



The Heiresses
(Paraguay 2018)

DIRECTOR : Marcelo Martinessi
RUNNING TIME : 98mins
RATING : M

Synopsis:

A secret love story set among the complacent wealthy gerontocracy of Paraguay's capital Asuncion.

Review: Peter Bradshaw (extract)

We've all seen films about old people who experience a poignant and bittersweet late-life flowering. But not that many about a well-off lady in Paraguay whose love life starts to come into its own only after her gay lover is sent to jail. This excellent debut movie from writer-director Marcelo Martinessi, an award-winner at (2018) Berlin Film Festival, reminded me weirdly of Hollywood movies such as *Driving Miss Daisy* or *Harold and Maude* or *The Trip to Bountiful*, but with its own singular flavour. There is also a little bit of Dickens in the sharp social satire, the chattering world of card-playing and the chaos of the debtors' prison.

The stars of the movie are two wealthy women, the heiresses Chela and Chiquita, superbly played by Paraguayan stage actors Ana Brun and Margarita Irun, who almost incredibly are making their screen debut. Chela and Chiquita have lived together all their adult lives – during which they've never had to do a day's work – in a beautifully appointed house that belonged to Chela's family. Martinessi shows how these women's relationship has been armoured against anything like homophobic complaint by the prerogatives of wealth and class.

Source: Peter Bradshaw: www.theguardian.com 9/8/2018 Edited extracts Accessed 4/9/2019
Please see www.fish.org.au for complete review.

COMING UP:

March	<i>Golden Voices</i> (Israel)	Sunday 13 th & Tuesday 15 th
April	<i>A Lion Returns</i> (Australia)	Sunday 3 rd & Tuesday 5 th

FILMS IN THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS INC

10.00 am Sunday 13th February 2022
8.15 pm Tuesday 15th February 2022

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT ~ FISH 2019/20/21

What a strange time it has been since our September, 2019 AGM. None of us could have imagined then how dramatically changed our world would be and how this would impact on FISH. We certainly would never have envisaged months when we were unable to screen films nor that when we recommenced screenings in February this year it would be to limited numbers.

Despite the difficulties and disappointments we have experienced, there have been some positives to sustain us. Not the least of these has been the continued support of the Empire, the staff of which was just as determined as we were to ensure FISH survived. We are also very grateful for the continued loyal support of our sponsors, Ace Internet Services and Highland Creative.

Another positive, of course, is that we have been able to screen a wide variety of films over the period from July, 2019. For those who were members at that time there has been the bonus of two extra films for the same low \$60 subscription. The films chosen came from almost as many countries as the number screened. As well as films from Italy, France, the U.K. and Australia, we featured films from Scandinavia, Asia and the Middle East. I think we all felt a lifting of spirits with our first film after our enforced break. The thoroughly enjoyable *Romantic Road* was a wonderful escape from the grim daily news bulletins. Many thanks, to Liz Stevenson for her untiring efforts to find interesting, challenging and worthy films to present to our membership.

FISH could not exist without its dedicated, hard-working committee members to whom I am most grateful for their support and friendship. My thanks to Virginia Romney, James Saville, Roz Garwen, Liz Stevenson, Des Ryan, Caro Kennewell and Deborah Blay for all they have done to ensure the smooth running of FISH.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Neill Ustick for all his work for FISH over a number of years. In June Neill resigned from our committee because of his increasingly heavy workload for U3A.

Sadly we will also be losing two other committee members at our AGM. The first of these is Caro Kennewell who has been a valued member of our committee for many years. The second is Des Ryan whose role as Membership Secretary has been particularly demanding because of Covid 19 issues. Despite this, he has been at all times incredibly efficient and cheerful. Best wishes to all three. Be assured we on the committee will miss you.

Finally, my thanks to all those of you who continue to support and value FISH. May the coming year be a good one!

Sandra Gillespie

Reprinted from August 2021 Newsletter

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT ~ FISH 2019/20/21

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FILMS IN THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS				
For 2 years ending June 30 2021				
INCOME		2021		2019
Subscriptions		24060		23880
Interest earned		568		575
		24628		24455
EXPENSES				
Film hire & screenings		21142		17424
Printing		859		973
Postage		1344		1927
Donations		1000		3377
Stationery		156		147
Computer/Internet costs		843		
Administration, C'tee exp		1177		725
PO box		270		
Fair Trading fee		47		46
Miscellaneous		50		289
Bank charges		15		
		26903		24908
Surplus/shortfall		-2275		-453
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES				
Assets (all cash with BDCU)				
Opening balance (cash)		37601		38054
surplus/deficit		-2275		-453
Closing balance		35326		37601
Liabilities				
Est operating costs for 2021/2		27000		24500
Reserves		8326		13280
Treasurers notes				
1. The 2021 accounts cover 24 months and 13 screenings rather than the usual 11.				
2. The accounts reflect cash in and out in that period.				
3. There are no outstanding debts but the Committee will help the Empire financially through the difficult period we are in.				
James Saville, Treasurer				

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Message from the President

A very warm welcome to the FISH 2022 season.

Our first screenings for the year will be on February 13 and 15.

Please be aware that Covid rules re QR Code check in and masks must be observed. You will also need to produce your membership card at the door.

Our Sunday February 13 screening will be preceded by our AGM which will commence at 9.30 am. For those not attending the doors will remain closed till the conclusion of the meeting, the agenda for which is below.

We look forward to once again seeing you all regularly at our screenings.

Sandra Gillespie

Notice of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of FISH

[Films in The Southern Highlands Inc.]

to be held on **Sunday 13th February 2022 at 9:30am** (before film screening)

AGENDA

1. Attendance and Apologies
2. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
3. Business Arising
4. Treasurer's Report
5. President's Report
6. Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members
7. General Business



FILMS IN THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS INC

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