

#28

press release

EL AFFAIRE MIU MIU

A FILM BY LAURA CITARELLA

EL AFFAIRE MIU MIU, directed by Laura Citarella, Argentine film director and producer, is the 28th commission from Miu Miu Women's Tales. The acclaimed short-film series invites today's most profound and original female directors to investigate vanity and femininity in the 21st century.

A fashion campaign in Latin America takes an Italian model to the Argentine Pampas. The clothing brand: Miu Miu. The city: Trenque Lauquen. The Italian crew members stroll through the city as if they were a queen's retinue paying a visit to a foreign land. The model, beautiful and exotic, greets the people who stop on the street to admire her. A few days later, the detectives of the town—all women—begin an investigation into a disappearance: the model has gone missing after the shoot. The last images of her are taken from security camera footage, showing a woman darting strangely through the streets of Trenque Lauquen. The investigators follow the clues within the Miu Miu clothes and the Argentine landscape to try and trace the model's path.

In *El Affaire Miu Miu*, Citarella continues to explore her ongoing interest in "female Sherlock Holmes" figures who try and solve the puzzle of "women that, for different reasons, run away."

"I had to learn how to film outfits," she admits, regarding the role the Miu Miu clothes play in the film. "It was necessary to find a connection between fashion and storytelling, by melting the fantastic pampa's landscape and the world of Miu Miu, where the clothes are part of the fiction as main character." And while the Director's natural format is long-form storytelling, especially when detectives need time to unravel a crime, she says that "the important thing is that stories always manifest the time they need to be told."

This latest instalment of Miu Miu Women's Tales is a wry, female-driven Hitchcockian detective story. In *El Affaire Miu Miu*, we see Italian style meet Argentine supernaturalism. Laura Citarella's obsession with women who are "keener for adventures than anything else" collides with the metanarrative of the women who become the faces of Miu Miu. Along the way, in the countryside, the film's investigators find pieces of the dress she was wearing. Meanwhile, we spectators observe the model making her pilgrimage across the pampas and gradually merging into the natural scenery. As if she were the very embodiment of the landscape itself. A fusion of a character, a dress, and a place.

El Affaire Miu Miu will be premiered at the Venice Film Festival's "Giornate degli Autori" on **August 31st 2024 at 4:30pm** alongside a screening of the 27th episode, "I Am the Beauty of Your Beauty, I Am the Fear of your Fear", by Chui Mui Tan.

The short is afterwards available on Miu Miu digital channels, and on MUBI globally from September 27.

Laura Citarella

Laura Citarella (b. 1981) is an Argentine film director and producer, noted as an emerging voice of the “New Argentine Cinema movement.” Laura’s debut film in 2011, *Ostende*, is the first of a series about the same character — played by Laura Paredes — in different towns in the province of Buenos Aires. 2022’s *Trenque Lauquen* was nominated at the Venice Film Festival’s *Orrizonti* Award for Best Film and chosen by French publication “*Cahiers du cinema*” as best movie 2023 and *The New York Times* said it was “a wondrous multipart epic.” Laura is also a producer at the indie production company *El Pampero Cine*, and produced “*La Flor*”, directed by Mariano Llinas, which at 868 minutes, currently holds the record for the longest running Argentine film in history.

Miu Miu Women’s Tales

Miu Miu Women’s Tales is an ongoing series of unique, short films, commissioned by Miu Miu, and directed by today’s most distinctive female filmmakers. They invent beautiful, strange worlds inhabited by women’s idiosyncratic imaginations.

Starting from 2011 twenty-eight cinematic universes have been created so far. All share these timeless questions: How do women appear to themselves? How do they appear to each other? Isn’t appearance also a political and intellectual issue, one that can’t easily be divorced from sensuality and pleasure? How should a woman be today? Miu Miu has asked filmmakers to investigate femininity and vanity in the 21st century with a critical eye. This means embracing the timeless complexities and contradictions to make women think — and feel. Across the film series, Miu Miu collections have become a cast of characters in their own right, playing alongside noted actresses and models.

The Miu Miu clothes counterpoint the narrative drama. Power, desire. Vanity, embellishment. Rituals, laws. Dreams, nightmares. Even the smallest moment from a woman’s daily life contains multitudes. Women’s Tales storify these moments and the enriching role played by clothes.

MIU MIU WOMEN'S TALES PROGRAM IN VENICE

Saturday August 31st 2024

4:30 PM Screening of Women's Tales #28 *"El Affaire Miu Miu"* by Laura Citarella and #27 *"I'm the beauty of your beauty, I'm the fear of your fear"* by Chui Mui Tan

Sunday September 1st 2024

11:00 AM Conversation with Laura Citarella and Tan Chui Mui, moderated by Penny Martin: *"The Long and Short of It: the films of directors."*

3:00 PM Conversation with Molly Gordon and Jasmin Savoy Brown, moderated by Penny Martin: *"Interdisciplinary Studies."*

Monday September 2nd 2024

11:00 AM Conversation with Marisa Abela, Cailee Spaeny and Chase Sui Wonders, moderated by Penny Martin: *"Becoming": the actor's path."*

3:00 PM Conversation with actors Raffey Cassidy, Valentina Romani, Alia Shawkat, moderated by Penny Martin: *"Unpicking the craft."*

NO. 28
EL AFFAIRE MIU MIU
Laura Citarella

NO. 27
I AM THE BEAUTY OF YOUR
BEAUTY,
I AM THE FEAR OF YOUR FEAR
Chui Mui Tan

NO. 26
STANE
Antoneta Alamat Kusijanović

NO. 25
EYE TWO TIMES MOUTH
Lila Avilés

NO. 24
CARTA A MI MADRE PARA MI
HIJO
Carla Simón

NO. 23
HOUSE COMES WITH A BIRD
Janicza Bravo

NO. 22
I AND THE STUPID BOY
Kaouther Ben Hania

NO. 21
SHANGRI-LA
Isabel Sandoval

NO. 20
IN MY ROOM
Mati Diop

NO. 19
NIGHTWALK
Małgorzata Szumowska

NO. 18
BRIGITTE
Lynne Ramsay

NO. 17
SHAKO MAKO
Hailey Gates

NO. 16
THE WEDDING SINGER'S
DAUGHTER
Haifaa Al-Mansour

NO. 15
HELLO APARTMENT
Dakota Fanning

NO. 14
(THE [END] OF HISTORY
ILLUSION]
Celia Rowleson-Hall

NO. 13
CARMEN
Chloë Sevigny

NO. 12
THAT ONE DAY
Crystal Moselle

NO. 11
SEED
Naomi Kawase

NO. 10
LES 3 BOUTONS
Agnès Varda

NO. 9
DE DJESS
Alice Rohrwacher

NO. 8
SOMEBODY
Miranda July

NO. 7
SPARK AND LIGHT
So Yong Kim

NO. 6
LE DONNE DELLAVUCCIRIA
Hiam Abbass

NO. 5
THE DOOR
Ava DuVernay

NO. 4
IT'S GETTING LATE
Massy Tadjedin

NO. 3
THE WOMAN DRESS
Giada Colagrande

NO. 2
MUTA
Lucrecia Martel

NO. 1
THE POWDER ROOM
Zoe Cassavetes