

2033



SAT / 3/13 / 10:00 PM S7  
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**Dir. Francisco Laresgoiti**  
 (2009, 100 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

In this ambitious sci-fi film, Villaparaíso (formerly Mexico) is ruled by a totalitarian regime led by General Jamaro. Jamaro is also the president of Phaarmax, a company that produces an addictive beverage that can control the minds of the working class. Their fate rests on the shoulders of Pablo, a young man born into privilege, who awakens to the truth and joins the revolutionary movement. Partly inspired by the Cristero War, "2033" is boldly allegorical and richly designed, heralding the arrival of a visionary filmmaker. Featuring SDLFF 2008 special guest Raúl Méndez.

A Mi Me Gusta



MON / 3/15 / 4:00 PM S7  
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**Dir. Ralph Kinnard**  
 (2008, 87 min., Venezuela, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

Margarita Garcia dreams of becoming a great chef, but not in her home country. She leaves everything behind to start a new life in London, but a cruel twist of fate forces her to return to Venezuela. Life back home proves painful until Paul Welsare, an admired British chef, arrives in Caracas for work. She sets out to impress him and earn herself a ticket back to England but this time love gets in the way of Margarita's plans. This irresistible cross-cultural romantic comedy proves that food is the way to a woman's heart.

El Agente 00-P2



SAT / 3/13 / 11:00 AM S7  
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**Dir. Andrés Couturier**  
 (2008, 93 min., Mexico, Spanish)

This animated romp from Mexico tells the story of Tambo, an overweight macaw who works as a janitor at the Central Intelligentus Animalus (CIA). By mistake, the film's dim-witted hero is assigned the most important mission in the agency's history: to prevent the evil Mama Bear from turning the world into ice. Along with JJ, an old turtle in charge of the "advanced" technology lab in the agency, Tambo embarks on a wondrous journey to prove he's got what it takes to be a bona fide agent. Featuring the voices of Jaime Camil and Mexican acting legend Silvia Pinal.

## NARRATIVE FEATURES

Amar



THURS / 3/11 / 8:30 PM / S1  
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**Dir. Jorge Ramírez Suárez**  
 (2009, 107 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

The award-winning director of "Conejo en la luna" returns with this urban romantic comedy that weaves stories of love through the eyes of five people. Whether Susana is turning down Carlos, Joel is bending over backwards for Patricia, Gabriel is waiting for Martha, or Amado is trying his luck with an American girl, everyone's in pursuit. But life has a way of making their search for love a frustrating endeavor. Starring Tony Dalton, Bruno Bichir and Itati Cantora, all guests of previous editions of the SDLFF.

Amar a Morir



FRI / 3/12 / 7:00 PM / S7  
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**Dir. Fernando Lebrija**  
 (2009, 119 min., Mexico/Colombia, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

Alejandro Vizcaino is the sole heir to his father's banking conglomerate, but he sees his wealth as a burden rather than a blessing. Dealing with his controlling father has made him deeply unhappy. In an act of rebellion, he flees his family and ends up in an impoverished, seaside community where he falls in love with Rosa, a local girl. But Rosa has problems of her own. She lives under the oppressive thumb of a gangster. Now Alejandro must finally find the courage to fight for the life he wants. With Raúl Méndez and Silverio Palacios.

Amor en Fin



TUES / 3/16 / 10:00 PM / S7  
 THURS / 3/18 / 7:00 PM / S7  
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**Dir. Salvador Aguirre**  
 (2009, 90 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

In this engrossing social drama set against the backdrop of the 2006 Mexican elections, not only is the country's future uncertain but also the fate of the film's three main characters. Sofia's marriage is crumbling, Luis is vying for a promotion, and Yolanda will do anything to escape poverty. Each one is faced with a daunting decision that could radically alter their lives. But can they, or the election, truly change anything? Starring Daniel Giménez Cacho and Oscar-nominated actress Adriana Barraza ("Babel").

**Ander**



THURS / 3/11 / 9:45 PM / S3  
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**Dir. Roberto Castón**  
 (2009, 128 min., Spain, Basque w/ English Subtitles.)

