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Latin American and Caribbean

ONE WAY OR ANOTHER

(DE CIERTA MANERA) 1974, Sara Gomez, Cuba, 79 min.

6:00

Lecturer: Ilene Goldman

The first Cuban feature film directed by a woman, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER explores the effects of the Cuban Revolution on the lives of the marginales, the great masses of men and women who lived on the fringes of pre-Revolutionary society. Freely combining newsreels with dramatic sequences, the film chronicles the relationship between Yolanda, a young middle-class schoolteacher sent to work in Miraflores, a notorious slum, and Mario, a worker largely indifferent to the Revolution. Through Mario. Yolanda comes to learn her own race and class prejudices, whereas Mario discovers the opportunities which the Revolution has made possible for him. With fascinating digressions on the continuing power of machismo and African mysticism, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER is refreshingly free of political moralism; rather, it presents well-sketched, complex characters struggling to come to terms with themselves while living in a society simultaneously undergoing a dramatic re-definition. (FC)