



## The 22nd Seville European Film Festival to Honor Alberto Rodríguez alongside Juliette Binoche and Costa-Gavras

- Seville will host 188 films from November 7 to 15, including 78 Spanish premieres and 20 world premieres, across 565 screenings showcasing the best of European cinema.
- Films that have triumphed in Cannes, Berlin, Venice, and Karlovy Vary will find their natural home in Seville.

**Madrid, October 6, 2025.** — The **22nd Seville European Film Festival** was presented this morning in Madrid with the participation of **Angie Moreno**, Delegate for Tourism and Culture of the Seville City Council, and the festival's director, **Manuel Cristóbal**, joined by a wide representation of the filmmakers featured in this edition.

From November 7 to 15, the Andalusian capital will once again become the epicenter of European cinema as it hosts the 22nd Seville European Film Festival, which will showcase 188 titles, including 78 Spanish premieres and 20 world premieres, in a total of 565 screenings. "Faithful to its mission to discover, accompany, and celebrate European cinema, the Festival will offer a diverse, demanding, and vibrant panorama of the present and future of European filmmaking," said **Manuel Cristóbal**.

This edition will pay tribute to three essential figures of contemporary European cinema —**Juliette Binoche, Costa-Gavras, and Alberto Rodríguez**— each of whom will receive the **Giraldillo of Honor**, recognizing their contribution to the art of cinema across generations and perspectives.

With an Official Selection that gathers the most exciting voices of European auteur cinema, a strong commitment to emerging talent, and a reinforced alliance with the **European Film Academy**, the Seville European Film Festival reaffirms itself as an unmissable meeting point for filmmakers, professionals, and cinephiles alike.

### Alberto Rodríguez, Giraldillo of Honor at the Seville European Film Festival

Sevillian filmmaker **Alberto Rodríguez** will receive the **Giraldillo of Honor** at the 22nd Seville European Film Festival, in recognition of one of the most consistent, coherent, and admired careers in contemporary Spanish cinema. As both director and screenwriter, Rodríguez has built —from Seville, and often using a city far removed from postcard imagery as a setting— a deeply European body of work, rooted in the social and moral realities of his time. His films explore

themes such as corruption, memory, identity, and guilt, with a distinctive authorial vision and an extraordinary precision in staging.

“This Giraldillo of Honor is, above all, a tribute to a way of seeing—to a filmmaker who has taught us to rediscover our own city, and to understand the power of cinema as a window to other worlds,” said **Angie Moreno** during her remarks.

From his debut with *El Factor Pilgrim* to essential titles such as ‘**7 Vírgenes**’, ‘**Grupo 7**’, ‘**La isla mínima**’—winner of ten Goya Awards—, ‘**El hombre de las mil caras**’, ‘**Modelo 77**’, the recent ‘**Los Tigres**’, or the acclaimed series ‘**La Peste**’, Rodríguez’s work has been instrumental in redefining Spain’s audiovisual narrative, establishing Andalusia as a creative powerhouse.

“With this award, the Seville Festival honors a filmmaker who has carried the name of his city to the heart of European cinema, always maintaining a deep commitment to the stories, characters, and landscapes of the South,” emphasized **Manuel Cristóbal**, the festival’s director.

### **The Official Selection of the 22nd Seville European Film Festival: a map of the best contemporary European cinema**

The 22nd Seville European Film Festival reaffirms its commitment to discovery with an Official Selection defined by aesthetic diversity, political insight, and the humanism that runs through the best of European cinema. Among the 17 selected titles are stories of identity and memory, of women defying fate, of the dilemmas of power and truth, and of cinema’s own power to reinvent itself.

Several films revolve around the search for identity and belonging through powerful family bonds, beginning with the **opening film**, ‘**The Last Viking**’, the much-anticipated new work by Danish filmmaker **Anders Thomas Jensen**, starring **Mads Mikkelsen**. Written by Jensen himself—winner of the Academy Award for Best Screenplay for ‘*In a Better World*’—it combines Nordic epic, humor, and emotion in a story about legacy and community.

