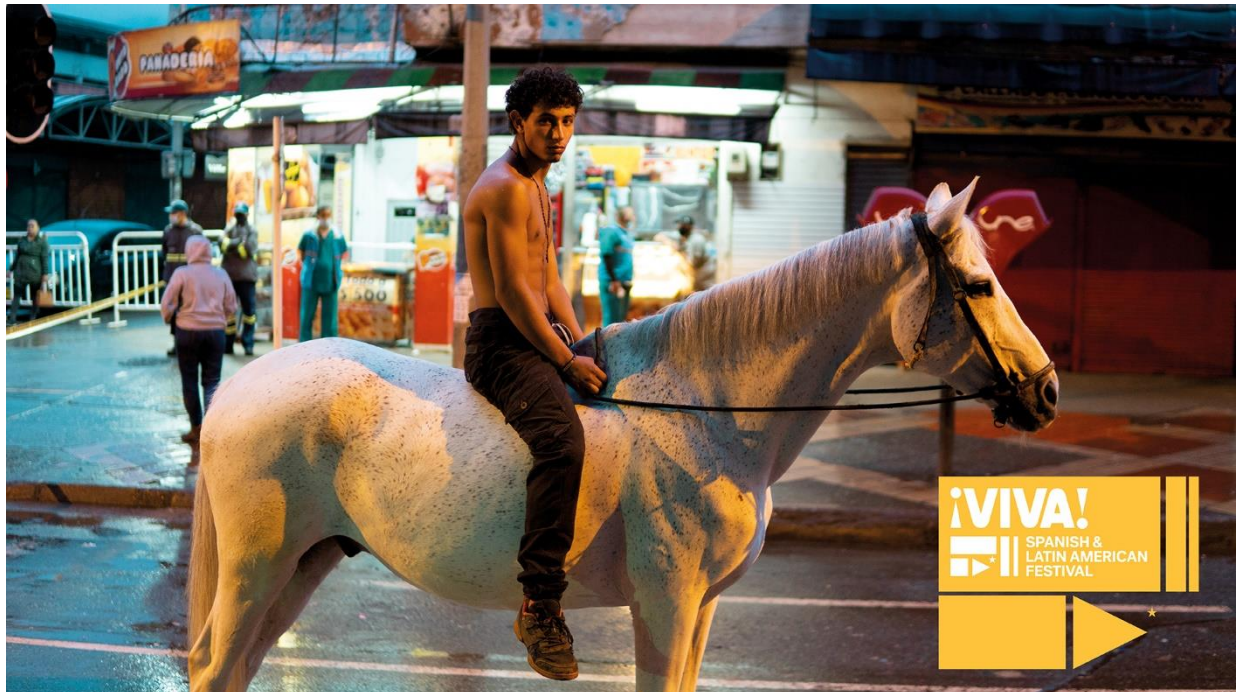


HOME announces full programme for 29th ¡Viva! – landmark annual Spanish & Latin American Film Festival



Images can be downloaded here.

Fri 10 – Thu 30 Mar, 2023

The programme for this year's ¡Viva! Spanish & Latin American Festival at HOME, Manchester, has been revealed – including over twelve UK premieres. Now in its 29th year, ¡Viva! returns for our annual celebration of Spanish and Latin American culture, bringing you a programme of the most exciting cinema from across the Spanish-speaking world.

The festival opens on Fri 10 with the UK premiere of *Llenos de gracia (Full of Grace)*, a joyous coming-of-age comedy based on a true story of a nun who arrives at a boarding school to take charge of an unruly bunch of orphan boys, changing their lives with the creation of a make-shift football team.

There are two UK premieres on Sat 11 Mar, including *Llegaron de noche (What Lucia Saw)* from Imanol Uribe, a Spanish director known for his political films; this is a powerful depiction of the murder of six Jesuit priests in El Salvador in 1989. Secondly, the UK premiere of *El Visitante*, Martín Boulocq's reflection of class, family and relationships set in Bolivian city of Cochabamba.