A surprise hit at last year's Berlinale's Panorama section, "Ander" is a unique love story between a Basque farmer and a Peruvian immigrant, set in an idyllic Basque valley. The film marks the directorial debut of Roberto Castón, the director of the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival in Bilbao, and holds the distinction of being the first gay-themed film to emerge from the burgeoning Basque cinema. With distant echoes of "Brokeback Mountain", "Ander" is a deliberately-paced story of a man coming to terms with his solitude and sexuality amid a conservative society's stumbling attempts to recast its values in modern times.

**Los Aparecidos**



THURS / 3/11 / 10:00 PM / S7  
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**Dir. Paco Cabezas**  
 (2007, 120 min., Argentina, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

One night, Malena and Pablo, a brother and sister traveling together in Argentina, discover a diary that details crimes committed twenty years ago during Argentina's military dictatorship. Later, after checking into a hotel, the siblings hear a man being murdered in the next room and his family abducted in a manner described word for word in the diary. The siblings' trip soon becomes a nightmare where they cannot discern whether the people they are trying to save are real or ghosts from the past. As they dig deeper into the mystery of the diary, truths are revealed that tie them to the murders in a way they never imagined.

**Arrancame la Vida**



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**Dir. Roberto Sneider**  
 (2008, 107 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

The most expensive Mexican film ever made (and a huge box office hit in that country), "Arrancame la Vida" is a period drama set during Mexico's tumultuous, post-revolutionary period of the 1930s and '40s. It follows Catalina Guzmán, a young peasant from Puebla who marries Andrés Ascencio, a charismatic and powerful man twice her age. A corrupt politician and womanizer, he tries to bend her to his will but Catalina's spirit would not be broken. Starring Daniel Gimenez Cacho & Ana Claudia Talancón.

**El Baile de la Victoria**



FRI / 3/12 / 10:30 PM / S1  
 THURS / 3/18 / 5:00 PM / S3  
 SUN / 3/20 / 8:00 PM / S6

**Dir. Fernando Trueba**  
 (2009, 127 min., Spain, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

Spain's official submission to the 2010 Academy Awards, the film tells the story of two thieves during Chile's transition to democracy. After a general amnesty was given to prisoners incarcerated for minor crimes, Angel Santiago is released from jail. Fixated on pulling off the biggest heist of his life, he convinces Vergara Grey, a retired robber who specializes in cracking safes, to help him. But their plan hits a snag when they meet Victoria, a dancer with a dark past. From the director of "Belle Epoque" and "Calle 54," and starring Argentine sensation Ricardo Darín.

**Birdwatchers**



MON / 3/15 / 8:30 PM / S1  
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**Dir. Marco Bechis**  
 (2008, 104 min., Brazil, Portuguese & Guarani w/ Subtitles)

The Guarani, one of Brazil's oldest Indian communities, are forced to live on government mandated reservations in impoverished conditions. Out of despair many resort to suicide. And it is just such a suicide that incites a rebellion. Problems ensue when they set out to inhabit their ancestral land which is being occupied by "Fazendeiros," rich Brazilian farm owners who live in huge plantation homes. While each side battles the other, an unlikely relationship develops between Osvaldo, a young shaman apprentice, and a farmer's daughter. A hit at the 2008 Venice Film Festival.

**La Buena Vida**



FRI / 3/12 / 5:00 PM / S3  
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**Dir. Andrés Wood**  
 (2008, 90 min., Chile, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

Andres Wood's latest follows four urban characters chasing after their respective dreams in Santiago, Chile. Teresa is a psychologist trying to save lives; Edmundo is a hairdresser who dreams of owning a car; Mario wishes to join the Philharmonic; and Patricia is just trying survive each day. Misfortune inevitably finds them all, redirecting their lives in ways that will ultimately surprise them. Winner of Spain's prestigious Goya Award for Best Latin American Film.

## Carlitos



TUES / 3/16 / 4:00 PM / S7  
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**Dir. Jesús del Cerro**  
(2008, 107 min., Spain, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

*Carlitos is an orphan who has two dreams in life: to find a family who will adopt him and to play soccer for Spain's national junior team. With the help of his fellow orphans and his best friend Chunks, he attempts to sneak out of the orphanage to attend the try-outs. However, he must first avoid the probing eyes of Hipólito, the bitter caretaker of the orphanage, who hates sports and will do anything to prevent Carlitos from achieving his dreams. This heart-warming family tale marks the feature debut of Jesús del Cerro.*

