**CLAIS Filmmakers' Visits Series. Spring 2018**

\**Subject to modification*

Series in conjunction with LAST/SPAN223, Spanish Through Film

**1) Tuesday, February 13th, 7pm ( Loria room 351; 190 York St.)**

**Rubén Mendoza, *La Señorita María: La falda de la montaña* (Miss María, Skirting the Mountain)**

(Documentary, Colombia, 2017) 90"

Sponsors: CLAIS and Jonathan Edwards College

María Luisa lives in Boavita, one of the most conservative Catholic villages in Colombia. She is 45 years old and though she was born male, she identifies herself as a woman and dresses like one. Standing tall and proud, there is nothing powerful enough to wipe her smile away.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lR0NIKn4y2Y

Q&A with Rubén Mendoza

**2) Friday, February 16 (Whitney Humanities Center, Auditorium, 53 Wall St.))**

**CLAIS Filmmakers Series**

***Sound of Ill Days,* Director Rojo Robles**

(USA, 2017) 1hr. 21 min.

Over seven days, a young couple is confronted by new love interests and creative yearnings. In sync with their chaotic days, Brooklyn is presented as an uncontrollable landscape that disrupts the perceptions of the characters. https://vimeo.com/85593922

**Introduced by Rojo Robles. Q&A following**

Sponsors: CLAIS at the MacMillan Center, Ezra Stiles College, and Films at the Whitney,

7 pm, Auditorium, Whitney Humanities Center, 53 Wall St.

**3) Thursday, March 1, 7pm (Loria room 250, 190 York St.)**

***Yerma*. (*Barren)* Emilio Ruíz Barrachina**  (Feature Film, Spain, 2017, 1hr.29min.) based on the play, *Yerma,* by Federico García Lorca.

Introduced by Prof. Leslie Harkema.

 Q&A by actor Susan Brickell.

Eva Stone is a woman with strong conservative beliefs. She is married to John, a British politician and a business man of Spanish origin, who is unable to have children. To Eva, a woman's life has no meaning if she is not a mother. A Spanish theater company is in London to perform Yerma, the play by Federico García Lorca. The Director, Victor is a friend of Eva and her husband from bygone times. A new passion is reborn between Eva and Victor and Eva has new opportunities to get pregnant. Eva's true drama is not so much that she can't have children but the impossibility, because of strict social conventions, that she can't have them out of wedlock. The real problem shown in the movie is the lack of freedoms and the imposed self-censorship in a standstill and full of conventions society. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ol6RVzvHoxs

Sponsor: CLAIS

**4) Monday, March 5th, 7pm.(Loria room 250, 190 York St.**

**Eva Zelig, *An Unknown Country*** (Documentary, Ecuador/USA, 2015, 1hr.34min)

Eva Zelig presents her own family's story and the story of many European Jews who fled Europe escaping the Nazi terror to find refuge in an unlikely destination: Ecuador -- barely known at the time. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6pK6hFF2Fg

**Q&A with Eva Zelig**

Sponsors: CLAIS and the Slifka Center for Jewish Student Life at Yale

**5) Thursday, March 8 (Whitney Humanities Center Auditorium, 53 Wall St.)**

**CLAIS Filmmakers Series**

***El Tercer Espacio,* Director Nejemye Tenenbaum**

**(**Mexico, 2017) 1hr. 29 min.

A hundred years after the establishment of the "Monte Sinai" Community in Mexico City, its history is relived through a number of compelling and touching stories. The journey depicts the evolution, achievements and struggles of a minority group that grapples with integrating with the country that welcomed them, or preserving their religious-ethnic identity and continuity. All the while, the film explores the meaning of life in community, along with its implicit advantages and drawbacks.

**Q&A with Nejemye Tenenbaum**

Sponsors: Slifka Center for Jewish Student Life at Yale, Judaic Studies, Timothy Dwight College, CLAIS and Films at the Whitney

7 pm, Auditorium, Whitney Humanities Center, 53 Wall St.

**6) Tuesday, March 27, 4pm** **(Loria room 250, 190 York St.)**

***Ciro y yo*. Miguel Salazar (Colombia, 2018) (documentary) 107min.**

Ciro Galindo was born on August 29th, 1952 in Colombia. Wherever he's gone, war has found him. After twenty years of friendship, I understood Ciro 's life sums up Colombia's history. As so many Colombians he is a survivor, who has run away from war for more than sixty years, and now dreams of living in peace. "Ciro and Me" is a journey to memory, seeking to give sorrow words; a journey, similar to that of Colombia in times of peace, in search to recover its dignity.

**Q&A with Miguel Salazar**

**7) Wednesday, April 4th, 7pm (Loria room 250, 190 York St.)**

**Arístides Falcón-Paradí. *Rumba Clave Blen Blen* (**Documentary, 2013,USA -- Cuban diaspora, 1hr 41min)

Rumba Clave Blen Blen Blen is a song of praise to the musical genre of rumba in New York City. It reveals the vibrant Afro-Cuban culture of the city. In addition, the film unravels the African and Andalusian origins of rumba and follows ordinary people and famous musicians through the dances, drums, and clave rhythm of the genre. The film is a poem of color and music, bringing to the surface the symbolic religious cosmogonies of Bantu, Abakua, Yoruba and Arara traditions that have nourished it. By paying homage to the grand masters of the genre, such as Chano Pozo and his collaborations with Dizzy Gillespie, Rumba Blen Blen Blen is a historical journey that traces the history of rumba in New York through the words and music of scholars, producers, artists and renowned musicians who continue to practice it today.