Sun 12 Mar presents two further UK premieres, *No mires a los ojos (Staring at Strangers)*, Félix Viscarret's darkly comic film based on the novel of the same name by Juan José Millás, and *Estación catorce* from journalist-turned-filmmaker Diana Cardozo, whose third feature length film draws out fantastic performances from all the cast, in a bitter-sweet tale from the fragile world of a little boy discovering the mysteries and complexities of life in rural Mexico.

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Wed 15 Mar through to Fri 17 Mar presents a total of three UK premieres: *La Casa entre los cactus* (*The House Among the Cactuses*) directed by Carlota González-Adrio (Wed 15 Mar), *Libéllulas* (*Dragonflies*) directed by Luc Knowles (Thu 16 Mar) and *Tiempos futuros* (*The Shape of Things to Come*) from V. Checa (Fri 17 Mar).

There are two UK premieres on Sat 18 Mar including, the beautifully crafted and wonderfully personal documentary about hearing loss and family dynamics, *8 cuentos sobre mi hipoacusia* (*8 Stories about My Hearing Loss*) directed by Charo Mato and, *Escape Room: La Película* (*You Lie You Die*) the outrageous black comedy from Hector Claramunt.

Tue 21 Mar sees the UK premiere of *La Hija de todas las rabias* (*Daughter of Rage*) a truly compelling debut feature, from Laura Baumeister that centres on the life of Maria – an 11-year-old girl who lives on the edge of La Chureca one of the biggest open-air landfills in Nicaragua.

As always, the festival programme will also include special events, including: four filmmaker Q&As, eight expert introductions (including two with post-screening discussions), the Language Lab screening for adult learners of Spanish, and the Café Cervantes a free and informal get-together in Spanish.

With over thirty films from Spain, Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Mexico, as well as, this year's festival is sure to spark the imagination, sharing exciting and urgent stories from across the Latin world.

Tickets will go on sale to:

Friends Fri 10 Feb

Members Sat 11 Feb 12 noon

General sale Mon 13 Feb 12 noon

The festival is curated by Rachel Hayward, Head of Film Strategy, Jessie Gibbs, ¡Viva! Festival Coordinator, and Andy Willis, Professor of Film Studies at the University of Salford and HOME's Senior Visiting Curator: Film. With additional programme support from the Instituto Cervantes, the Leading Women project funded by the AHRC, and the Invisible Women archive activist film collective.

¡Viva! Spanish and Latin American Festival is produced by HOME with the support of the Embassy of Spain in London, MUBI, and the BFI, awarding funds from the National Lottery.

Full details of the season can be found online here: homemcr.org/viva2023

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

For interviews and additional information, please contact Julia White, Head of Communications at HOME, on 0161 212 3463 or email julia.white@homemcr.org

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HOME is Manchester's centre for international contemporary culture. Since opening in 2015, HOME has welcomed over four million visitors to its five cinemas, two theatres, art gallery, book shop and restaurants. HOME's five screens showcase the best new independent film releases alongside a unique programme of film seasons, festivals, and special events.

HOME's bold and diverse programming has screened over 600 films from nearly 60 countries in the past year, and its robust audience numbers consistently make HOME one of the UK's top performing independent cinemas for new releases. A popular choice for established and emerging filmmakers keen to participate in Q&A events with engaged audiences, HOME has welcomed the following filmmakers and more since opening: Clio Barnard, Gurinder Chadha, Felix Chong, Paddy Considine, Armando Iannucci, Ken Loach, Alice Lowe, Rungano Nyoni, Lynne Ramsay, Nicolas Winding Refn, Whit Stillman, and Ben Wheatley.

Overseen by Rachel Hayward: Head of Film Strategy, HOME also produces a specially curated, original programme of film seasons and special events and is committed to supporting UK film talent and introducing emerging filmmakers to a wide audience. The patrons of HOME are filmmakers Danny Boyle and Asif Kapadia, actress Suranne Jones, playwright and poet Jackie Kay CBE, artists Rosa Barba and Phil Collins, and actress and author Meera Syal CBE.

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Did you know that HOME is a charity? We need your support to bring the best film, theatre and art to Manchester and inspire the next generation. Get involved at www.homemcr.org/support