## Chamaco



SAT / 3/13 / 6:30 PM / S1  
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**Dir. Miguel Necochea**  
(2009, 97 min., Mexico/USA, English w/ Spanish Subtitles)

*Trapped in the tough life of Mexico City, Abner dreams of becoming a professional boxer. Frank Irwin, an American doctor who runs a clinic in the city, and his son Jimmy, an Olympic boxing medalist whose pro career burnt out quickly, come together to teach the kid the proper skills. In the process, they struggle to overcome the differences that damaged their relationship long ago. Director Miguel Necochea wrote and directed this inspiring film that features Martin Sheen, Michael Madsen and four-time world champion Marco Antonio Barrera.*

## Chica Busca Chica



SAT / 3/13 / 8:00 PM / S6  
FRI / 3/19 / 10:30 PM / S1

**Dir. Sonia Sebastian**  
(2009, 80 min., Spain, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

*Since its debut in 2007, this sexy and hilarious comedy has emerged as Spain's most successful web series. Spain's answer to "The L Word," "Chica Busca Chica" explores the funny side of dating, cheating, and lesbian life in present-day Madrid through the intertwining lives of its central characters, nicknamed "the flirt," "the psycho," "the hetero," and "the newbie." This special festival presentation collects the first series of episodes as a feature-length film.*

# NARRATIVE FEATURES

## Cinco Dias Sin Nora



SUN / 3/14 / 7:00 PM / S7  
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**Dir. Mariana Chenillo**  
(2008, 92 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

*This impressive directorial debut is a wonderfully dark comedy about a man who is confronted with questions of faith, family, and love. The film opens with José discovering Nora, his ex-wife, dead in her apartment. She has committed suicide. Before her death, however, Nora devised a plan to bring her family together and José back in touch with his faith. As the plan is set into motion, José becomes increasingly convinced that his wife is intent on controlling him, even in death. Starring Enrique Arreola and Cecilia Suárez (2008 SDLFF guest).*

## Contracorriente



WED / 3/17 / 8:30 PM / S1  
SUN / 3/21 / 1:30 PM / S7

**Dir. Javier Fuentes-León**  
(2009, 100 min., Perú-Colombia, Spanish w/ English Sub-

*In a small village on the north coast of Perú, Miguel, a married fisherman, has an affair with Santiago, a painter who is looked-down upon for being agnostic and open about his homosexuality. When Santiago accidentally drowns, his ghost returns to ask Miguel to find his body and bury it according to the village rituals. This request puts Miguel at a crossroads. If he fulfills his wishes, everyone in town will find out about the affair, but if he doesn't, his lover's soul will never rest in peace. Winner of the World Cinema Dramatic Audience Award at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival.*

## Cosas Insignificantes



THURS / 3/11 / 5:00 PM / S3  
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**Dir. Andrea Martine**  
(2009, 98 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitle)

*Esmeralda is a teenager who works in a Mexico City restaurant and has an unusual obsession. She collects items either discarded or forgotten by strangers and keeps them in a box under her bed. Fed up with the world, she spends most of her time making up elaborate stories about the objects and the people to whom they belong. One day, Dr. Gabrieli, a neighbor, leaves behind a piece of paper containing an important phone number. Through a series of events, Esmeralda befriends the old man and begins to learn that true human connections can only exist in reality. Starring Bárbara Mori (2009 SDLFF guest) and Paulina Gaitán (2010 Ariel award nominee for best actress).*

## NARRATIVE FEATURES

### Cuestión de Principios



**THURS / 3/11 / 4:00 PM / S7**  
**MON / 3/15 / 5:00 PM / S3**  
**SAT / 3/20 / 8:30 PM / S1**

**Dir. Rodrigo Grande**  
**(2009, 110 min., Argentina, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)**

*Adalberto Castilla, a port employee with unwavering ethical standards, is about to retire. His new boss, Silva, is an avid collector of an old literary magazine called "Tertulias." To complete his collection he needs issue #48, which Castilla happens to own. Silva offers to buy it from him but the old man refuses. In his words: "Not everything has a price tag." Silva insists, making him lavish offers, but Castilla is intent on teaching this "yuppie" a lesson in ethics. Written by popular Argentine humorist Rodrigo Fontanarrosa and featuring acting legends Federico Luppi and Norma Aleandro.*

