

De Cierta Manera (One Way or Another) is “a landmark film in Cuban cinema whose radical innovations in form echo its status as the first feature shot by a woman in Cuba, the country’s first feature shot on 16 mm, and a rare example of a feature made by an Afro-Cuban director. Mixing documentary footage with a variety of narrative modes, Sara Gómez’s romantic drama illuminates the histories, problems and contradictions of post-revolutionary Cuba. Against a landscape of dismantled slums and new modern settlements, Gómez reveals inhabitants who are similarly conflicted, caught between entrenched attitudes towards race, class and gender and the egalitarian promise of the Revolution. Gómez died at age 31, after she had shot *De Cierta Manera* but before the film was completed. This final version was realised several years later by Tomás Gutiérrez Alea and other colleagues.” (<http://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-modern/film/sara-gomez-de-cierta-manera>)



Sara Gómez' other works are mostly short documentary pieces. In *Cuban Cinema*, Michael Chanon says that she originally trained as a musician, but after six years of study, decided she didn't want to be “a middle class black woman who played the piano.” She joined ICAIC, the Cuban film institute, and made ten documentaries between 1964 and 1974. Chabon describes *Y . . . tenemos sabor* as “one of the most delightful Cuban music documentaries in a quarter century, and two others, “*En la otra isla*” and *Una isla para Miguel* as “among the most extraordinary documentaries by any Cuban director. All three can be found on YouTube.

De Cierta Manera will be preceded by an award winning claymation short, *20 Años (20 Years)*, a meditation on a 20 year marriage with a haunting soundtrack featuring Omara Portuondo.

Join us after the film at Pracna on Main for a discussion led by Rose Brewer, professor of African American and American studies at the University of Minnesota.

UPCOMING EVENTS

7pm, Thursday, March 27: *Eso Que Anda, (Van Van Fever)*, a music documentary with one of Cuba's most popular bands. The last film in the film festival's regular schedu

6 pm, Wednesday, March 26: La Raza Student Cultural Center, Coffman Union, University of MN, East Bank, opening of exhibit “I will die the way I lived,” prison paintings by Antonio Guerrero, one of the Cuban Five.

4pm, Sunday, March 30: *Ciudad en Rojo (City in Red)*, rescreening of the first film in the festival, a victim of the February 20 blizzard. \$5 entrance for all.

Monday, April 14 – Thursday, April 17: Arnold August, author of the new book, *Democracy in Motion, Cuba and its Neighbours*. See www.minnesotacubacommittee.org for details.

Visit the Minnesota Cuba Committee at www.minnesotacubacommittee.org. Contact the Committee at mncuba@gmail.com or 612-367-6134.