3RD SPANISH FILM WEEK

19 - 22 AUGUST 2008



Tuesday 19 1200hrs

THE SEA WITHIN Ramón has been lying in bed, cared for by his family, for almost thirty years. His only window on the world is that in his bedroom, by the sea, on which he travelled so widely and where he suffered the accident that interrupted his youth. From that moment on, his only wish has been to end his life with dignity. The arrival of two women changes his life: Julia, the lawyer who wishes to support him in his struggle and Rosa, a neighbour in the town who tries to convince him that life is worth living. Ramón's lively personality captivates both women, who are brought to question as never before the principles by which they live. He knows that only the one who truly loves him will be capable of helping him to undertake that last voyage.

Tuesday 19 1700hrs

SECRETS OF THE HEART During the sixties in a small provincial town, Javi, a nine year old boy, takes his friend Carlos to an old country house in the city's outskirts. There, they are told by Javi's brother of the crime of passion committed in the house and about the voices of the dead you can hear in the basement. The mystery that surrounds this empty house is the starting point of a search, a learning experience that shows, through Javi's eyes, the fear and fascination towards the unknown. Javi and his brother spend the Easter holiday in a village in the mountains. There Javi feels fascinated by the secret locked in one of the rooms: the room where his father was found dead. Juan, his brother, tells him that you can hear his father's voice in that room, like in the empty old house, because the dead scream to get rid of their secrets. Intrigued by this enigmatic world, Javi will continue to try to learn of the mysteries it hides.



Wednesday 20 1700hrs

NOVEMBER Impelled by a spirit still glowing with idealism, Alfredo arrives in Madrid where he attempts to create a "freer art, done with the heart, capable of making people feel more alive". His concept of the theatre begins beyond the stage. He heads for the streets, face to face with the public. There, in any old square, in a park or on the most commercial avenue of the city, Alfredo and his group, November, start their show: demons that provoke the passers-by, performances of social protest, actions taken to the point of alerting the forces of law and order. There are no limits and no censuring, only ideas and they are all acceptable if they can get the spectator to stop being a spectator and become part of the show, by being surprised, scared, whether by laughing or by crying. Theatre as life, life as theatre...there is no longer any difference.



Thursday 21 1700hrs

4TH FLOOR A group of teenagers share a rather peculiar space: the 4th floor Traumatology ward of a hospital. Miguel Ángel, Izan, Dani and Jorge manage, with their cheerfulness, to defy destiny and make their stay in the centre bearable. In this atmosphere the lads do what they can to act like the adolescents they are: nurses to tease, night-time raids around the corridors of the hospital, basketball matches against the San Pablo team. The personalities and circumstances of the boys becomes evident: Miguel Ángels's supposedly self-sufficing loneliness, Jorge's fear of his diagnostic, Izan's private memories, the story of Dani's first love...



Friday 22 1700hrs

THE BUTTERFLY'S TONGUE It is the end of Winter, 1935 in a small Galician village. Moncho, a boy of eight is about to start school. He was unable to do so at the beginning of the school year due to his asthma. Now he is afraid. He has heard that the teachers hit you. On the first day of class he runs away in terror and spends the night on the mountain. It is Don Gregorio himself, the teacher who does not at all hit, who must go to his house looking for him. From then on Moncho begins a period of learning and of life. With the arrival of Spring, Don Gregorio takes the class out to the country. The direct observation of nature can teach his disciples more than many hours of being cooped up and reading. On the 18th of July 1936 everything is shattered. In this new framework, the values and principles which he has taught shall be cast aside and the relationship between the apprentice and the schoolmaster shall be cut short.