Family ties and the quest for identity are also at the heart of ‘**All That’s Left of You**’, premiered at Sundance and written, directed, and performed by Palestinian-American filmmaker **Cherien Dabis**. This intergenerational epic traces the recent history of Palestine through three generations of the same family.

Other films in the Official Section focus on women who struggle to find their place in the world by challenging convention. Among them, ‘**A Year of School**’, the second feature by **Laura Samani**, co-written with **Elisa Dondi**. Following her acclaimed ‘**Small Body**’, Samani tells the story of a young Swedish woman who joins an all-male vocational class in Trieste.

Macedonian director **Teona Strugar Mitevska** presents ‘**Mother**’, which premiered in Venice and stars **Noomi Rapace**. Co-written with **Goce Smilevski** and **Elma Tataragic**, the film follows seven crucial days in the life of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, as she decides to leave her convent to found her own order.

Meanwhile, actor and director **Hafsia Herzi** writes and directs *'La petite dernière'*, adapted from **Fátima Daas'** novel and awarded Best Actress at Cannes for **Nadia Melliti**. The film portrays a young practicing Muslim woman discovering her sexuality in the Parisian suburbs. Also from Cannes, **Mario Martone's** *'La vida fuera'*, co-written with **Ippolita Di Majo**, offers a free portrait of writer **Goliarda Sapienza**—moving beyond the classic biopic to explore friendship, freedom, and redemption, led by the brilliant performances of **Valeria Golino** and **Matilda De Angelis**.

Following its premiere at the Berlinale, *'Late Shift'*, written and directed by **Petra Biondina Volpe**, unfolds as a psychological thriller about the exhaustion and moral tension of a nurse, played by **Leonie Benesch**, who makes a fatal mistake during a night shift in the ER.

Turning to other themes, several titles examine **power structures in contemporary society**, such as the police drama *'Dossier 137'*, marking the return of **Dominik Moll**, co-written with **Gilles Marchand**, and starring **Léa Drucker** as an Internal Affairs officer caught in a moral and professional dilemma.

French director **Quentin Dupieux** signs *'El accidente de piano'*, a sharp satire of social media narcissism starring **Adèle Exarchopoulos**, **Sandrine Kiberlain**, and **Karim Leklou**.

Meanwhile, **Daniel Vidal Toche's** *'La anatomía de los caballos'*, co-written with **Ignacio Vuelta**, reflects from the Andes on revolutionary ideals, the failure of change, and the persistence of the will to fight, following its premiere at Karlovy Vary.

Also bringing a Spanish accent, *'Bajo el mismo sol'* by **Ulises Porra**, co-written with **Ulla Prida**, is a Spanish-Dominican co-production set in the colonial Caribbean—an ambitious story of passion and power that premiered at Toronto.

From the Balkans, **Georgi M. Unkovski's** *'DJ Ahmet'*, awarded at Sundance 2025, is a vibrant coming-of-age film blending humor and social critique through the portrait of a young man torn between tradition and modernity.

Human connection and desire also shape other titles, such as the **Golden Bear winner at Berlinale 2025**, *'Dreams (Sex Love)'*, written and directed by **Dag Johan Haugerud**, which closes his trilogy on human relationships with a delicate reflection on intimacy, writing, and adolescent desire.

*'Enzo'*, the posthumous work of **Laurent Cantet** completed by **Robin Campillo** and co-written with **Gilles Marchand**, arrives from Cannes as a social and emotional portrait of European youth, manual labor, and the search for identity.

Veteran filmmaker **Cédric Klapisch** blends drama and comedy in *'Los colores del tiempo'*, co-written with **Santiago Amigorena**, where a family uncover the secrets of a 19th-century ancestor while cataloguing an abandoned house.

The Belgian duo **Charlotte Devillers** and **Arnaud Dufey** conclude this emotional journey with *'We Believe You'*, awarded Best First Feature at the Berlinale. Shot in a single location and almost

in real time, it depicts the harrowing struggle of a mother fighting to protect her children in a judicial system that blames her.

Completing the section, animation is represented by **'A Magnificent Life'**, written and directed by four-time Academy Award nominee **Sylvain Chomet**. This visually stunning animated biopic chronicles the life of French playwright, novelist, and filmmaker **Marcel Pagnol**, and premiered at Cannes.