### Dawson, Isla 10



**FRI / 3/12 / 7:30 PM / S3**  
**SUN / 3/14 / 2:30 PM / S3**  
**TUES / 3/16 / 9:45 PM / S3**

**Dir. Miguel Littin**  
**(2009, 117 min., Chile, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)**

*After the 1973 coup that deposed Allende and brought Pinochet to power in Chile, the former members of his cabinet were imprisoned in the Dawson Island prison camp. Enduring hellish conditions, they developed strong bonds and relied on each other for hope and strength. Two-time Academy-Award nominated director Miguel Littin chronicles the ordeal of these dissidents who were determined to survive and share their experiences with the world. Chile's official submission to the 2010 Academy Awards. Starring Cristián de la Fuente.*

### Don't Let Me Drown



**THURS / 3/11 / 8:00 PM / S6**

**Dir. Cruz Angeles**  
**(2009, 105 min., USA, English)**

*Cruz Angeles' first feature is a moving testament to the power of love and friendship in the face of tragedy. Lalo and Stephanie are two Brooklyn kids, both of whom have been personally affected by the 9/11 tragedy. After meeting at a mutual friend's party at a local park, Lalo begins to pursue a still-grieving, hesitant Stephanie. With patience, humor and authentic emotion, Cruz shows the slow evolution of their relationship, which provides them solace from the pain and struggle of everyday life. Premiered at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival. With Gina Torres, Damian Alcazar and Ricardo Chavira ("Desperate Housewives").*

### Entre Nos



**WED / 3/17 / 10:30 PM / S1**  
**THURS / 3/18 / 8 PM / S6**  
**SAT / 3/20 / 6:30 PM / S1**

**Dir. Gloria la Morte and Paola Mendoza**  
**(2009, 82 min., USA, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)**

*Shortly after arriving in Queens, NY from Colombia, Mariana and her two children are abandoned by her husband. After a fruitless search for work, they take to the streets collecting recyclables in order to make ends meet. Faced with homelessness in the inhospitable landscape of a foreign city, Mariana begins to build a community from which to draw strength and support in this fierce tale of survival. This inspiring festival favorite is based on the true story of co-director Paola Mendoza's mother.*

### El Estudiante



**FRI / 3/12 / 4 PM / S7**  
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**MON / 3/15 / 8 PM / S6**

**Dir. Roberto Girault**  
**(2009, 95 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)**

*In this comedy hit, Chano, a 70 year-old man from the picturesque state of Guanajuato decides to enroll in the local university to study literature. Initially, he has trouble relating to the much younger students there, but drawing inspiration from Don Quijote he eventually manages to close the generational gap and become their friend. He begins to offer them advice, solicited or not, but after tragedy strikes he realizes that he has much to learn from them as well. Starring Jorge Lavat.*

### El Frasco



**THURS / 3/11 / 10:30 PM / S1**  
**FRI / 3/19 / 8 PM / S6**  
**SUN / 3/21 / 7:30 PM / S3**

**Dir. Alberto Lecchi**  
**(2008, 97 min., Argentina/Spain, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)**

*Perez is a shy, serious, and somewhat clumsy bus driver whose habit of not speaking has earned him the nickname "The Mute." A creature of habit, each day he travels the same route, goes to the same restaurant and even orders the same food. When he meets Romina, a goodhearted school teacher, his routine is forever altered. An awkward, but tender courtship develops which is ultimately threatened by a mishap involving a urine sample jar! Starring Darío Grandinetti and Leticia Bredice.*

## NARRATIVE FEATURES

### Gigante



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**Dir. Adrián Biniez**  
 (2009, 84 min., Uruguay, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

Jara, a heavy-set surveillance officer working the graveyard shift, leads a dull and routine existence. He watches CCTV monitors all night long, sleeps away the daylight hours on his sofa, solves crossword puzzles, listens to heavy metal on his iPod and spends some time with his nephew. Things change when he notices a young cleaning woman, Julia, on his monitors, and he becomes fascinated with her to the point of obsession. He starts to wait for her to come out in the morning after work and shadows her through the streets of Montevideo. Winner of three prizes at the 2009 Berlin Film Festival.

