



# CineLit

**The Latin American  
and Caribbean  
Literary Film  
Festival**

**Part of the 2016  
NGC Bocas Lit Fest,  
23 April to 1 May**

**2016 is a special year for literature lovers:**

The shared 400th anniversary of both William Shakespeare, greatest writer in the English language, and Miguel de Cervantes, author of the timeless novel *Don Quixote*, perhaps the most admired classic of Spanish-language writing.

To mark this anniversary, and celebrate the extraordinary literary heritage of our regional neighbours, the 2016 NGC Bocas Lit Fest is proud to host CineLit, the first Latin American and Caribbean Literary Film Festival. Few of these films have been seen in T&T before, among them some international award winners, based on books and the lives of the incredible people who wrote them.

CineLit is presented in partnership with the diplomatic missions from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Spain, and Venezuela.

**All films are screened in the Audio Visual Room on the lower ground floor of the National Library, and are free and open to the public. Spanish and Portuguese films are presented with English subtitles.**

**[bocaslitfest.com](http://bocaslitfest.com)**



**Bombal, fuego en la niebla***Bombal, Fire in the Mist*

Drama • 2012 • 81 min • Chile

Director: Marcelo Ferrari

María Luisa Bombal, one of Chile's most important writers, struggled to reconcile her sexually passionate lifestyle with her socialite life among Santiago's 1920s conservative elite. **24 Apr 5.30 pm; 30 Apr 11.40 am**

**Como Agua Para Chocolate \****Like Water for Chocolate*

Drama/romance • 1992 • 113 min • Mexico

Director: Alfonso Arau, Screenwriter: Laura Esquivel

The young Tita is forbidden from marrying her true love, Pedro, because she must care for her mother until her death. Her sorrow begins to surface in fantastical ways through her cooking. Based on the popular novel by Laura Esquivel. **28 Apr 7 pm**

**Cuentos de Cipotes *Children's Stories***

Animation • 2008 • 20 min • El Salvador

Director: Ricardo Barahona

A cartoon adaptation of Salvador Salazar Arrué's (Salarrué's) regular short stories in the newspaper *Patria* in the late 1920s, reflecting an idealised version of rural life in El Salvador and making him one of the founders of the new wave of Latin American folkloric narrative. **24 Apr 4.30 pm; 26 Apr 11 am**

**Del Amor y Otros Demonios***Of Love and Other Demons*

Drama • 2009 • 103 min • Colombia/Costa Rica

Director/screenwriter: Hilda Hidalgo

When the young Sierva María is bitten by a rabid dog, the local priest believes she is possessed and orders his pupil, Cayetano, to perform an exorcism. But Sierva and Cayetano soon become seduced by a demon more powerful than faith and reason: love. Based on the novel by Gabriel García Márquez. **26 Apr 7 pm**

**Deus é Brasileiro *God Is Brazilian***

Comedy • 2003 • 110 min • Brazil

Director/screenwriter: Carlos (Cacá) Diegues

Tired of the mistakes committed by men, God decides to take a vacation in the stars. However, he requires a saint to take his place in Heaven.... Based on the short story "O santo que não acreditava em Deus" ("The Saint that Did Not Believe in God") by João Ubaldo Ribeiro. **23 Apr 7 pm**

**Donde acaban los caminos *Where the Roads End***

Drama • 2004 • 82 min • Guatemala

Director: Carlos García Agraz

A doctor goes to work in a country town and falls in love with María, a 17-year-old indigenous woman. But love is not enough in a society where racism is deeply rooted. Based on the novel by Mario Monteforte Toledo. **25 Apr 4 pm**

**El Caballero Don Quijote***Don Quixote, Knight Errant*

Adventure • 2002 • 122 min • Spain

Director/screenwriter: Manuel Gutiérrez Aragón

Based on the second half of Miguel de Cervantes's classic tale about the adventures of eccentric Don Quixote and his devoted sidekick Sancho Panza, as they set out to battle a horde of Turks.

**23 Apr 2 pm; 01 May 4 pm****El Poeta del Arrabal *The Poet of Arrabal***

Documentary • 2006 • 27 min • Panama

Director: Austreberta Torres de Navarro

The Panamanian poet Demetrio Korsi was known as "el poeta del Arrabal" after his birthplace. Korsi represents the transition from modernist to avant-garde literature in the mid-20th century.

**26 Apr 4 pm; 28 Apr 2 pm****El Premio Flaco *The Thin Prize***

Comedy • 2009 • 104 min • Cuba

Director/screenwriter: Juan Carlos Cremata

Iluminada lives in a humble neighbourhood and her economic situation is precarious. Her luck suddenly changes when she finds a prize ticket that grants her a new home. Based on the play by Héctor Quintero.

