



# Vancouver Latin American Film Festival

## For Immediate Release

August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Annual VLAFB Brings the Passion and Dreams of Chile to the Spotlight in its 2009 Program

Vancouver – From September 10<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>, the Vancouver Latin American Film Festival (VLAFB) will present an exciting selection of 29 full-length features and 33 short-films at three downtown Vancouver theatres (Pacific Cinémathèque, Granville 7 and Vancity Theatre). This year's festival places Chile's young film industry on the spotlight, and incorporates a careful selection of films from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Mexico, Peru and Paraguay.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual VLAFB celebrates its opening night on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. at Granville 7 with the screening of the Mexican award-winning film *Arráncame La Vida* (*Tear This Heart Out*), by director Roberto Sneider. A love story set during Mexico's post-revolutionary period of the 1930s and 40s, *Arráncame La Vida* is considered one of the most widely acclaimed and expensive films in the history of Mexican cinema.

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the festival will host its closing night at 7:00p.m. at Granville 7 with the screening of *La Buena Vida* (*The Good Life*). Directed Andrés Wood, one of the most creative directors in Latin America, the film discusses the struggles that four young Chileans face while pursuing their dreams. *La Buena Vida* won Best Latin American Film at both the prestigious Spanish Goya Awards and the 2009 Huelva Latin American Film Festival. Moreover, his previous work *Machuca* won Most Popular Film at the 2004 Vancouver International Film Festival.

The VLAFB is proud to welcome Chile as its guest country, and we're excited to present a selection of films that shows the rich diversity of Chilean cinema. Film aficionados will have a unique opportunity to taste the many flavours offered by contemporary Chilean film, ranging from the very political *Tony Manero* and *El Diario de Agustín* (*Agustín's Newspaper*), to the unique female perspective showcased in the special screening *Reel Journeys: Shorts by Chilean Women*. In short, the 7<sup>th</sup> VLAFB will give Vancouver cinephiles a better idea of why Chilean cinema has been leaving a mark in film festivals around the world.

Moreover, Simon Fraser University's Latin American Studies program confirms its support to VLAFB by hosting nine free screenings in its Harbour Centre campus. This admission-free portion of the festival includes documentaries, full-length features and two special screenings dedicated exclusively to short films.

For more information about the festival program, schedule and film synopsis, visit [www.vlaff.org](http://www.vlaff.org). For other inquiries, call 604.708.5657 or email [info@vlaff.org](mailto:info@vlaff.org)

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**Media Resources:**

Hi-Res Digital Stills Available  
Film Previews available for all Titles

**Interview Opportunities with:**

Ignacio Agüero, director of *El Diario de Agustín* (*Agustín's Newspaper*)

Roberto Mader, director of *Condor*

Ricardo Van Steen, director of *Noel – Poeta da Vila* (*Noel: The Samba Poet*)