ReFocus: The International Directors Series
CALL FOR PAPERS

The Films of Carlos Reygadas

After only four globally distributed feature-length films, Mexican Carlos Reygadas has established himself as one of the most celebrated directors of this century. His debut film, Japón (2001), a symbolic reflection on death, compassion, and loneliness, was awarded the “Camera d'Or” Special Mention at Cannes Film Festival; this early international recognition would only strengthen with his following films: Batalla en el cielo (2005), Stellet Licht (2007), and his most visually daring work, Post Tenebras Lux (2012).

Reygadas’ poetic and experimental use of images, along with a subversive approach to traditional cinematic representations of Mexican life, has opened up an array of possibilities of interpretation for audiences and critics alike. It is with this potentiality in mind that we would like to suggest some possible (not restrictive) areas of inquiry:

- Interreferentiality in Reygadas’ Films (cinema, literature, painting, and music)
- Visual Landscapes and the Weight of Theoretical Ecology in Reygadas’ films
- The Via Negativa: Statism, Absence, and Silence in Reygadas’ Work
- National and International Reception of Reygadas’ Films
- Reygadas’ Own Theoretical Reflections on Cinema
- Reygadas’ Films as Haptic and Phenomenological Experiences
- Transnational Cinema and the Reshaping of Nationhood and Mexicanidad
- Religion, Spirituality and Transcendence in Reygadas’ Work
- The Poetic Aspect of Neorealism: From Buñuel to Reygadas
- The “Male Gaze”? Gender and Sexuality in Reygadas’ Films
- Carlos Reygadas and Auteur Theory / Reygadas’ Cinematic Trajectory
- The Influence of Reygadas in Contemporary Latin American Contemplative Directors
- Your suggested topic

Submissions:
ReFocus: The Films of Carlos Reygadas will be one of the scholarly editions to be published by the University of Edinburgh Press in a new companion series dedicated to international film directors. Series editors are Robert Singer, Ph.D. and Gary D. Rhodes, Ph.D.

We invite abstracts, chapter proposals of approximately 400 words to be sent to Silvia Álvarez-Olarra (mailto:salvarezolarra@bmcc.cuny.edu). Along with the proposal, please attach a brief curriculum vitae or summary of your educational background and/or writing experience. The deadline for abstract submissions is January 15, 2017.

Essays included in the refereed anthology will be approximately 6,000-8,000 words including endnotes, and bibliography. All essays must be written in English and referenced in Chicago style. The incorporation of stills (screen “grabs,” TIFF or JPG 300+ dpi) is encouraged, but authors are responsible for obtaining all permissions for the images they plan to use. Accepted contributors are expected to submit their full chapters by June 15, 2018.