

Document Citation

Title	Amerika, terra incognita
Author(s)	Peter Besas
Source	<i>Variety</i>
Date	1988 May 18
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Amerika, terra incognita (America, unknown land), Riskey, Diego, 1988

Amerika, Terra Incognita

(America, Unknown Land)

(VENEZUELAN)

A Cuakamaya Prods. film. Produced by Morelba Pacheco, G. Radonski. Written and directed by Diego Riskey. Camera, Andrés Agusti; editor, Leonardo Henriquez; sets, Oscar Armitano; music, Alejandro Blanco Uribe. Reviewed at Cannes Film Festival (Directors Fortnight), May 16, 1988. Running time: **98 MIN.**

With: Alberto Martin, Maria Luisa Mosquera, John Phelps, Luis Mariano Trujillo, Amapola Riskey, Nelson Varela, Boris Izaguirre, Blanca Baldo.

Cannes — This is a highly stylized art pic with no dialog, giving an impressionistic recreation of the Spanish court after the discovery of America.

Riskey uses lotsa tilted camera angles and ponderously slow scans of the court, sometimes slipping into static poses simulating famous Velázquez paintings.

In lieu of a plot, we see the court botanist puttering about with exotic plants brought from the New World, a real live native who wanders about the palace and eventually is baptized in an elaborate church ceremony, shots of court jesters and nuns (toting heavy lipstick) and other miscellanea.

What the point of it all is may be lost on most viewers of this low-budget item. Commercial prospects seem pretty remote. — *Besa.*