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Shadows of the Past Franco's Heritage in Spain

A round table with: Carlos Castresana, Felipe González & Emilio Silva



5 play loud! (live) word series

Shadows of the Past: Franco's Heritage in Spain

A film by Lucía Palacios & Dietmar Post Edited by K-W. Huelsenbeck Film: 83 min Audio: 80 min 21 sec, Spanish A round table with: Carlos Castresana (Spanish Supreme Court Prosecutor) Felipe González (Spanish prime minister 1982-1996) Emilio Silva (President of the Association for the Recovery of Historic Memory) "Shadows of the Past – Franco's Heritage in Spain" took place on October 28th, 2008 at Babylon Cinema in Berlin. The event was divided into two parts: 1) Unique preview of the documentary film "Franco's Settlers". 2) A round table with the above mentioned guests on the importance of the issue of dealing with the past for the national policy in Spain: How much of historic memory is necessary to build the present and the future in Spain? What kind of traces of Francoism are left in Spanish society? Can we still say that the Spanish process of democratization after Franco's death was exemplary? The guests on various occasions referred directly to the film: "Franco's Settlers is an exact x-ray of current Spain." Emilio Silva

"This documentary film will surprise many people in Spain." Felipe González

"I invite the filmmakers to Strasbourg to show it to the court as evidence." Carlos Castresana





Short description

The event **"Shadows of the Past – Franco's Heritage in Spain"** took place on October 28th 2008 in Berlin in front of 450 people at the Babylon Cinema in Berlin. The event was organized by play loud! productions, The Friedrich Ebert Foundation, The Cervantes Institute and The German Association of Spanish Teachers.

The event was divided into two parts:

1) Unique preview of the documentary "Franco's Settlers".

The film portraits the small town Llanos del Caudillo (The High Plains of the Caudillo) as if we were looking through a magnifying glass, reviewing the Spanish history since Franco took power until the present days. "Franco's Settlers" is a contemporary evaluation of the figure of the dictator Franco; a discreet and calm attempt to dissect recent Spanish history and to review how some Spaniards deal with the cruel heritage of their past.

The presentation of the film was strictly limited to guests invited by the above organizations and by no means a premiere because the film is not fully completed yet due to the lack of financing. The film got standing ovations and excellent press reviews. Read a few here:

"The screening provoked a spontaneous ovation to honor a rigorous and humorous film". (Enrique Müller, El País)

"Franco's Settlers could be a very important contribution to how Spain deals with its dictatorship". (Andreas Fanizadeh, Die Tageszeitung)

"Rarely a movie has been so much in sync with its times. Franco's Settlers puts the finger on the sore spot."

(Rafael Poch, La Vanguardia)

"An important movie to better understand the current situation in Spain". (Walter Haubrich, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

"A documentary that will surprise many people". (Felipe González, President of Spain 1982-1996)

"An exact x-ray of current Spain". (Emilio Silva, Association for the Recovery of Historical Memory)

"I invite the filmmakers to Strasbourg to show it to the court as evidence". (Carlos Castresana, Prosecutor of the Spanish Supreme Court)

"An excellent film and history lesson. Amazing how the film takes us into present day Spain. Very creepy."

(Dominik Wessely, Professor for Documentary Filmmaking)

"A rigorous and emotional film. History told from the ground up. The film has to win the GOYA AWARDS."

(Sergi Doladé, Director of Medimed Film Market)

More press reviews at: <u>http://www.playloud.org/francossettlerspress.html</u> <u>http://www.imdb.com/title/tt2071518/externalreviews</u> Round table with: Felipe González (Spanish President between 1982-1996), Emilio Silva (President of the Association for the Recovery of Historic Memory) and Carlos Castresana (Spanish Supreme Court Prosecutor).

Fernando Suárez (former minister under Franco and member of the conservative Spanish People's Party) was also invited but refused to attend, arguing that he could not accept that the organizers considered that Franco came to power by a violent coup d'état. His full explanation can be seen in the film.

The round table, among others, discussed the following questions: How much of historic memory is necessary to build the present and the future in Spain? What kind of traces of Francoism are left in Spanish society? Can we still say that the Spanish democratization process after Franco's death was exemplary?