### Libertador Morales - El Justiciero



WED / 3/17 / 7:30 PM / S3  
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 SUN / 3/21 / 9:45 PM / S3

**Dir. Efferpi Charalambidis**  
 (2009, 102 min., Venezuela, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

Taxi driver by day and cloaked crusader at night, Libertador Morales is an eccentric motorcycle hero intent on stopping a street gang suspected of robbing a church. Venezuela's official submission to the 2010 Academy Awards, "Libertador Morales" is a film grounded in the real-life problems of crime in Caracas. Accused of a heinous crime he did not commit, Libertador is driven by a desire for vindication and an innate sense of justice. Through the course of his adventure, he adopts a zany cohort and finds something else to fight for: love. With Rafael Gil and Alba Vallvé.

### I'm Not Like That No More



FRI / 3/19 / 9:45 PM / S3  
 SUN / 3/21 / 10:30 PM / S1

**Dir. Christian Sesma**  
 (2009, 90 min., USA, English)

SDSU alumnus Christian Sesma returns to San Diego with his first feature film, a roaring comedy about a 30 year-old slacker named Felipe who still lives at home with his extended Mexican-American family. Even though he says he wants to do better in life - get a job, lose weight, face his fears - nothing ever changes. By accident he bumps into Jill Idleberry, an old high-school classmate, who gives him the motivation he desperately needs to turn his life around. But is it too late? Starring Latino comedy heavyweights Paul Rodríguez and Felipe Esparza.

### Un Lugar Lejano



SAT / 3/13 / 3 PM / S1  
 TUES / 3/16 / 5 PM / S3  
 FRI / 3/19 / 8:30 PM / S1

**Dir. José Ramón Novoa**  
 (2009, 100 min., Venezuela/Argentina/Spain, Spanish w/ Subtitles)

Julian, a famous photographer, has just turned 40 and is resigned to the sadness and loneliness of his insular life. When diagnosed with terminal cancer hope recedes even further from him. After dreaming of a photo he has never taken, Julian sets off on a journey to find the image in the photo. Stumbling upon a woman and a strange accident, these new experiences will change his life forever. Starring Tristan Ulloa.

### Io, Don Giovanni



FRI / 3/12 / 8 PM / S6  
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**Dir. Carlos Saura**  
 (2009, 127 min., Italy/Spain, Italian & German w/ Subtitles)

Master filmmaker Carlos Saura returns to narrative cinema with this lush portrait of opera composer Lorenzo Da Ponte. Once a priest, Da Ponte's affair with a woman and the subsequent opening of his own brothel had him banished to Vienna. There, he fell into the court and was introduced to the king's favorite composer, Salieri, and to a newcomer named Mozart. Hoping to undermine his rival, Salieri tricks Mozart into hiring this unknown libertine as his librettist. However, da Ponte draws from his own sordid life and the adventures of the infamous Giacomo Casanova to help Mozart pen one of his most renowned compositions: Don Giovanni.

### La Mala



SUN / 3/14 / 4 PM / S7  
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**Dir. Lilian Rosado, Pedro Pérez-Rosado**  
 (2008, 90 min., Puerto Rico/Spain, Spanish w/English Subtitles)

Yolanda always knew that she was destined for great things beyond the limits imposed by her family and the small-minded values of her Puerto Rican town of Guayama. Inspired by salsa sensation "La Lupe" and encouraged by her aunt, she begins to sing with a local band. Her talent for music is undeniable and she seems well on her way to stardom. However, her womanizing father creates unexpected family dramas that threaten to squelch her dreams. Starring Pedro Perugorria, Sully Díaz, and María Isabel Díaz.

**La Mission**



SAT / 3/20 / 7 PM / S7  
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**Dir. Peter Bratt**  
 (2009, 117 min., USA, English)

An ex-con living in the urban Latino community of the Mission District in San Francisco is forced to reconcile the life he thought he had when he discovers his only son is gay. In an exceptional performance, Benjamin Bratt takes on the lead role of the reformed bad boy in this story of healing and transformation. Directed by Peter Bratt, Benjamin's brother, the film won acclaim at the 2009 San Francisco and Sundance Film Festivals.

