Two of the strongest directors to emerge from Mexico in the 1960s were Arturo Ripstein and Jaime Humberto Hermosillo. Breaking away from an earlier cinematic tradition which emphasized folklore and fantasy, Ripstein and Hermosillo focus instead on social reality-condemning intolerance, convention and the sexual tyranny of “machismo.” The films in this collection were screened as part of the UCLA Film and Television Archive’s series “The Films of Arturo Ripstein and Jaime Humberto Hermosillo” organized in collaboration with the Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografia (IMCINE) and the Cineteca Nacional de Mexico.

Hermosillo often uses the language of melodrama to dissect the values of the modern Mexican middle class and is one of the first Mexican filmmakers to deal sympathetically with the issues of homosexuality and gender difference. Hermosillo’s film DONNA HERLINDA AND HER SON accepts the love between two gay men as normal. THE PASSION ACCORDING TO BERENICE examines a woman’s rebellion. MARY MY DEAREST written in collaboration with Gabriel Garcia Marquez, is a story of love, fate and magic.

American movement whose most well-known practitioner is Gabriel Garcia Marquez. With an uncredited Manuel Puig, Ripstein wrote and directed THE PLACE WITHOUT LIMITS, which examines homophobia in a macho society.

Ripstein, the son of a film producer, began his career in film as a teenager when he worked as Luis Buñuel’s assistant during the filming of EXTERMINATING ANGEL. He has collaborated with some of Latin America’s most important writers, including Carlos Fuentes and Jose Donoso. Often set in small towns, Ripstein’s films puncture macho posturing and examine oppressive social conditions and traditions. THE REALM OF FORTUNE, Ripstein’s most acclaimed film, allied to the literary style of magic realism, a Latin
Mexico in Focus:
Ripstein and Hermosillo

FILMS
(this is only a partial list – consult the Archive Research and Study Center for further listings)

Arturo Ripstein:


Holy Office (El Santo Oficio) (1973). Cinematografica Marco Polo S.A. Writers, Jose Emilio Pacheco, Ripstein. Study Copy: VA 6811 M

Place Without Limits (El Lugar sin Limites) (1977). Conacite Dos and Francisco del Villar. Writers, Ripstein, Manuel Puig, and Jose Emilio Pacheco. Study Copy: DVD 4724 M
Note: In Spanish, no English subtitles.


Jaime Humberto Hermosillo:


Mary, My Dearest (Maria de mi Corazon) (1979). Universidad Veracruzana y Asociados. Writers, Gabriel Garcia Marques and Hermosillo. Study Copy: VA 7154 M

All films in Spanish with English subtitles, unless otherwise noted.

PRINT RESOURCES
(for more information consult the UCLA Arts Library)
