

Institute of Contemporary Arts

PRESS RELEASE

La Flor

A film by Mariano Llinás

UK & Ireland Release: 13 September 2019



ICA CINEMA is pleased to announce its newest release, *La Flor*, by Argentinian filmmaker Mariano Llinás, the first of his films to be released in the UK & Ireland.

Over eight-hundred minutes long and the result of ten years of research and craftsmanship, *La Flor* defies cinematic convention. The film is comprised of six independent, successive stories that traverse a range of filmic styles, from B-movie to melodrama to thriller. The film's complex six-part narrative spans is connected by four actresses, Pilar Gamboa, Elisa Carricajo, Laura Paredes and Valeria Correa, who play radically different roles throughout the film's epic length. *La Flor* is a profound reflection on duplicity, illusion and the nature of cinema itself.

In the spirit of *El Pampero Cine*, the Argentinian film production company co-founded by Llinás in 2002, the construction of *La Flor* embraces radical experimentation and innovation.

The ICA is releasing *La Flor* in the UK & Ireland from 13 September. To celebrate the release, the ICA has invited Mariano Llinás to London to present the film and engage in audience discussion. The director will also present a masterclass at the ICA on 15 September, offering an in-depth exploration of the filmmaking process of *La Flor* and his other works.

Mariano Llinás' previous works include *Tres fábulas de Villa Ocampo* (2011), *Historias extraordinarias* (2008), *La más bella niña* (2004), *Balnearios* (2002), none of which have been released in the UK.

La Flor is the latest release by the ICA's in-house distribution agency, ICA CINEMA, which continues the Institute's commitment to promoting, supporting and circulating independent and innovative international works, bringing groundbreaking films from underrepresented and emerging filmmakers to UK audiences.

Details

La Flor, dir. Mariano Llinás

Argentina 2018, 14 hrs. 28 min.

Spanish with English subtitles.

[Trailer](#) | [Teaser](#) | [Webpage](#)

OPENING SCREENINGS

13 September 2019: [Part I, introduced by director Mariano Llinás](#)

14 September 2019: [Part II](#)

15 September 2019: [Part III](#)

15 September 2019: [Masterclass with Mariano Llinás](#)



KEY FESTIVALS

Buenos Aires International Festival of Independent Film (BAFICI), 2018 (Best Film Award)

Locarno International Film Festival, 2018

Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), 2018

New York Film Festival (NYFF), 2018

BFI London Film Festival, 2018

Vienna International Film Festival, 2018

International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR), 2019

Jeonju International Film Festival, 2019



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The concept is that [*La Flor*] should be a series of films, an era in the life of four people, and that cinema should be able to show this passing of time, this learning, this process. From the different inventions and fantasies that the avatars of the project gradually contribute, one can see, eventually, the true face of the four women, shining brightly through the fog of fiction.

SYNOPSIS

La Flor is a complex narrative made up of six independent, successive stories, connected by the same four actresses: Pilar Gamboa, Elisa Carricajo, Laura Paredes and Valeria Correa. The universe of different stories changes radically from one episode to the next, in a broad, wildly-ranging sweep. The characters played by the four actresses in each story aspire to the same sweeping variety. Pilar Gamboa could be a sorceress in the first, a pop singer in the second, a mute spy in the third, herself in the fourth, a near-invisible secondary character in the

fifth, before reappearing as a captive who escapes from the covered wagons of the wild Pampas of the 19th century in the sixth. The same applies to the other actresses. Each leaps from a fictional universe to another, like at a masked ball. There is a twofold objective: on the one hand, to turn the actresses into what drives the storytelling, to place the onus on them to bring these stories out in the open and stir up in us, like cruel gorgons, that willing suspension of disbelief that kept Coleridge up all night; but on the other hand, that all this leaping from one story to another should ultimately reveal to us the true faces of these women.



For press information and interview requests, please contact:

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Notes to Editors

ICA CINEMA

The ICA opened its first dedicated cinema when it relocated to The Mall in 1968. Since then the programme has presented the most challenging and underrepresented aspects of international narrative cinema, documentary practices and experimental moving image works that test the boundaries of film and video media, and often of the cinema auditorium itself.

The ICA's in-house distribution agency, ICA CINEMA, was relaunched in 2016, bringing groundbreaking films from underrepresented and emerging filmmakers to UK audiences. Since 2016 it has distributed over 20 releases, supporting innovative, boundary-pushing work from international filmmakers. Recent releases include RaMell Ross' Oscar-nominated *Hale County, This Morning, This Evening*, Wang Bing's *Dead Souls* and Nelson Carlo De Los Santos Arias' *Cocote*. Upcoming releases include Roberto Minervini's *What You Gonna Do When the World's on Fire?* (18 October 2019) and Thomas Heise's *Heimat is a Space in Time* (22 November 2019).

UPCOMING RELEASES

27 September 2019: *Normal*

A playful glimpse into the spectacle of gender in everyday life. Dir. Adele Tulli, Italy 2019, 70 min., Italian with English subtitles.

18 October 2019: *What You Gonna Do When The World's On Fire?*

A blistering meditation on the state of race in America. Dir. Roberto Minervini, Italy/USA/France 2019, 106 min., English.

22 November 2019: *Heimat is a Space in Time*

An essayistic portrait of a family through 20th century German history. Dir. Thomas Heise, Germany/Austria 2019, 218 min., German with English subtitles.

January 2020: *Present.Perfect*

A collage of intimate footage shared by twelve Chinese online streamers. Dir. Zhu Shengze, USA/Hong Kong 2019, 124 min., Mandarin with English subtitles.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

Founded in 1946 by a collective of artists, poets and their supporters, the Institute of Contemporary Arts is an independent organisation and registered charity which supports the most pressing debates in contemporary culture. The ICA stages groundbreaking exhibitions, performances and keynote lectures by many of the world's leading thinkers. Previously home to the Independent Group, the ICA played a pivotal role in the development of Pop art and charted the course of punk, performance art and independent cinema. The ICA staged the first institutional exhibitions by Francis Bacon, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Tacita Dean, Damien Hirst, Mike Kelley, Mary Kelly, Barbara Kruger, Gerhard Richter, Dieter Roth, Cindy Sherman, Nancy Spero, and Cosey Fanni Tutti and early exhibitions by Bernadette Corporation, Robert Mapplethorpe, Steve McQueen and Tino Sehgal; many now historic performances including those by Laurie Anderson, Einstürzende Neubauten and Yoko Ono; legendary concerts by The Clash, Throbbing Gristle, The Smiths, David Bowie and The Beastie Boys; and critical discussions by the likes of Kathy Acker, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Stuart Hall and Homi K. Bhabha. The ICA Cinema and its dedicated artist's film programme continue to showcase independent film and support pioneering filmmakers including Chantal Akerman, Kenneth Anger, Matthew Barney, Derek Jarman, Ken Loach and Laura Poitras. From its home on The Mall – the geographic heart of the UK establishment – the ICA is an organisation in which different modes of cultural production thrive on the mutual engagement with one another, and a programme that speaks to the challenges of the 21st century. www.ica.art

VISITOR INFORMATION

Opening times: Tuesday – Sunday, 12–9pm

Location: Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London, SW1Y 5AH

Admission:

Cinema + exhibition ticket peak £13 /off peak £8

Concessions for under-18s or over-65s, disabled people, job seekers allowance claimants, Westminster residents and education groups

Free for Red Members, discounts for Green & Blue Members

For information about tickets and membership, please contact:

sales@ica.art / +44 (0) 20 7930 3647 / www.ica.art



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