**23 Apr 12 pm****Finding Samuel Lowe: From Harlem to China \***

Documentary • 2014 • 88 min • Jamaica

Director/screenwriter: Jeanette Kong

Three Afro-Chinese siblings from Harlem, New York City, discover their heritage by searching for clues about their long-lost Chinese grandfather, Samuel Lowe. **28 Apr 4.30 pm**

**Florentino y el Diablo***Florentino and the Devil*

Drama • 2000 • 90 min • Venezuela

Director/screenwriter: Michael New

Florentino, a young balladeer and horseman, faces the devil in a duel of improvised verse. Set in the plains of Venezuela, this is the story of a struggle to retain the native "llanero" culture against the forces of powerful invaders. Based on the poem by Alberto Arvelo Torrealba. **30 Apr 5.40 pm**

**Gabo: La Creación de Gabriel García Márquez***Gabo: The Creation of Gabriel García Márquez*

Documentary • 2015 • 90 min • Colombia

Director: Justin Webster

How did a boy from a tiny town on the Caribbean coast become a writer who won the hearts of millions? The answers lie in the incredible story of Gabriel García Márquez, winner of the 1982 Nobel Prize in Literature. **24 Apr 7 pm; 27 Apr 4.30 pm**

**Historias de Cronopios y de Famas***Cronopios and Famas*

Animation • 2013 • 86 min • Argentina

Director/screenwriter: Julio Ludueña

In this adaptation of Julio Cortázar's work, fantastic tales are brought to life by a selection of great Argentinian artists, each bringing his own style to this cinematic collage. **25 Apr 2 pm; 01 May 10 am**



### **José Martí: el ojo del canario**

*José Martí: The Eye of the Canary*

Drama • 2010 • 120 min • Cuba

Director/screenwriter: Fernando Pérez

José Martí, writer, politician, and most revered Cuban national hero, belonged to Cuba's elite but championed the poor and disadvantaged.

**25 Apr 12 pm; 27 Apr 6.30 pm**

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### **Literature Alive: André Alexis: *Memory Places* \***

Documentary • 2005 • 25 min • Canada/T&T

Director: Frances-Anne Solomon

We travel with writer André Alexis from his birthplace in Trinidad to Ottawa, where he spent his childhood, and finally to the Toronto neighbourhood he now calls home. **28 Apr 12 pm**

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### **Literature Alive: Ramabai Espinet: *Coming Home* \***

Documentary • 2006 • 47 min • Canada/T&T

Director: Frances-Anne Solomon

Celebrated Indo-Trinidadian author Ramabai Espinet sits down in conversation with playwright and friend Tony Hall. The two reflect on how their differing perspectives of shared experiences were formed by race and gender. **28 Apr 12.30 pm**

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### **Lost in La Mancha \***

Documentary • 2002 • 93 min • UK/USA

Directors/screenwriters: Keith Fulton and Louis Pepe

A unique, in-depth look at the harsher realities of filmmaking. With drama that ranges from personal conflicts to epic storms, this is a record of a film — a failed adaptation of *Don Quixote* — as it disintegrates.

**01 May 11.45 am**

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### **The Merikins \***

Documentary • 2012 • 30 min • T&T

Director: Dahlia Dennison

This short documentary tells the story of the Merikins — free black settlers from the United States — who arrived in Trinidad 200 years ago. **30 Apr 4 pm**

*Followed by a discussion and book launch*

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### **Neruda**

Docudrama • 2014 • 100 min • Chile

Director/screenwriter: Manuel Basoalto

Pablo Neruda's speech *I accuse* against President Gabriel Gonzalez Videla made the Nobel Laureate a wanted man. The poet's most important work, *Canto General*, is based on his years as a fugitive from Chile's police and political regime. **26 Apr 5 pm; 30 Apr 7 pm**

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### **Orfeu Negro *Black Orpheus* \***

Drama/romance • 1959 • 100 min • Brazil/France/Italy

Director: Marcel Camus

*Black Orpheus* brings the ancient Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice to the 20th-century madness of Carnival in Rio de Janeiro. With its eye-popping photography and ravishing, epochal soundtrack, the film was an international cultural event. Based on the play by Vinicius de Moraes. **29 Apr 4.30 pm introductory discussion, 5 pm screening**

### **Pantaleón y Las Visitadoras**

*Captain Pantoja and the Special Services*

Comedy/Drama • 1999 • 144 min • Peru/Spain

Director: Francisco Lombardi

The Peruvian army captain Pantaleón Pantoja is chosen to set up a special service of "visitors" to satisfy the sexual needs of the soldiers in remote jungle postings. Based on the comic novel by Mario Vargas Llosa. **25 Apr 6.30 pm**

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### **Pedro Páramo**

Drama • 1967 • 110 min • Mexico

Director: Carlos Velo

A highly symbolic and allegorical drama about a man's search for his father during the Mexican Revolution. Based on Juan Rulfo's eponymous novel, recognised as one of the foundational classics of magical realism.

**29 Apr 7 pm**

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### **Taita Boves**

Action/Drama • 2010 • 100 min • Venezuela

Director/screenwriter: Luis Alberto Lamata

The passions and power, loves and misadventures of José Tomás Boves, who became a legend during the Venezuelan War of Independence. Based on the novel *Boves el Urogallo* by Francisco Herrera Luque.

**23 Apr 10 am; 28 Apr 11 am**

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### **Tata Mundo**

Drama • 1984 • 35 min • Costa Rica

Director: Juan Bautista Castro

Based on the stories "El detalle" and "Mamita Maura" from his book *Historias de Tata Mundo*, author Fabián Dobles recreates the Costa Rican spirit and landscape in the first three decades of the 20th century.

**28 Apr 1.30 pm; 28 Apr 6.10 pm; 29 Apr 11.00 am**

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### **The Terror and the Time \***

Documentary • 1977 • 70 min • Guyana

Director: Rupert Roopnaraine

This lyrical documentary tells the history of colonialism in British Guyana during the 1950s through the poems of Martin Carter. **29 Apr 2.30 pm**

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### **Trópico de Sangre *Tropic of Blood***

Drama • 2010 • 116 min • Dominican Republic

Director/screenwriter: Juan Delancer

The true story of how Minerva Mirabal and her sisters came to represent the greatest threat to dictator Rafael Trujillo. This period of the Dominican Republic's history has been the subject of Mario Vargas Llosa's and many other authors' writing.

**23 Apr 4.30 pm; 26 Apr 2 pm**

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### **A World Apart \***

Drama • 1988 • 113 min • UK/Zimbabwe

Director: Chris Menges

An anti-Apartheid drama, written by Shawn Slovo and based on the lives of her parents, Ruth First and Joe Slovo. **28 Apr 2.30 pm**

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**\* film courtesy NGC Bocas Lit Fest**



## SATURDAY 23 APRIL

10 am Taita Boves  
12 pm El Premio Flaco  
2 pm El Caballero Don Quijote  
4.30 pm Trópico de Sangre  
7 pm Deus é Brasileiro

## SUNDAY 24 APRIL

4.30 pm Cuentos de Cipotes  
5.30 pm Bombal, fuego en la niebla  
7 pm Gabo: La Creación de Gabriel García Márquez

## MONDAY 25 APRIL

12 pm José Martí: el ojo del canario  
2 pm Historias de Cronopios y de Famas  
4 pm Donde acaban los caminos  
6.30 pm Pantaleón y Las Visitadoras

## TUESDAY 26 APRIL

11 am Cuentos de Cipotes  
12 pm Donde acaban los caminos  
2 pm Trópico de Sangre  
4 pm El Poeta del Arrabal  
5 pm Neruda  
7 pm Del Amor y Otros Demonios

## WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL

4.30 pm Gabo: La Creación de Gabriel García Márquez  
6.30 pm José Martí: el ojo del canario

## THURSDAY 28 APRIL

12 pm Literature Alive: André Alexis: *Memory Places*  
12.30 pm Literature Alive: Ramabai Espinet: *Coming Home*  
1.30 pm Tata Mundo  
2.30 pm A World Apart  
4.30 pm Finding Samuel Lowe: From Harlem to China  
6.10 pm Tata Mundo  
7 pm Como Agua Para Chocolate *Like Water For Chocolate*

## FRIDAY 29 APRIL

11 am Taita Boves  
2 pm El Poeta del Arrabal  
2.30 pm The Terror and the Time  
5 pm Orfeu Negro *Black Orpheus*  
7 pm Pedro Páramo

## SATURDAY 30 APRIL

11.40 am Bombal, fuego en la niebla  
4 pm The Merikins  
5.40 pm Florentino y el Diablo  
7 pm Neruda

## SUNDAY 1 MAY

10 am Historias de Cronopios y de Famas  
11.45 am Lost in La Mancha  
4 pm El Caballero Don Quijote

Front panel image: August Ja Lang, flickr.com

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