**Nevando Voy**



FRI / 3/12 / 6 PM / S6  
 TUES / 3/16 / 7:30 PM / S3

**Dir. Candela Figueira and Maitena Muruzabal**  
 (2008, 99 min., Spain, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

It's winter in a snow-chain factory and the orders are piling up. When Javier, the supervisor, asks management for reinforcements, three more employees arrive. At first the atmosphere at the factory is as dreary as the frigid weather outside. But things change when one of the employees, to combat her absolute boredom, begins to break the rules little by little. The others catch on but rather than report her, they join in and transform their workplace into a festive playground. This impressive first film by Candela Figueira and Maitena Muruzabal captures factory life in a way rarely seen: personal, flirtatious, introspective.

**Morenita, El Escándalo**



FRI / 3/12 / 9:45 PM / S3  
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**Dir. Alan Jonsson Gavica**  
 (2008, 92 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

This first film from director Alan Jonsson Gavica, "Morenita" tells the story of Mateo, a humble young man who is forced to engage in illicit activities in order to save his grandfather from an illness. He agrees to smuggle drugs from Tijuana to San Diego, using a method as ingenious as it is preposterous: he employs racing pigeons as drug couriers. When his plan goes awry, and facing death threats from a notorious Mexican drug dealer, he hijacks the image of the venerated Virgin De Guadalupe, causing pandemonium throughout Mexico. Starring Dagoberto Gama and Maya Zapata, previous SDIFF guests.

**Nikte**



SAT / 3/13 / 7 PM / S7  
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**Dir. Ricardo Arnaiz**  
 (2009, 86 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

This magical animated fable follows Nikté, an 11 year-old girl from pre-Columbian times who dreams of becoming a powerful princess. After learning of an ancient prophecy involving a Celestial Princess who will arrive to protect her people, she pretends to be such a being. Much to her surprise, everyone believes her story but what she doesn't know is that she will be asked to embark on a dangerous mission to save civilization. With the voices of Pedro Armendariz Jr, Alex Lora and Maya Zapata.

**Música en Espera**



THURS / 3/11 / 7:30 PM / S3  
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**Dir. Hernán A. Golfrid**  
 (2009, 106 min., Argentina, Spanish w/ English subtitles)

Ezequiel is a composer with writer's block who must come up with a tune for a job soon, or his mortgage will go unpaid. While on hold with the bank, he is inspired by the fleeting sounds of a "muzak" tune. Desperate to hear it again he goes to the bank and meets Paola, a very pregnant and very single bank employee. Paola agrees to help Ezequiel find the "music on hold" he is searching for, as long as he is willing to help her with a problem of her own. This Argentine box office smash is a well-acted and intelligent must for all lovers of the romantic comedy genre. Starring Norma Aleandro and Diego Peretti.

**No-Do**



FRI / 3/12 / 10 PM / S7  
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**Dir. Elio Quiroga**  
 (2009, 120 min., Spain, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

Francesca is a pediatrician who suffers from postpartum depression. Following the advice of friend and psychiatrist Jean, Francesca and her husband Pedro move out of the city to a new home. Unfortunately, the new house turns out not to be the respite they hoped. Francesca soon begins to see furtive figures and ghostly shadows everywhere. Jean and Pedro are convinced that her visions are manifestations of her illness but she believes that the house is possessed. This stylish horror film is based on a true story. Starring Ana Torrent ("The Other Boleyn Girl").

## NARRATIVE FEATURES

### Norteadó



SUN / 3/14 / 3 PM / S1  
TUES / 3/16 / 8:30 PM / S1  
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**Dir. Rigoberto Pérezcano**  
(2009, 93 min., Mexico/Spain, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

Andres, a farmer from the Mexican state of Oaxaca is determined to gain entry into the United States in search of a better life. When he reaches the border, he befriends Cata and Ela, two women who run a convenience store in Tijuana, who themselves have been abandoned by their husbands for the lure of El Norte. After repeated failed attempts to get to "the other side," he turns to his new friends for support and they become his de-facto family. Nominated for 10 Ariel Awards.

### Paradas Continuas



SAT / 3/13 / 6 PM / S6  
SUN / 3/14 / 10:30 PM / S1  
SAT / 3/20 / 10 PM / S7

**Dir. Gustavo Loza**  
(2009, 110 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ NO subtitles)

Perico and Emilio are both teenagers with girlfriends and high-testosterone levels, who are in desperate need of some privacy. But they don't know where to go. They both live with their parents, and the girls would never go to the so-called "love motels." A solution comes in the form of an old VW van, which proves so useful that the friends decide to start a lucrative new business. From SDLFF 2000 special guest Gustavo Loza ("Al Otro Lado").

