

Document Citation

Title	Alicia en la Espana de las maravillas
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Source	<i>Variety</i>
Date	1978 May 24
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	38
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Alicia en la Espana de las maravillas (Alice in Spanish Wonderland), Feliu, Jorge, 1978

Alicia En La Espana De Las Maravillas

**(Alice in Spanish Wonderland)
(SPANISH-COLOR)**

Barcelona, May 13.

Roda Films (Barcelona) production. Directed by Jorge Feliu. Features entire cast. Screenplay, Jordi Feliu, Jesus Borrás, Antoni Colomer; sets, Elisa Ruiz; music, Juan Pineda; editor, Teresa Alcocer, Guillermo Maldonado; camera, (Eastmancolor) Raul Perez Cubero; exec producer, Isabel Fabra. Reviewed at Salvador Serra screening room (Barcelona), May 12, '78. Running time: **86 MINS.**

First Alice Mireia Ros
Second Alice Silvia Aguilar
Third Alice Montserrat Mostoles
Grown-up Alice Concha Bardem
Guardian Angel Pau Bizarro
Swindler Alfredo Lucchetti

Strange, visually powerful but sometimes long winded takeoff on the Alice in Wonderland story, turned by Jorge Feliu (whose first serious pic this is) into a ferocious critique of the Franco years in Spain.

Using four different Alices, Feliu puts them through a hallucinatory maze, sometimes grotesquely symbolic, often harrowingly realistic as he lashes out at the Spanish ills of 40 years ranging over film censorship, anti-feminism, suppression of regional freedoms, ecclesiastical abuses, the raping of Alice by the multinationals (some rather naive anti-Americanism crops up, too) and dozens of other misadventures, some of them easy to grasp, other requiring a knowledge of Spain and her history.

Alicia is a film hard to define. It is professionally directed, photographed and acted; its varied images are often visually stunning and its liberal thrust is poignant, though sometimes it becomes redundant and labors the obvious. Still, "Alicia" is perhaps the most direct frontal attack so far on Franco Spain. Despite some of its shortcomings, it is a film well worth seeing for all interested in modern Spanish cinema. Item might do some biz in art and university circuits abroad.

—Besa.