**Out of competition**, the Official Selection also features two notable Spanish productions. The documentary **'Serás Farruquito'**, co-directed by **Santi Aguado** and **Reuben Atlas**, and co-written with **Christian Martínez**, captures the essence of flamenco legacy through the relationship between Farruquito and his son, El Moreno —a portrait that fuses artistic power and cultural heritage.

Finally, **'Islas'**, written and directed by **Marina Seresesky**, is a tender story of fading dreams and second chances, starring **Ana Belén** in her first leading film role in two decades, alongside **Manuel Vega**, **Eva Llorach**, and **Jorge Usón**.

And closing the Official Section, out of competition, is **'Chopin, Chopin!'**, the Festival's closing film, directed by **Michał Kwieciński**, written by **Bartosz Janiszewski** and starring **Eryk Kulm** — a biopic of the brilliant composer that recreates the atmosphere of Paris in 1835.

### **Small Great Stories: European Talent in Short Form Competes for the First Time in Seville's Official Section**

For the first time in its history, the short film —a space of creative freedom and a natural incubator of new voices— takes center stage in the Seville European Film Festival's Official Selection. The festival reinforces its commitment to this format which, beyond being a launchpad for emerging European talent, remains a fertile ground for experimentation by established filmmakers.

Competing for the **Best Live-Action Short Film Award** are five Spanish productions, including two Andalusian titles: **'Hermanas'**, by **Setefilla González Naranjo** and **Javier Barbero Montes**, and **'Baile de Feria'**, by **Bernabé Bulnes**; alongside **'Tenéis que verlo'**, directed by **Nacho Solana** and written by **Jordi Farga**; **'Dissecció d'una incoherència en crisi'**, by **Nausica Serra** (also featured in the European Film Promotion's *Future Frames* program in Seville); and **'Talk Me'**, written and directed by **Joecar Hanna**, with **Spike Lee** as executive producer.

The selection is completed by **'Nest'** (Switzerland), directed by **Stefania Burla** and co-written with **Johannes Jordan** and **Fabiana Seitz**; **'Nesting'** (Czech Republic), written and directed by **Iyanah Bativa**; **'Yonne'** (Switzerland/France), written and directed by **Julietta Korbel** and **Yan Ciszewski**; **'A South Facing Window'** (France/Mongolia), by writer-director **Lkhagvadulam Purev-Ochir**; **'Mass Grave'** (Belgium), written and directed by **Baptiste Bogaert** and **Noëlle Bastin**; **'Bright Summer Days'** (Portugal/Serbia), written and directed by **Nevena Desivojević**, with **Pedro Peralta** co-writing; **'In Her Arm'** (Ukraine), directed by **Roman Volosevych** and co-written with **Ihor Zaitsev**; **'Um Bom Dia'** (Portugal), written and directed by **Tiago Rosa-Rosso**; **'Between the Lines'** (Austria), written and directed by **Niklas Pollmann**; **'Nio Gångar Bättre'** (Sweden), written and directed by **Lorenzo Follari** and **Emma Dock**; **'Taty Nie Ma (Dad's Not**

*Home*)' (Poland), written and directed by **Jan Saczek**; *'Blackbird'* (France), directed by **João Paulo Miranda Maria** and co-written with **Philippe de Pierpont**; and *'Paleontology Lesson'* (Ukraine), written and directed by **Sergei Loznitsa**, one of Europe's most celebrated masters of contemporary cinema.

