

FOR CALENDAR INSERTION
July 1, 2007

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OUTDOOR FILM SERIES FEATURES THE BEST OF PUERTO RICAN CINEMA

*Bring a blanket, folding chairs and your picnic basket and enjoy a film under the stars.
Free movie, popcorn, raffles and children's entertainment!*

WHAT: Puerto Rican Film Series, brought to you by the **Institute of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture**, is an outdoor film program showcasing the work of new and established Puerto Rican directors and producers. This year's program takes place on the grounds of Chicago's beautiful **Humboldt Park** and is easily accessible by car or public transportation.
FREE ADMISSION.

FILMS: Puerto Rican Film Series: co-curated by Jesse Charbonier Rodríguez and Jorge Félix

Saturday July 14

7:00 pm: Pre-program – Live circus entertainment by “Pocket Circus”

8:00 pm: Screening:

“El Clown” co-directed by Emilio Rodríguez and Pedro Adorno

(Spanish with English Subtitles) 105 minutes

Award winning film tells the story of a small town circus clown who leaves his family and friends to seek fortune in the big city. A successful audition brings him to the corporate world to play the role of the famous hot dog clown but fame and fortune do not bring him happiness. With the help of his clown friends, he invents a plan to break away from the corporate world and develops a new appreciation for what he once left behind.

Saturday July 28

7:00 pm: Pre-program: Film discussion

8:00 pm: Screening:

“The Borinqueneers” co-directed by Noemí Figueroa Soulet and Raquel Ortiz

(Spanish and English with subtitles) 78 minutes *Midwest premiere*

Narrated by Hector Elizondo, “The Borinqueneer” is the story of the all-Puerto Rican 65th Infantry Regiment – the only Hispanic segregated unit in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Using rare archival footage and intimate interviews, the film explores the painful tribulations of these now-forgotten veterans. Risking their lives to further the cause of democracy, these soldiers were not afforded full citizenship rights. Many served and died valiantly but a shroud of mystery and controversy persist because of the alarming events that took place in Jackson Heights. The film sheds light on this compelling story.

-MORE-

Saturday August 11

7:00 pm: Pre-program: Film discussion with directors and critics

8:00 pm: Screening

“Cortitos: Films from the Puerto Rican Diaspora”

80 minutes (English and Spanish with subtitles)

An entertaining and diverse short film program featuring some of the best new Puerto Rican actors and directors from Chicago, New York, Los Angeles and Puerto Rico.

Films cover a multitude of contemporary themes ranging from those affecting Puerto Rican communities in the United States and Puerto Rico as well as a science fiction short film.

“Cortitos” is a film program curated by Jesse Charbonier Rodríguez and Jorge Félix and titles include: “Wednesday Afternoon” by Alonso Mayo, “Racket” and “Sweet Tooth” by Michael Baez, “Firecracker” by Betty Marisol García, “My Backyard Was a Mountain” by Adam Schlachter, and “Fugitivo 51” by Andrés Ramírez.

Saturday August 25

7:00 pm: Pre-program: Screening/discussion of Community Youth Film Project with visiting director Andrés Ramírez.

8:00 pm: Screening

“Lost Angels” Directed by Raul Marchand Sánchez & written by Flora Pérez Garay

80 minutes (Spanish with English Subtitles) *U.S.A Premier*

Never screened outside of Puerto Rico, “Angeles Perdidos,” is a beautiful film about the innocence of youth. An adventure of two young brothers filled with love, danger and the joy of returning home to the ones they love. Filmed in the enchanting town of Maunabo, Puerto Rico, this film is an example of the magic that surrounds our daily lives and the feeling of hope that should always be our guide. The film features Andy Montañez, Giselle and a cast of veteran Puerto Rican actors.

WHERE: Humboldt Park Boat House (handicap assessable)

1359 N. Sacramento (Humboldt Blvd), Chicago, IL 60622

MORE: The Puerto Rican Film Series is presented by the Institute of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture (IPRAC) in collaboration with the Chicago Park District and the Division Street Business Development Association. Sponsored by the City of Chicago Cultural Outreach Program, LISC, Chicago Children Museum, Comcast, La Voz Newspaper and Hoy Newspapers.

IPRAC is an arts and educational institution devoted to the promotion, integration and advancement of the Puerto Rican arts and culture. IPRAC brings to the community visual arts and exhibition programming that furthers the Puerto Rican arts tradition through curatorial and exhibition programs.

For information call IPRAC’s program office 773-486-8345 or email: JorgeFelix@msn.com