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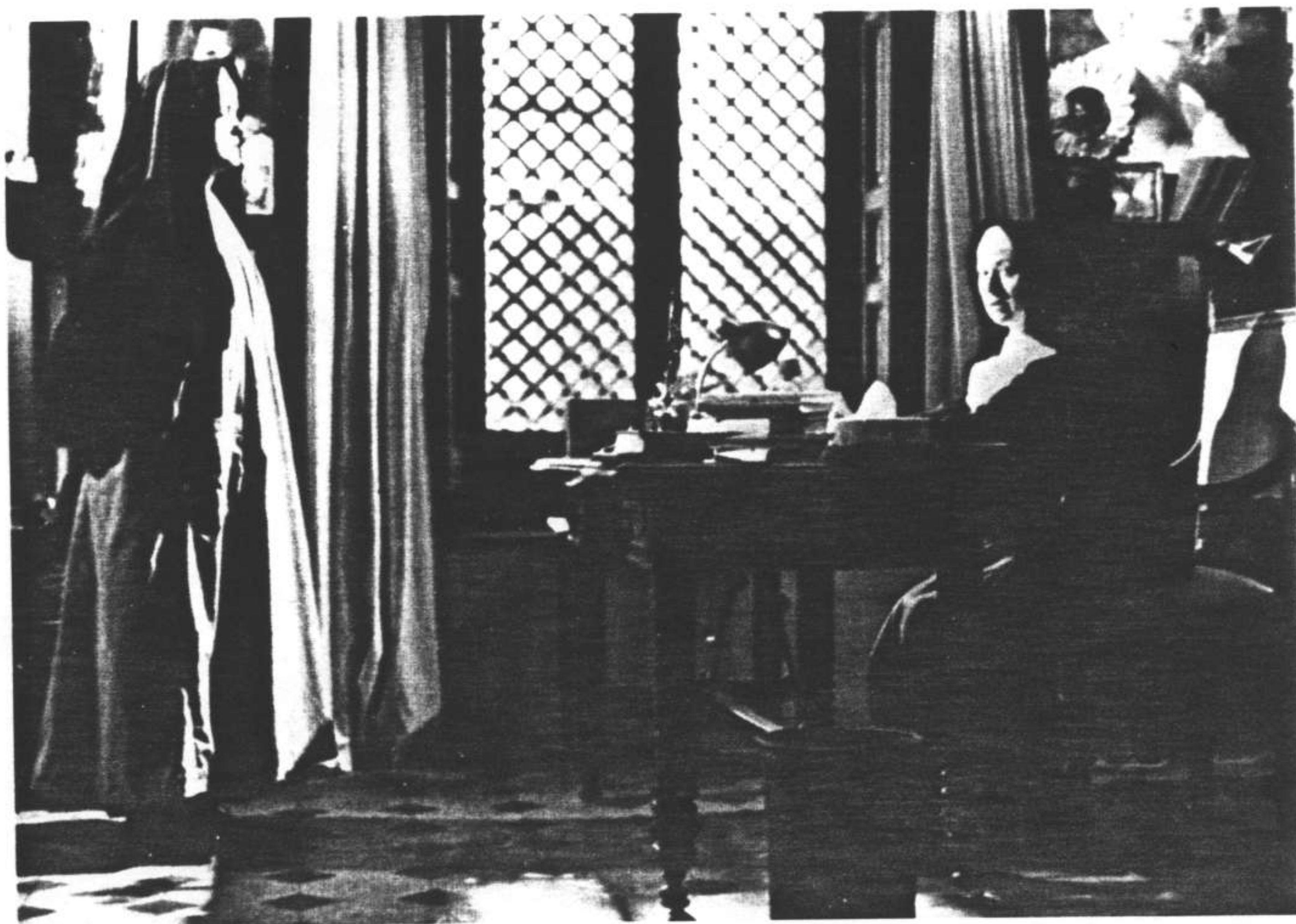
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12TH SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL
LESBIAN AND GAY FILM FESTIVAL

DARK HABITS
directed by Pedro Almodovar
Spain, 1983, 113 minutes



Press Screening: June 2, 1:00pm, Roxie Cinema

Festival Screening: Friday, June 17, 7:30pm, Castro Theatre

SUPPORTED BY GRANTS FROM THE CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL, SAN FRANCISCO GRANTS FOR THE ARTS, THE CHICAGO RESOURCE CENTER AND THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

A most irreverent new comedy
from the director of
"What have I done..." and "Law of Desire"



Dark Habits

..... A FILM BY **ALMODÓVAR**

A Tesauro Film

A Cinevista Release



FOR SCREENING INFORMATION CONTACT

SPANISH STAND - Palais Des Festivals
or

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5 rue Molière TEL 93.38.16.16

