

## Document Citation

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Palm Springs Int'l FF 1991

**Ay, Carmela!**

## Oscar Submission

**Showtimes:** Wed., 1/9, 9:00 p.m., Camelot 1

**Director:** Carlos Saura **Producer:** Andres Vicente Gomez **Screenwriter:** Carlos Saura, Rafael Azcona, From the book by José Sanchis Sinisterra **Cinematographer:** José Luis Alcaine **Editor:** Pablo G. del Amo **Music:** Alejandro Masso **Cast:** Carmen Maura, Andres Pajares, Gabino Diego, Maurizio di Razza, Edward Zentara **Print Source:** Prestige Pictures

Carmen Maura, the delightful star of such Pedro Almodovar treats as **WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN** and **WHAT HAVE I DONE TO DESERVE THIS**, won this year's European Film Award for Best Actress in this darkly humorous and poignant film from director Carlos Saura (**CARMEN, BLOOD WEDDING**). Set in 1938 during the Spanish Civil War, **¡AY, CARMELA!** follows the exploits of a traveling cabaret company which goes from town to town entertaining the republican troops between battles. Franco's Fascist forces and the Republican army attack and counter-attack each other relentlessly with towns and villages changing hands every day. Carmela (Maura) and Paulino, the owners of the small troupe, decide to return to Valencia, where the war is less cruel and the food more plentiful. Driving through fog one night, tired and hungry, they discover that they have crossed over into enemy territory and wind up in jail. In order to gain their freedom, Carmela agrees with her husband to put on a performance for the Fascist troops. Little does she know that her husband has been making promises behind her back! **¡AY CARMELA!** is the Spanish submission for Best Foreign Language Film at this year's Academy Awards.

Spain/Italy, 1990, 105 min.

