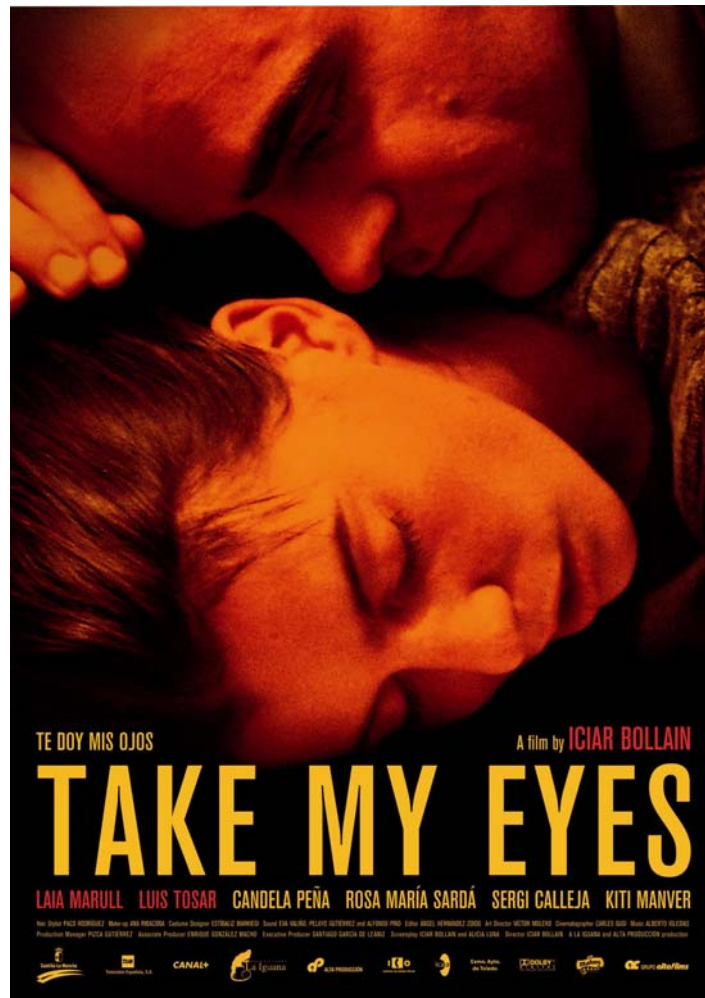


LA IGUANA & ALTA PRODUCCION  
presents



(TE DOY MIS OJOS)  
a film by  
ICIAR BOLLAIN

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE FILM

Update April 27th, 2006

- [PRESS HEADLINES](#)
- [SYNOPSIS AND OVERVIEW](#)
- [CAST AND CREW LISTS](#)
- [AWARDS & NOMINATIONS](#)

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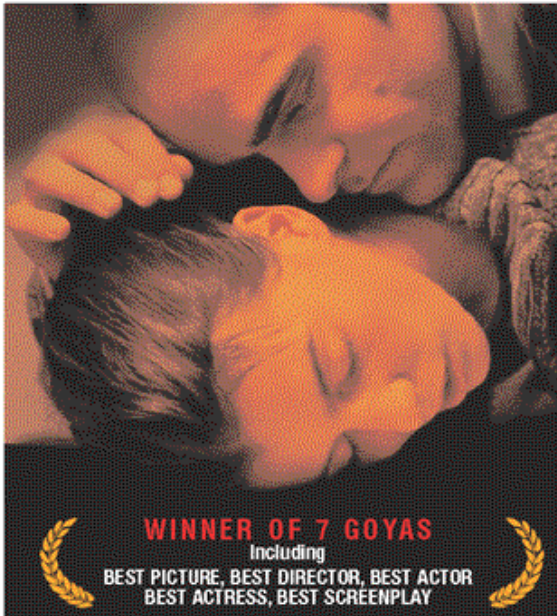
**A FINE FILM WITHOUT A FALSE NOTE."**

-Stephen Holden, *The New York Times*

A film by **IGIAR BOLLAIN**

# TAKE MY EYES

**LAIA MARULL LUIS TOSAR CANDELA PEÑA ROSA MARÍA SARDÁ SERGI CALLEJA KITI MANVER**



**WINNER OF 7 GOYAS**

Including

BEST PICTURE, BEST DIRECTOR, BEST ACTOR  
BEST ACTRESS, BEST SCREENPLAY

**"PROVOCATIVE.  
Piercing central performances."**

- Variety

**"WORTH SERIOUS ATTENTION."**

- Time Out NY

**"PROFOUNDLY COMPLEX. GRADE: A."**

- Seattle Post Intelligencer

*Take My Eyes* generates tremendous empathy and suspense as a couple struggles to rebuild their relationship, but there are no simple answers in this piercing multifaceted work that goes far beyond movie-of-the-week topicality. *Take My Eyes* tackles the difficult subject of domestic violence, but like *Days of Wine and Roses* and *Drugstore Cowboy*, it broadens (and never dilutes) its cautionary tale with humor, lyricism, and a shattered love story. Sweeping all major categories in the Goya Awards, Iciar Bollain's third feature vaults the actress-turned-director into the top rank of contemporary Spanish filmmakers.

