Dir. Eva Libertad Shown with Abel USA (Chicago) / 20 mins. Dir. Brian Zahm</p> <p>5:45 PM I Am Frankelda / Soy Frankelda Mexico / 113 mins. Dir. Arturo Ambroz, Roy Ambroz, Mireya Mendoza</p> <p>8:15 PM Espina Panama / 89 mins. Dir. Daniel Peler Shown with I F-cking Hate You! / ¡Cómo te odio! Mexico, USA / 12 mins. Dir. Gabriela Paecl</p>	<p>5:45 PM The Ivy / Hiedra Ecuador/Mexico/Spain/France / 98 mins. Dir. Ana Cristina Barragán Shown with One-Way Cycle Spain/Portugal / 10 mins. Dir. Alicia Núñez Puerto</p> <p>8:15 PM 8 Spain / 132 mins. Dir. Julio Medem</p> <p>3:30 PM EVA Honduras/Colombia / 90 mins. Dir. William Reyes Shown with La Cerrillana Argentina / 15 mins. Dir. Andrea Urquola</p> <p>6:00 PM Comandante Fritz Cuba/Germany/Spain / 107 mins. Dir. Pavel Giroud</p> <p>8:15 PM The Ivy / Hiedra Ecuador/Mexico/Spain/France / 98 mins. Dir. Ana Cristina Barragán Shown with One-Way Cycle Spain/Portugal / 10 mins. Dir. Alicia Núñez Puerto</p> <p>1:00 PM Comandante Fritz Cuba/Germany/Spain / 107 mins. Dir. Pavel Giroud</p> <p>3:15 PM Under the Flags. The Sun / Bajo las banderas, el sol Paraguay/Argental/USA/France/Germany / 92 mins. Dir. Juanjo Pereira Shown with Nativity Scene / Presépio Brazil / 18 mins. Dir. Felipe Bibian</p> <p>6:00 PM EVA Honduras/Colombia / 90 mins. Dir. William Reyes Shown with La Cerrillana Argentina / 15 mins. Dir. Andrea Urquola</p> <p>8:30 PM Idolmakers / Criadores de ídolos Portugal / 95 mins. Dir. Luis Diogo Shown with First Out Cuba/USA / 13 mins. Dir. Michelle Salcedo</p>	
<p>FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH</p>	<p>FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH</p>	<p>FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH</p>	<p>FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH</p>	<p>FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH</p>
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