You will be able to watch the entire round table debate "Shadows of the Past - Franco's Heritage in Spain" as a film stream online at our brand new "play loud! archive & store": http://www.playloud.org/francossettlers_shadowsofthepast.html http://www.playloud.org/archiveandstore/live-word-series/172-shadows-of-the-past.html

International film premiere

Even though reactions towards the film "Franco's Settlers" have been overwhelming there has been no interest in the film from TV stations, state subsidy offices, film festivals and/or distribution companies. "Franco's Settlers" is still waiting for its international premiere.

Crowd-funding campaign

The filmmakers keep trying to raise money through their crowd-funding campaign to be able to further promote "Franco's Settlers": http://www.playloud.org/francossettlerscrowdfunding.html

Ambulant cinema – round tables

At the same time the filmmakers are pursuing the idea of "ambulant cinema", a film tour starting in 2013. Screenings will be accompanied by local round tables. Institutions, movie theatres, cultural centers, neighborhood associations are welcome to help. Please visit: http://www.playloud.org/francossettlers ambulantcinema.html

FRANCO'S SETTLERS (MAIN WEB PAGES) http://www.playloud.org/francossettlers.html https://www.facebook.com/loscolonosdelcaudillo

Media contact:

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play loud! (live) word series (film & audio):

CONCEPT BEHIND THE SERIES:

Journalist Annika Hogekamp writes: "Among the many projects by artists and cultural producers that Berlin has seen in recent years, the small, two-person film production company and label *play loud!* of directors Dietmar Post and Lucía Palacios is surely remarkable. Always outside the mainstream, the award-winning filmmakers have addressed in their documentary films issues like the *Klangbad* open air music festival *(Klangbad: Avantgarde in The Meadows, 2009)*, or the seminal German-American beat band The Monks *(The Transatlantic Feedback, 2006)*. Born from the idea to chronicle and archive some exceptional music made in Germany, in recent years they also recorded a number of rare live events as part of their "**play loud! (live) music series**", ranging from some still active musicians of the legendary krautrock genre (Faust, Damo Suzuki), to Berlin-based rock´n-roll-noise-art Floating di Morel, or to representatives of modern electronic music (Gebrüder Teichmann)."

OFFICIAL PLAY LOUD! (LIVE) MUSIC SERIES FACEBOOK SITE: <u>https://www.facebook.com/playloudlivemusicseries</u>

As with the "music series" the new "**play loud! (live) word series**" parts from the idea of chronicling and archiving important artistic, social, historic and/or political events. These events can range from interviews, conversations, lectures, debates, rallies, discussions, conferences, talks and/or performances. The filmmakers have shot over the years many of above mentioned events. Most of the times because it formed part of another film or just because they were asked to cover it. Some people might consider such material as outtakes for the bonus material on a DVD. Maybe. The filmmakers do think differently though. They would like to make available some of this material, which was never seen as mere outtakes but as an important part of the filmmaker's work as archivists and chroniclers. Many times this so-called extra material stands on its own ground and is useful in many ways – for educators, teachers, university professors, students or just interested citizens.

The filmmakers now would like to share it with people through their archive & store.

Sharing doesn't necessarily mean it is for free. Filmmakers, archivists and chroniclers do have many expenses to cover (research, travel, equipment, filming, recording, editing, encoding, subtitling, etc.). These expenses need to be recouped. It just seems fair because good content needs to be compensated. Paying money doesn't mean to be an exploitative capitalist. Money is only a medium of exchange. It empowers people to honor and appreciate other people's work. If a farmer grows grapes and turns them into good and tasty wine, well, then nobody minds paying 10 or more euros for a bottle. Filmmakers are not different from that farmer who grows grapes. They actually like the comparison with the agricultural world because it contains the word "culture". Filmmakers grow "culture". And therefore they need to be paid fairly. And clearly there is a difference between a two-person mom-and-dad shop and capitalist endeavors, such as, Facebook or Youtube. On play loud! you won't see banners or other commercials. At play loud! you deal with real people you can talk to.

PLAY LOUD! (LIVE) WORD SERIES

01 Shadows of the Past – Franco's Heritage in Spain – (release in December 2012)

02 Baltasar Garzón – Discurso sobre el concepto de la justicia universal versus la impunidad nacional (release in January 2013)