

# Ripstein and Hermosillo

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 Cinematografía (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.



*Cadena Perpetua (In for Life)*, based on a Luis Spota novel, was directed by Arturo Ripstein.

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

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.

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## FILMS

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

### Arturo Ripstein:

*Time to Die (Tiempo de Morir)* (1965). Alameda Films. Writers, Gabriel Garcia Marques, Carlos Fuentes. Study Copy: VA 7163 M

*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.

*Realm of Fortune (El Imperio de la Fortuna)* (1985). IMCINE. Writer, Paz Alicia Garciadiego. Study Copy: VA 7180 M

*White Lies (Mentiras Piadosas)* (1988). Producciones Filmicas Internacionales. Writer, Pas Alicia Garciadiego. Study Copy: VA 7155 M

### Jaime Humberto Hermosillo:

*Dog's Birthday (El Cumpleanos del Perro)* (1974). Conacine, Dasa Films S.A. Writer, Hermosillo. Study Copy: VA 7162 M

*Passion According to Berenice (La Pasion Segun Berenice)* (1975). Conacine, Dasa Films S.A. Writer, Hermosillo. Study Copy: DVD 4729 M

*Shipwreck (Naufragio)* (1977). Conacite Uno. Writer, Hermosillo. Study Copy: VA 7158 M

*Looks Can Be Deceiving (Las Apariencias Enganan)* (1978). Hernan Littin. Writer, Hermosillo. Study Copy: VA 7159 M

*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)

Hershfield, JoAnne and David R. Maciel, eds. *Mexico's Cinema: A Century of Film and Filmmakers*. Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, 1999.

Noriega, Chon A. and Steven Ricci, eds. *The Mexican Cinema Project*. Los Angeles: UCLA Film and Television Archive, 1994.