

## Document Citation

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Sun 27 Nov



EVENING STANDARD  
FESTIVAL ON THE SQUARE

SPAIN 1988

## Women on the Edge of a Nervous Breakdown

*Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios*

10.30 am Warner West End

Director: Pedro Almodóvar

Production Company: El Deseo/Laurenfilm

Producer: Agustín Almodóvar

Screenplay: Pedro Almodóvar

Photography (Eastman Colour): José Luis Alcaine

British Distributor: Rank Film Distributors, 127 Wardour St,  
London W1V 4AD. Telex 262556

Export Agent: Orion Pictures, 31 Soho Sq, W1

Leading Players: Carmen Maura, Antonio Banderes, Fernando  
Guillén, Julieta Serrano

Running Time: 98 mins

Festivals: Venice, New York

London  
FF. '88

Almodóvar's latest film is undoubtedly going to be the comedy hit of the year. Pepa has the latest food-mixer, stereo and answering machine. She lives with rabbits and hens in a plush attic in a Madrid with a postcard blue sky and where taxis come pronto, have leopard-skin seats and a sign up saying 'Passengers are invited to smoke'. Pepa lives, most obviously, in a perfect world . . . except for the fact that men are always leaving their women. While Pepa tries to get back together with boyfriend Ivan, upon her flat descend: a friend who's got off with a very nice boy who turns out, oh dear! to be a Shi'ite terrorist, Ivan's goodie-two-shoes son, his termagant girlfriend, two policemen, one electrician and Ivan's wife, just sprung from the loony bin. Almodóvar in *Women* is far more accessible and (slightly) less *enfant terrible* than of late: he directs with panache, humour and, most important, his heart.—John Hopewell.