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Paramount, Tuesday, July 13 at 3.00 pm & 9.00 pm



Angel de Fuego

(Angel of Fire, Mexico, 1991)

Director: Dana Rotberg
Production Co.: Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografía
Producers: León Constantiner, Dana Rotberg
Screenplay: Omar Alain Rodrigo, Dana Rotberg
Photography: Toni Kuhn (colour)
Editors: Sigfrido Barjau, Dana Rotberg
Art director: Anna Sánchez
Costumes: María Estela Fernández
Sound: Nerio Barberis
Music: Ariel Guzik, Ana Ruiz

Cast
Alma: Evangelina Sosa
Refugio: Lilia Aragón
Sacramento: Roberto Sosa
Noé: Noé Montealegre
Renato: Alejandro Parodi
Rito: Salvador Sánchez
Josefina: Mercedes Pascual
Malena: Gina Morett
Lidio: Farnesio de Bernal
Marta: Martha Aura

90 minutes/35mm/stereo

Festivals: Cannes (Directors' Fortnight), Toronto, Vancouver, London, 1992. Sundance, San Francisco, Melbourne, Sydney, 1993.

Beautifully assured in its economical, elliptical storytelling and its selective uses of both colours and sound, Dana Rotberg's corrosive, Bressonian, and Mexican second feature *Angel of Fire* follows the embittered progress of a 13-year-old circus performer from her impregnation by her dying father (a clown) to her adoption by a religious fanatic who runs a travelling puppet show with her two sons. Though the harshness of the impoverished milieu and the violence of the plot make this sound like a shocker ("Jodorowsky meets Tennessee Williams," a New York colleague said approvingly), what's most impressive about this tale of hatred and revenge is the steely calm and quiet control with which Rotberg tells it. - *Jonathan Rosenbaum, Film Comment, 11/92*

A tale of lurid folk-art purity... The feature is Rotberg's second - it was more than two years in the making, and the deliberate quality of the film is most evident in its densely layered soundtrack and boldly patterned images, not to mention the gravity of its youthful performances. That the actors who play Alma and Sacramento are actually brother and sister gives the movie another, more subliminally incestuous, spin. - *J. Hoberman, Premiere, 3/93*

Short

Walking Past Midnight. An unbearable legacy is passed on through three generations of women in Andrea Bosshard's short drama. VCA/Australia/1992/16mm/22 mins.