DARK HABITS

a film by Almodóvar

CINEVISTA

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DARK HABITS

Executive Producer LUIS CALVO

Written and Directed by ALMODOVAR

Director of Photography ANGEL L. FERNANDEZ

Production Design PIN MORALES, ROMAN ARANGO

Edited by JOSE SALCEDO

Production Manager TADEO VILLALBA

Assistant Director TERRY LENOX

Sound by MARTIN MULLER, ARMIN FAUSTEN

Make-up ANGEL L. DeDIEGO

Costumes TERESA NIETO

Starring

CRISTINA S. PASCUAL Yolanda

JULIETA SERRANO Mother Superior

MARISA PAREDES Sister Manure

CARMEN MAURA Sister Sin

MARI CARILLO The Marquesa

LINA CANALEJAS Sister Snake

MANUEL ZARZO Chaplain

CHUS LAMPREAVE Sister Rat

BERTA RIAZA Mother General

A Cinevista Release

SYNOPSIS

Yolanda Bell (CHRISTINA S. PASCUAL) is a singer of boleros at the night club "Molino Rojo". One night, she notices a group of nuns in the audience. After the show, the nuns come to Yolanda's dressing room for an autograph and a photo. The Mother Superior (JULIETA SERRANO) gives Yolanda a card with the address of their order, "The Humble Redeemers".

Yolanda is a junkie. She sees her boyfriend Jorge die before her eyes from an overdose of heroin laced with strychnine. Soon the police are looking for Yolanda.

Scared, Yolanda decides to take refuge with "The Humble Redeemers". For years, this order has tried to save young girls leading a wild life. Lately, the order is in crisis: very few girls want to be redeemed. Thus Yolanda's arrival is warmly welcomed, especially by the Mother Superior, a cross between Saint John Bosco and Jean Genet. This nun has been lead by her fascination for evil to become the friend and accomplice to all the wild young girls who have passed through the convent.

Yolanda allows the Mother Superior to trap her in a mutually destructive game. A game from which heroin is not absent.

The members of the convent include the chaplain (MANUEL ZARZO), a chain-smoking admirer of Cecil Beaton, and the four remaining and oddly named sisters: Sister Manure (MARISA PAREDES), Sister Sin (CARMEN MAURA), Sister Snake (LINA CANALEJAS), and Sister Rat (CHUS LAMPREAVE) who writes lurid romances under the name Conchita Torres. In their isolation, these strange creatures have evolved a new approach to the concepts of humility and redemption.

This new order cannot be accepted by the Church and the new Mother General. "The Humble Redeemers" plan a party to celebrate the Mother Superior's name day. The Mother General, and nuns from the other convents will be invited.

This party will become a real battle field.

PEDRO ALMODÓVAR (Director)

Almodóvar was born in La Mancha along with the decade of the fifties. It was the time of the Cold War, the Mambo, Balenciaga, and the death of Stalin. But none of this would make the slightest bit of difference in Calzada de Calatrava, the small village of his birth. Almodóvar looked around and didn't like what he saw. He felt like an astronaut in the Court of King Arthur. He was born to take on the big cities.

But he had to wait until he was seventeen. While he waited he studied in a school run by priests. He learned Latin, he translated Julius Caesar. He read novels by Francois Sagan, Mika Waltary, Somerset Maugham, and Herman Hesse. He listened to pop music on the radio.

Once in the big city (Madrid), he decided the only way to live was to take the town by storm. So, he became a hippy (the latest fad) and an office worker at the National Telephone Company. He gave up being a hippy one year later (just when it was no longer a fad). He gave up the Telephone company ten years later (just when filmmaking prevented him from wasting eight hours a day in an office).

At the end of the sixties, Almodóvar wrote storylines for comics and worked on underground magazines, contributing stories and points of view on reality. In the seventies, he did extra work on some truly awful films and got involved with a prestigious independent theatre company, Los Goliardos. He made his start in film with a Super 8 camera, coming to grips with every genre. This was to be his only training as a filmmaker.

In 1980, he made his debut on the big silver screen. By his third film, he began to gain a reputation outside Madrid. In France, England, Germany, and the USA he has been hailed as a new version of Bunuel, Billy Wilder, John Waters, and Woody Allen in response to his rich and varied styles of filmmaking.

FEATURE FILM FILMOGRAPHY

1980 PEPI, LUCY, BOM AND OTHER GIRLS LIKE MOM

1982 LABYRINTH OF PASSION

1984 DARK HABITS

1985 WHAT HAVE I DONE TO DESERVE THIS!?

1986 MATADOR

1987 LAW OF DESIRE

1988 WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN