Spring 2010: Noche de Cine: La Revolución Mexicana en el cine mexicano del Siglo de Oro
Wednesdays at 5:00 pm

February 10  Enamorada, (1949), Director: Emilio Fernández, 96 minutes, Spanish. Presented by Sergio Martínez

Summary: During the Mexican Revolution days a Zapatista General arrives to the City of Cholula. Once he takes over the city he becomes obsessed with the beautiful Beatriz, daughter of the most powerful man in Cholula.

February 17  La Soldadera, (1967), Director: José Bolaños, 148 minutes, Spanish. Presented by Sergio Martínez

Summary: La Soldadera is based on Eisenstein Soldadera portion of the movie Que Viva Mexico! When her husband is taken away by government troops at the time of the Mexican Revolution, la soldadera tries to follow him. After he dies, she joins up with other women in her situation to fight for the Revolution.

March 3  La Cucaracha, (1958), Director: Ismael Rodríguez, 97 minutes, Spanish with English subtitles. Presented by Gloria Vásquez

Summary: La Cucaracha is a film celebrating the Mexican Revolution. La Cucaracha is a brave woman leading a group of revolutionary woman. The story represents a bourgeois lady who is forced to join the group and fight for the revolutionary ideals.

March 17  El compadre Mendoza, (1934), Directors: Juan Bustillos and Fernando de Fuentes, 85 minutes, Spanish with English Subtitles. Presented by Sergio Martínez

Summary: During the Mexican Revolution, Rosalio Mendoza survives by making and winning favors from both, the government forces and Zapatista Army. He welcomes everybody on his hacienda; eventually, the situation becomes unsustainable and he has to take sides. Betrayal and deception overcome and Mendoza's shows his dark side.

March 24  Pancho Villa y la Valentina, (1958), Director: Ismael Rodríguez, 87 minutes, Spanish with English subtitles. Presented by Sergio Martínez

Summary: La Valentina is a woman that participated in the Mexican Revolution inspired one of the most famous corridos (ballads) from these violent times in the Mexican History.

March 31  Juana Gallo, (1961), Director: Juan Zacarías, 85 minutes, Spanish. Presented by Sergio Martínez

Summary: During the Mexican Revolution Juana Gallo’s father and boyfriend get kill. After the incident, this country woman joins the rebels to fight against the federal forces. She enlists the help of her entire town, including some who were government supporters. This tense situation ends up at the famous Battle of Zacatecas.

April 7  María Candelaria, (1943), Director: Emilio Fernández, 97 minutes, Spanish. Presented by Gloria Vázquez

* 3:00 pm: Presentation by Dr. Michael Miller, "The 1940's: The Golden Age in Film and Music in Mexico."

Summary: María Candelaria is a young woman who at the turn of the XX century is shunned by local townsfolk because her mother once posed naked for an artist and was stoned to death because of the incident. She must think the consequences while making a similar choice.

April 14  Las Abandonadas (1944), Director: Emilio Fernández, 103 minutes, Spanish. Presented by Sergio Martínez

Summary: A young woman, abandoned by her womanizing fiancé, is forced to provide for the upbringing of her son and combat the difficulties of being an unmarried mother during the strife of early 20-century Mexico.

April 21  Flor Silvestre, (1945), Director: Emilio Fernández, 94 minutes, Spanish. Presented by Alba Melgar

Summary: Disowned by his father because he married Esperanza, José Luis Castro joins the revolutionary movements but Castro’s father is killed by outlaws; while José Luis is seeking vengeance, he sacrifices his own life. Esperanza carries on his revolutionary work with their young son in tow.

April 28  El caudillo, (1968), Director: Alberto Mariscal, 85 minutes, Spanish. Presented by Sergio Martínez

Summary: During the Mexican Revolution Placencio Meza is a revolutionary leader whose dreams are reflected on Emiliano Zapata’s famous phrase “Tierra y Libertad” (Land and Freedom). The federal government offers a reward for Meza’s head.