Nine short films will compete for the **Best Animated Short Film Award**, including *'Éiru'* (Ireland), written and directed by **Giovanna Ferrari**; *'L'Horizon du Bout du Nez'* (France), by **Étienne Bonnet**; *'Une Fugue'* (France), directed by **Agnès Patron** and co-written with **Johanna Krawczyk**; *'The Bird from Within'* (Portugal), directed by **Laura Anahory** and co-written with **Ana Anahory** and **Guilherme Mateus**; *'Le Cantique des Moutons'* (France), co-directed and co-written by **Jules Marcel**, **Anaïs Castro de Angel**, **Juliette Bigo**, **Evan Lambert**, **Alex Le Ruyet**, **Jeanne Bigo**, and **Anaïs Ledoux**; *'My Brother, My Brother'* (Germany/Egypt), written and directed by **Abdelrahman and Saad Dnewar**; *'Murmuration'* (Netherlands), written and directed by **Janneke Swinkels** and **Tim Frijsinger**; *'Autokar'* (Belgium/France), written and directed by **Sylwia Szkiładź**; and *'Le Jardin Rossini'* (France), written and directed by a collective formed by **William Burger**, **Siméon Jacob Odelia Laine**, **Garance Mondamert**, **Tara Rewal**, **Mathilde Vergeraeu**, and **Arthur Wong**.

## Debut Films Take the Spotlight at the Seville Festival

The Seville event stands out as a gathering point for emerging talent. Across all sections, the festival showcases first and second features by filmmakers whose works are at the forefront of Europe's search for new cinematic languages.

In addition to the debuts already featured in the Official Selection, the **Rampa Section**, dedicated to powerful and distinctive new voices, will host the world premiere of *'Els mals noms'*. Written and directed by **Marc Ortiz**, the film revisits the true story of Teresa Pla, known as "La Pastora," an intersex child registered as female at birth who fights to be recognized as a man. Starring **Nacho Fresneda**, **Pablo Molinero**, **Isak Férriz**, and **Sílvia Sabaté**, the film delves into the moral complexities of post-war Spain.

The Rampa lineup also includes acclaimed first features such as *'God Will Not Help'*, written and directed by Croatian filmmaker **Hana Jušić** and winner of the Best Performance Award at Locarno for **Manuela Martelli** and **Ana Marija Veselčić**; *'Vitrival'*, written and directed by **Noëlle Bastin** and **Baptiste Bogaert**, nominated for the Tiger Award at Rotterdam; *'My Father's Shadow'*, directed by **Akinola Davies Jr.** and co-written with **Wale Davies**, the first Nigerian film in history to compete at Cannes; and *'Short Summer'*, directed by **Nastia Korkia** and co-written with **Mikhail Bushkov**, winner of the Lion of the Future at Venice.

The **Embrujo Section**, dedicated to the boldest voices in European cinema, will feature first works such as the animated *'Dandelion's Odyssey'*, written and directed by **Momoko Seto**; *'Olivia'*, written, directed, and edited by **Sofia Petersen**; and *'Quién Vio los Templos Caer'*, by **Lucía Selva**, co-written with **Joan López Alonso**.

Finally, the **Alumbramiento Section**, devoted to films beyond the mainstream radar, will showcase debuts like *'Renovation'*, written and directed by Lithuanian filmmaker **Gabrielė**

**Urbonaitė**, and *'Sweetheart (Gioia mia)'*, written, directed, and edited by **Margherita Spampinato**, winner of two awards at Locarno.

## Fiction and Documentary Meet in the 'Special Screenings' Section

The **Special Screenings** section of the Seville European Film Festival brings together a selection of works that stand out for the significance of their creators in the contemporary cinematic landscape. Between revealing documentaries, musical comedies, auteur portraits, and immersive experiences, this section offers a journey through the most diverse expressions of European cinema.

From the realm of documentary storytelling, French actress **Juliette Binoche**, *Giraldillo de Honor* at this year's edition, will present in Seville *'In-I in Motion'*, her first feature as writer and director. In this intimate and poetic work, Binoche revisits the stage piece she created with choreographer **Akram Khan** in 2007.

With the musical comedy *'Todos los lados de la cama'*, **Samantha López Speranza** directs the new sequel to the successful saga, this time written by **Carlos del Hoyo** and **Irene Bohoyo**, revisiting with humor and freshness the romantic entanglements led by **Ernesto Alterio** and **Pilar Castro**.

Among the fictions having special screenings in Seville is *'Rondallas'*, a warm ensemble story written and directed by **Daniel Sánchez Arévalo**, who returns to filmmaking to take us to a small Galician fishing village, starring **Javier Gutiérrez**, **María Vázquez**, and **Tamar Novas**.

