



Photo by Jim Block.



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In Conversation With Directors and Actors

CLAS frequently screens award-winning films and hosts directors and actors to discuss their recent work. Here are a few highlights.

A screening of “A Better Life” (2011) featured director **Chris Weitz** and Oscar-nominated actor **Demián Bichir**. In 2012, director **David Turnley** presented “Shenandoah” (2012), his documentary about disturbing tensions targeting Mexican migrants in a Pennsylvania coal town ripped apart during hard times.

Director **Diego Luna** screened his film “Cesar Chavez” with CLAS in 2014. At the event, he discussed the film with **Arturo Rodriguez**, president of the United Farm Workers union; **Maria Echaveste**, a Senior Scholar at CLAS; and **Harley Shaiken**. United Farm Workers co-founder **Dolores Huerta** was a special guest at the screening. After a visit by Luna to CLAS several years earlier, Shaiken mentioned a

Above, from left: Harley Shaiken, Diego Luna, Arturo Rodriguez, and Maria Echaveste discuss Luna’s “Cesar Chavez.”
Left: Dolores Huerta with students at the “Cesar Chavez” screening.



Photo by Ana De Carolis.

talk Chavez had given at UC Berkeley, and the Bancroft Library provided a recording to the director.

Walter Salles received a standing ovation at a CLAS event in 2005 after discussing the production process for his movie “The Motorcycle Diaries” (2004). In 2016, we hosted a screening of “Aquarius” (2016) and a conversation with its star, **Sônia Braga**. A visit from director **Petra Costa** to screen her film “Democracia em Vertigem” (The Edge of Democracy, 2019) was followed by a public conversation with Oscar-winning filmmaker **Charles Ferguson**. CLAS has hosted advanced screenings with the director for all of Ferguson’s films, including the Oscar-winning “Inside Job” (2010).

A proud moment at CLAS was working with Mexican director **Roberto Hernández** and producer **Layda Negrete** on “Presunto Culpable” (Presumed Guilty, 2011). Among other awards, the film won the 2011 Emmy for Outstanding Investigative Journalism, and CLAS Chair Harley Shaiken received an Emmy as an executive producer of the film.

Latin America has a vibrant film tradition, and CLAS looks forward to future Cine Latino programs.

Above: Charles Ferguson listens to Petra Costa, 2019.
Right: Demián Bichir with Berkeley students, 2013.



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