### Os Normais 2



SAT / 3/13 / 8:30 PM / S1  
THURS / 3/18 / 10:15 PM / S6  
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**Dir. José Alvarenga Jr.**  
(2009, 75 min., Brazil, Portuguese w/ English Subtitles)

In Rio de Janeiro, Vani and Rui have been together for many years. But now they've reached a crisis of boredom with their sex life so they decide to spice up the relationship by engaging in one of their wildest fantasies: a "ménage à trois." In their wanderings through Rio's uninhibited nightlife the couple searches for a willing partner, meeting a karaoke singer, a martial-arts champion, a French aristocrat, and a "lady of the evening." These exotic encounters lead to hilarious adventures. Starring Fernanda Torres and Luis Fernando Guimarães.

### Paraiso



MON / 3/15 / 10:30 PM / S1  
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SUN / 3/21 / 3 PM / S1

**Dir. Leon Ichaso**  
(2009, 106 min., USA, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

The dull life of Miami radio personality, Remigio Gallegos, abruptly changes after he answers the phone to find out his son, whom he's never met, is waiting for him at an immigration office. Wearing a silver cross that belonged to Remigio's mother, the young man brings a haunting past. Directed by Leon Ichaso ("El Cantante"), "Paraiso" explores generational and class divides within the Cuban exile community of South Florida. Part thriller, part drama, part existential romance, the film explodes with heart, color, music and a desperate tale.

### Oveja Negra



THURS / 3/11 / 6 PM / S6  
SAT / 3/13 / 10:30 PM / S1

**Dir. Humberto Hinojosa Ozcáriz**  
(2009, 85 min., Mexico, Spanish w/English Subtitles)

José and Kumbia are two young men who work at a ranch herding sheep. Treated harshly by Don Leandro, the ranch's owner, they hatch a plan to steal some of the sheep and sell them at the Mexican-American border. However, Don Leandro's son, Jeronimo, is always at their heels and will do anything to make things difficult for them. Just when they're about to put the plan into effect, a girl named María comes between the two friends and their scheme. Winner of the FIPRESCI (International Federation of Film Critics) Award at the Guadalajara Film Festival.

### Piñero



SAT / 3/20 / 3:30 PM / S6

**Dir. Leon Ichaso**  
(2001, 103 min., U.S.A., English)

"Piñero" tells the story of the explosive life of a Latino icon, the poet-playwright-actor Miguel Piñero, whose urban poetry is recognized as a pre-cursor to rap and hip-hop. After doing time in hard-core Sing-Sing for petty thefts and drug dealing, Piñero's prison experiences developed into the 1974 Tony-nominated play *Short Eyes*. The resulting notoriety and fame was too much for the Latino bad-boy genius who retreated to the darker corners of New York City. Screened in honor of director Leon Ichaso, the recipient of a special Tribute at this year's SDLFF.

*El Regalo de la Pachamama*



SAT / 3/13 / 1 PM / S6  
 SUN / 3/14 / 10:15 PM / S6  
 SUN / 3/21 / 8:30 PM / S1

**Dir. Toshifumi Matsushita**  
 (2009, 102 min., Bolivia/Japan, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

Director Toshifumi Matsushita's debut feature film is a spiritual tale set in Bolivia about a 13-year-old colchani who embarks on his first caravan with his father. Leaving the arresting scenery of the salt lake where they live, they travel on the backs of llamas for months in order to trade the precious mineral for other Andean products. Along the way, the boy falls in love, learns about other indigenous cultures, sees the ugly side of civilization and understands how deeply connected he is to the land.

*The Station of the Forgotten*



SAT / 3/13 / 2:30 PM / S3  
 MON / 3/15 / 10 PM / S7  
 THURS / 3/18 / 8:30 PM / S1

**Dir. Christian Molina and Sandra Serna**  
 2009, 90 min., Spain, Catalan w/ English Subtitles)

In this affecting film from Spain, Domingo, a retired sailor, and Pau, a troubled youth who has been sentenced to community service, end up "serving time" in the retirement home in which Domingo lives. These two tender souls develop an unlikely friendship that will give new meaning to their seemingly hopeless lives. From noted Catalan filmmaker Christian Molina and first-time filmmaker Sandra Serna.