Directed and written by the artistic duo **Masbedo** (*Nicolò Massazza* and *Iacopo Bedogni*), with **Giorgio Vasta** collaborating on the script, *'Arsa'* —premiered at the Rome Film Festival— is a visual fable about a young woman living on an island-turned-nature-reserve, who transforms the debris washed ashore into sculptures.

**Carlos Larrazabal** directs and co-writes with **Fabián Suárez** *'Malecón'*, a drama starring **César Domínguez**, **Camila Rodhes**, and **Omar Rolando**, about love, guilt, and redemption in contemporary Cuba, depicting with both rawness and tenderness the impossible dream of escaping the island.

Non-fiction also takes the spotlight in *'El último arrebató'*, a documentary directed by **Marta Medina** and **Enrique López Lavigne**, and written by Medina with **Jaime Chávarri**. The film revisits the figure of **Iván Zulueta** and his cult masterpiece *'Arrebató'* (1980), exploring the light and darkness behind a work that marked the history of Spanish cinema.

Meanwhile, Galician filmmaker **Brais Revaldería**, winner of two Emmy Awards and a Cannes Lions Grand Prix, presents *'Fillos do vento: A rapa'*, a groundbreaking cinematic experience that, for the first time in the festival's history, offers an immersive 270° projection. The piece transports viewers into the heart of the *Rapa das Bestas* ritual from the newly inaugurated immersive hall at Seville's Cartuja Center CITE.

Alongside these works, *Special Screenings* will also showcase previously announced Andalusian productions, including the horror thriller **'La casa en el árbol'**, written and directed by **Luis Calderón**; and documentaries such as **'Fandango'**, directed by **Remedios Malvárez Báez** and **Arturo Andújar**, written by Malvárez and **Miguel Ángel Parra**; **'Lorca en la Habana'**, by **José Antonio Torres-Márquez** and **Antonio Manuel**; **'Velintonia 3'**, by **Javier Vila**, co-written with **Leticia Salvago**; **'Luis Gordillo. Manual de instrucciones'**, by **Sema D'Acosta** and **Antonio García Jiménez**; **'La muralla de los prisioneros'**, by **José Luis Tirado**; **'El gigante mudo'**, by **Francisco Campos**; and **'Pendaripen, la historia silenciada del pueblo gitano'**, directed by **Alfonso Sánchez** with a screenplay by **Eva Montoya**.

## European Film Awards Nominations Return to Seville

In 2025, the city of Seville will once again host the **European Film Awards Nominations Announcement**, a milestone that enhances its international projection. The official ceremony will take place on **November 18** at the **Royal Alcázar of Seville**.

"After several years without hosting this event, and thanks to the renewed historic alliance between the Festival and the European Film Academy, the city will once again host the nominations announcement every two years, maintaining a symbolic and prominent role in the events celebrated across other European cities," explained **Angie Moreno**.

As in previous editions, the festival will accompany this event with the screening of several European titles in contention for these prestigious awards, including **'Eagles of The Republic'** by **Tarik Saleh**; **'Franz'** by **Agnieszka Holland**; **'Little Amélie'** by **Liane-Cho Han Jin Kuang** and **Mailys Wallace**; **'Little Trouble Girls'** by **Urška Djukić**; **'Nouvelle Vague'** by **Richard Linklater**; **'Orphan'** by **László Nemes**; **'Sanatorium'** by **Gar O'Rourke**; **'Sirāt'** by **Oliver Laxe**; **'Sound Of Falling'** by **Mascha Schilinski**; **'The Love That Remains'** by **Hlynur Pálmason**; **'Un Poeta'** by **Simón Mesa Soto**; and **'Valor Sentimental'** by **Joachim Trier**.

[Photos of the presentation](#)

[Alberto Rodríguez Photos](#)

[Films Press Kits](#)

Lourdes Palacios 655 903 260  
Helena Madico 629 515 962  
Virginia Moriche 636 724 593  
Prensa Festival de Cine Europeo de Sevilla  
22 SEFF | 7-15 Nov. 2025  
Calle Torneo, 18. Sevilla, 41002  
@festivalsevilla