https://vimeo.com/66346014

Q&Awith Arístides Falcón-Paradí

**8) Monday,April 9th, 7pm. (Loria room 250, 190 York St.)**

**Juan Pablo Daranas.** Several short films that he made and/or produced. (Cuba) Juan Pablo is a filmmaker and co-founder of fila20 films.Some years ago, a group of teenagers could be found every day in the twentieth row (fila in Spanish) of the Cuban Cinematheque. Those friends, now based in the United States and Cuba, approach their own projects today with the same passion and commitment that drew them to the screen a decade ago. http://www.daranas.com/

Q&A with Juan Pabo Daranas

**9) Monday, April16, 7pm (Loria room 250, 190 York St.)**

**Julia Solomonoff . *Nadie nos mira (****Nobody's Watching*) (Argentina/USA, 2017. 102min)

Nico is a famous actor in Argentina, but in New York, nobody takes notice. After giving up a successful career in his home country for a chance to make it in the Big Apple, he needs to juggle bartending, babysitting and odd jobs to keep himself afloat. Starting from square one is hard in the city of dreams. With each role Nico takes on, he puts on a new persona in order to fit in. He performs the ideal bartender, the up-and-coming actor, the friend, the father figure. But when old friends from Buenos Aires come to visit, he needs to juggle the image of his old life with the reality of the struggling actor in New York City. In a moving depiction of this vibrant city, director Julia Solomonoff’s touching feature presents a portrait of immigrant solitude. Nico faces the difficulty of finding not only a home, but himself amidst the indifferent metropolis. *Nobody’s Watching* questions how we adjust when we lose our audience.—Frédéric Boyer

http://www.indiewire.com/2017/04/nobodys-watching-teaser-julia-solomonoff-1201803692/

Q&A with Julia Solomonoff

10)   **Retrospective of the works of Cuban filmmaker Ernesto Daranas.**

**Friday April 27 through Sunday April 29, 2018 (TBC)**

http://remezcla.com/film/ernesto-daranas-director-of-smash-hit-conducta-on-making-films-in-cuba/

"The truth is, I’m not entirely sure. The two films I’ve made take place in the impoverished areas of Old Havana, which is the neighborhood where I’ve always lived. They are very personal themes for me and that determines how I approach the subject matter. But in general, I think Cuban cinema has shown a marked concern for social issues which has given us some of our most important works. It’s almost impossible to conceive of a country without images that express it. Cuba is not an exception." (Ernesto Daranas)

Ernesto Daranas Serrano (Havana, 1961)  
His filmography includes *Los últimos gaiteros de La Habana* (2004), winner of the International Journalism Award Rey de España; *Los dioses rotos*(*Fallen gods*, 2008), Cuba’s nomination for the Oscars and award-winner at several international film festivals; *Bluechacha* (2012), Latin Grammy® Nominee for Best Long Form Music Video and *Conducta* (*Behavior*, 2014), Cuba’s nomination for the Oscars and winner of over fifty awards in American, Asian and European film festivals and Sergio and Serguéi (2017)winner of the Audience's Choice Award at the 2017 Habana Film Festival.

**Q&As with filmmaker Ernesto Daranas and lead actor, Héctor Noas**

**Friday April 27. (Loria room 250, 190 York St.) 7pm**

***Conducta (Behavior)*** (Cuba, 2014, 1hr. 48min)

Aging teacher Carmela has a special heart for pupils from broken homes and is challenged by the headmaster to follow up 12 year old Chala which is infatuated in Yeni. They are both poor, and has severe home troubles. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0\_UyFZOeh3c

**Saturday April 28 (Loria room 250, 190 York St.) 7pm**

***Los dioses rotos*** (***Fallen Gods***) (Cuba, 2008, 93min)

Laura (35 years old) is a university professor who prepares her master's thesis on the famous Cuban pimp Alberto Yarini and Ponce de León, shot dead by his French rivals who controlled the prostitution business in Havana at the beginning of the 20th century.

**Sunday April 30.4pm (Loria room 250, 190 York St.)**

***Bluechacha*** (documentary, Cuba, 2012, 35min.) by Ernesto Daranas

This visually rich and imaginative production takes us behind the scenes of “Bluechacha,” the last album recorded by guitarist, composer, and director [Manuel Galbán](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xf1uVKWqp1I" \t "_blank) (1931–2011), who also founded the quartet Los Zafiros. Produced in collaboration with Galbán’s daughter, composer Magda Rosa Galbán, and her husband, musician Juan Antonio Leyva, the film shows the three of them at work on the album, interspersed with dramatic sequences that tell a love story related to the music.

**Sunday April 30 (Loria room 250, 190 York St.) 7pm**

***Sergio y Serguei*** *(Cuba, 2017, 93 min.)*

Sergio (**Tomás Cao**) is struggling as an university professor to support his mother and sweet young daughter; he is also enjoys being an amateur radio operator who has conversations with fellow enthusiasts around the world in particular an American conspiracy theorist.  The Cuban makes a surprise contact with a cosmonaut named Sergei (**Héctor Noas**) who is stuck in outer space resulting from collapsed of the Soviet Union in 1991.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KG8dCE1PJ9c

**Q&A with Ernesto Daranas and Héctor Noas**

***Foto: Ernesto Daranas directing Héctor Noas in Sergio y Serguei.***