*Regresa*



THURS / 3/11 / 7 PM / S7  
 SAT / 3/13 / 4 PM / S7

**Dir. Alejandro González Padilla**  
 (2009, 93 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

When her husband Ernesto throws himself into work and refuses to start a family, Maria begins to think he is having an affair and turns to hypnosis to help her understand her relationship. But when the therapist ends the session, she doesn't come back as herself. Instead, Maria is convinced she is a Basque princess engaged to a prince from the 15th century. Starring Jaime Camil and Blanca Soto.

*El Traspatio*



WED / 3/17 / 7 PM / S7  
 FRI / 3/19 / 10 PM / S7

**Dir. Carlos Carrera**  
 (2009, 122 min., Mexico/USA, English w/ Spanish Subtitles)

"El Traspatio" is a fictional account of the atrocities that continue to occur in Ciudad Juárez. Police Captain Blanca Bravo is sent to Ciudad Juárez from Mexico City to investigate a series of unexplained murders on young women. Most of the victims are low-paid laborers who have been drawn to Ciudad Juárez by the possibility of work at the American-owned factories that sprang up after the NAFTA agreement went into effect. Blanca discovers an incompetent and complicit police force, an indifferent local population, and a seedy underworld. Will she be able to stop the savagery? Mexico's official submission to the 2010 Oscars, starring Ana de la Reguera and Jimmy Smits.

*Solo Quiero Caminar*



FRI / 3/12 / 10:15 PM / S6  
 TUES / 3/16 / 10:15 PM / S6  
 SUN / 3/21 / 7 PM / S7

**Dir. Agustín Díaz Yanes**  
 (2009, 129 min., Spain / Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

In this stylish crime caper, Gloria, Aurora, Ana, and Paloma - a fearless band of female bank robbers - stage an elaborate job on the local Russian mob, but an injured Aurora gets left behind and nabbed by the police. While Aurora does her time, the three other women lie low. Ana reluctantly accepts Mexican crime boss Felix's marriage offer, and her life soon becomes a nightmare. Motivated by revenge, she begins to plot a dangerous strike that will require the help of her old friends. Starring Diego Luna, Adriana Gil, and Victoria Abril.

*Los Viajes del Viento*



MON / 3/15 / 10:15 PM / S6  
 FRI / 3/19 / 6 PM / S6  
 SUN / 3/21 / 8 PM / S6

**Dir. Ciro Guerra**  
 (2009, 117 min., Colombia, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

Ignacio Carrillo is a vallenato singer who, after his wife's sudden death, decides to find his old teacher to return his accordion, which he thinks is cursed. Shot in 84 locations across Colombia, the film takes us on a journey of personal discovery amidst a backdrop of rich, cultural traditions. During his trip, Ignacio is joined by Fermín, a teenage admirer who wishes to become a singer like him. Jaded, Ignacio tries to dissuade the kid but he may have to accept what destiny has in store for both of them. Official Selection of the 2009 Cannes, San Sebastian, and Toronto Film Festivals, and Colombia's official submission to the 2010 Oscars.

*Viernes de Animas*



MON / 3/15 / 9:45 PM / S3  
 FRI / 3/19 / 7 PM / S7  
 SUN / 3/21 / 10 PM / S7

**Dir. Raúl P. Gámez**  
 (2008, 99 min., Mexico, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

*Andy and Hugo are childhood friends. After an eerie incident in a bar, Andy is forced to disclose a secret: he has the ability to predict the future and communicate with the dead. His powers are confirmed when Andy visits the home of Hugo's mother, which appears to be possessed by evil forces. His visions subsequently trigger a series of mysterious events that will test their bond and trust in each other.*

*La Virgen Negra*



MON / 3/15 / 7:30 PM / S3  
 THURS / 3/18 / 10:30 PM / S1  
 FRI / 3/19 / 4 PM / S7

**Dir. Ignacio Castillo Cottin**  
 (2008, 120 min., Venezuela, Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

*When a traditional sculpture of the Virgin Mary is replaced by a "Black Virgin" at the church of a small Venezuelan fishing village, strange things begin to happen. The sun stops setting, crime becomes non-existent, the sick are miraculously cured, and life is magically transformed for the town's citizens. A few months later, another change occurs, but this time magic is not on their side. Starring Carmen Maura and Angelica Aragón.*



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