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## **ZEITGEIST DVD BOWS SULTRY WORLD MUSIC CROWD-PLEASER "FADOS" FROM SPAIN'S BELOVED MASTER CARLOS SAURA**

New York (August 19, 2009) — From the legendary Spanish filmmaker Carlos Saura, director of *Flamenco* and the Oscar-nominated *Tango*, **FADOS** is the third installment in his lush and sensual musical trilogy. After receiving awards and nominations at the European Film Awards and the Goya Awards (the Spanish Oscars), **FADOS** played to enthralled audiences in over 50 markets during its national theatrical release this year. **Zeitgeist bows the DVD of FADOS on October 20, 2009.**

Saura's ravishing **FADOS** explores Portugal's most emblematic musical genre with a fusion of cinema, song and dance. Tracing fado from its African and Brazilian origins to the new wave of contemporary fadistas, Saura expands its traditional singer-and-guitar form with infusions of hip hop, flamenco, tango, ballet and reggae—both in sound and movement. He also ingeniously deploys mirrors, back projections, archival footage, expressionistic lighting and lush colors to frame a collection of performances that survey a rich history of this art form.

Featuring international superstars such as **Caetano Veloso**, **Lila Downs** and **Mariza**, plus rare footage of the legendary **Amália Rodrigues**, **FADOS** is a celebration of world music in the fullest sense of the term, and one of the finest musical documentaries to date.

Zeitgeist's DVD release of **FADOS** features an anamorphic transfer enhanced for widescreen televisions. Supplemental materials include: "**The Making of Fados**" a 25-minute featurette with **behind-the-scenes footage and interviews** with Carlos Saura and musicians; an on-set **photo gallery**; a song and performer guide; international trailers; optional English subtitles; and a director's note from Carlos Saura.

**FADOS Film/DVD info:** 2007 • 92 minutes • Portugal/Spain • Color • In Portuguese and Spanish with optional English subtitles • 1.85:1 theatrical aspect ratio • Not Rated

*Note: Zeitgeist's DVD release of Fados is available in the U.S. only.*

Celebrating its 20th Anniversary as one of America's preeminent independent distributors, New York-based Zeitgeist Films has built an impressively diverse catalogue of foreign, documentary and arthouse titles by such renowned directors as Todd Haynes, Jan Svankmajer, Peter Greenaway, Abbas Kiarostami, Guy Maddin, Kirby Dick, Atom Egoyan, Agnès Varda, François Ozon, Derek Jarman, Yvonne Rainer, Olivier Assayas, Philippe Garrel and the Quay Brothers. Recent releases include Oscar winner **Nowhere in Africa**; blockbuster doc **The Corporation**; dance doc hit **Ballets Russes**; Oscar nominee **Sophie Scholl—The Final Days**; Oscar nominee **My Country, My Country**; Sundance winner **Into Great Silence**; and 2008 Oscar nominee **Trouble the Water**. Launched in 2001, Zeitgeist Video has released dozens of highly praised DVDs, including the recently-released remastered Two-Disc Edition of Quay Brothers shorts, entitled **PHANTOM MUSEUMS**; a Four-Disc Box Set of Derek Jarman masterworks entitled **GLITTERBOX**, starring Oscar winner Tilda Swinton (*Michael Clayton*); an Essential Edition of Olivier Assayas' cult fave **Irma Vep** starring Maggie Cheung; and a brand-new "Repressed and Remastered" Edition of Guy Maddin's 1992 mountain film classic **Careful**.



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## CRITICAL ACCLAIM FOR *FADOS*

"*Fados* is a **celebration of human expressivity** that, with a stripped-down soundstage and some extraordinary bodies, allows you to appreciate how emotion becomes art."

—Manohla Dargis, *The New York Times*

"**An orgy for the eyes and ears.**" —Ed Gonzalez, *Slant Magazine*

"**Casts a wondrous spell....** Just listening, you feel their loneliness and despair, their passion and heartbreak, and, ultimately, their courage and resilience." —Andrew Sarris, *The New York Observer*

"**Mesmerizing!** *Fados* reflects what is clearly [Saura's] **deeply imaginative**, inner relationships with the genre's songs about loss, shifting hopes and elusive happiness." —Tom Keogh, *Seattle Times*

"Combines **masterful singing and dancing** with equally virtuosic filmmaking that **takes the music documentary in new places**, even for Saura. *Fados* isn't just a director's look at one genre of music, it's a celebration of the special relationship between music, dance and film."

—Sean Gandert, *Paste Magazine*

"Saura turns the music into **operatic, gut-wrenching drama**. Lovers of fado will rejoice at this **gorgeous spectacle**, as will those captivated by world music or Portuguese culture. For those who've never before heard fado, *Fados* will be **a revelation...**"

—Jonathan Curiel, *San Francisco Chronicle*

"**A rousing affair!** The loving attention to detail [Saura] shows here, as in his other music films, now betrays an almost grandfatherly devotion to his subject.... There's something unutterably touching about such **gorgeous icon-making**, wrought from such basic ingredients as song and guitar."

—Michael Koresky, *Reverse Shot*

"★★★★! An **inviting and immersive** experience.... There's a burgeoning sense as the film goes on that Saura (a Spaniard) is subtly interrogating the history of a people."

—Keith Uhlich, *Time Out New York*

"Saura, being a man of oomph (he's 77 now), **orchestrates excitement** whenever he can, which is to say always. What *Fados* lacks in jaw-dropping sexiness it makes up for in **casual sensuality.**"

—Wesley Morris, *Boston Globe*

"Magical! Each segment overflows with its own narrative and emotional power, aided by Saura's **expert staging and cinematography.**" —Jeffrey Anderson, *San Francisco Bay Guardian*

"Beautiful music performed by beautiful people in beautiful settings.... **A vivid celebration of beauty** for beauty's sake." —Shaun Brady, *Philadelphia City Paper*

"**Seductive** and beautifully made, it could be **the date movie of the year for performing-arts fans!**" —John DeFore, *Hollywood Reporter*