



barbican film

**Guests Juan Carlos Tabio and Mariela Castro
at Cine Cuba: 50 Years of Revolution in Film
Friday 3 to Thursday 9 July**

www.barbican.org.uk/film Hotline: 0845 120 7527

The Barbican welcomes some very exciting guests to **Cine Cuba: 50 Years of Revolution in Film** this July: screenwriter/director **Juan Carlos Tabio** and campaigner **Mariela Castro**. With issues surrounding equality in sex, gender and race emerging in this year's programme through films such as *Strawberry and Chocolate*, *Up to a Certain Point*, *Cecilia* and *Raza*, the festival is delighted to play host to a timely discussion on these themes between Tabio and Castro along with Alberto Roque, a leading gay rights activist in Cuba (see below for details).

Writer/director **Juan Carlos Tabío** has worked closely with Tomás Gutiérrez Alea throughout his career, co-directing *Strawberry and Chocolate* and gaining a Best Foreign Language Oscar nomination with him. **Cine Cuba** is delighted to be screening *Strawberry and Chocolate* on re-release each night of the festival, as well as screening *Up to a Certain Point*, which Tabío co-wrote for Alea. Tabío's latest film as director also features in **Cine Cuba: *The Horn of Plenty (El Cuerno de la Abundancia)*** is a screwball comedy based on true events when Cuban families sharing the same name tried to lay claim to a large inheritance. **Tabío will be attending Cine Cuba from Friday 3 July to Monday 6 July and will be available for interview.**

Mariela Castro is daughter of Cuba's president Raúl Castro, niece of Fidel Castro and director of the Cuban National Centre for Sex Education in Havana. Mariela Castro campaigns for AIDS prevention along with the recognition of the rights of homosexuals, bisexuals, transvestites and transsexuals in Cuba. She is also a widely published author.

Mariela Castro will be attending Cine Cuba on Saturday 4th July for a special discussion on gay rights in Cuba, following the 8.45pm screening of *Strawberry and Chocolate*. She will be joined by Alberto Roque, a leading gay rights activist in Cuba and Juan Carlos Tabío for this discussion.

**FOR INTERVIEW REQUESTS PLEASE CONTACT: Sarah Harvey / Laura Bushell
at Sarah Harvey Publicity on 020 7703 2253 / sarah@sarahharvey.info /
assistant@sarahharvey.info**

Notes for Editors:

1.

To mark the occasion Mr. Bongo Films will release ***50 Years Of The Cuban Revolution***, a collection of landmark films from this iconic and turbulent nation. The box set features four outstanding films, including the never before released on DVD ***Lucia*** along with ***I Am Cuba***, ***Memories Of Underdevelopment*** and ***Strawberry & Chocolate***. Release date: 13 July 2009. RRP: £24.99. For further information or review discs please contact Debbie Murray on 020 8292 2818 or debbie@aimpublicity.com.