**NEW YORKER FILMS**

[www.NewYorkerFilms.com](http://www.NewYorkerFilms.com)

**“A powerful drama...superb writing...excellent performances”**  
DAVE CALHOUN – TIME OUT

**“One of the most moving films you’ll see this year.”**  
\*\*\*\* EMPIRE

**“An understated tour-de-force building to a turbo-charged  
denouement of incredible power”**  
\*\*\*\* FILM REVIEW

**“Subtle, well-made and one of the best European films of the  
year”**  
LONDON EVENING STANDARD

**“powerful stuff...excellent performances”**  
THE GUARDIAN

**“Outstanding”**  
BIG ISSUE

**“A film of immense subtlety and emotional power”**  
DAILY TELEGRAPH

## Synopsis

One winter night, Pilar runs away from home. With her, she takes only a few belongings and her son, Juan.

Antonio soon sets out to look for her. He says Pilar is his sunshine, and what's more, "*She gave him her eyes*"...



Throughout the story of TAKE MY EYES, Pilar rewrites a marriage agreement where nothing was right. Where it said "home", there was hell. "Love" was pain, and the person who promised "protection" brought only terror... But a change in part of the text alters the rest... maybe even tearing it to shreds.

## Comments by the Director, Iciar Bollain

"After *Flores de otro mundo (Flowers from another world) (1999)*, I wanted to make a denser film with fewer characters, which perhaps meant it would be starker and more intense. And for some time, Alicia Luna, co-screenplay writer, and I had been thinking about spouse abuse. We found that, although this subject is constantly in the media, we had lots of unanswered questions.

Why does a woman stay for an average of ten years with a man who beats her? Why doesn't she leave? And not only that, Why do some women even insist that they are still in love? Being financially dependent is not enough of a reason to explain the fact that one out of every four women in Europe and the United States has experienced a violent relationship in her life.

In the course of our research, we learned that one of the main reasons they stayed was because they kept hoping the man would change. That is why our main character is a woman who keeps hoping every day that the man she originally fell in love with will walk in through the door... But who is that man? Why is there almost no standard profile for a wife-beater? And, for years, why do those men abuse the very person they claim to love with all their hearts?

There are men who are physically violent. Others are also psychologically violent and are probably the ones who do the most damage. Some are genuinely cruel, while others are also victims themselves, who only know how to solve conflicts by using violence, who need to keep tight control over the person they love, who are very afraid... and that is what the man in our film is like. Someone who has the chance to see himself for what he is, and change.

TAKE MY EYES (TE DOY MIS OJOS) is Pilar and Antonio's story, but it is also about the people around them: a mother who condones the situation, a sister who does not understand, and a son who sees all but says nothing. The city of Toledo, with its artistic splendor and historical and religious importance, adds yet another dimension to this story about love, fear, control, and power.

## The Actors

“For Pilar’s character, we auditioned many wonderful actresses. It was a long process. She is a character with the enormous problem of not knowing who she is. Pilar doesn’t say what she thinks or feels, because she doesn’t know. She is a woman who is not herself. How do you tell an actress to play that? She is also a woman who grows and changes, completely lost at the start but much more together at the end, where she is flourishing.

Laia Marull is able to seem both fragile and yet strong at the same time. She is able to look either distraught or absolutely beautiful, with an inner glow. She is a very solid actress who knows how to combine experience with strong feelings, her emotions constantly right at the surface.

Luis Tosar’s character is also a very difficult one. He contributed a great deal to it, as the character evolves from being a real brute who understands nothing to seeing things from a different level. He is able to be gentle and then change in an instant, turning darker, unpredictable... Luis adds an infinite number of nuances to Antonio’s character. I believe they are both very courageous actors who dove head first into the scenes.

Candela Peña gives her strength and great tenderness to a character who represents those of us who want to help but don’t know how, because deep down, we don’t understand the people in need. Despite all the best intentions, Ana is unable to help her sister because she does not understand her, because she tries to simplify something that is very complex. We are all a bit like Candela.

Rosa María Sardá generously took on the thankless task of embodying a character who silences the problem, and thereby condones it, as has been done for so many years.”

*Iciar Bollain, Summer 2003*

# TAKE MY EYES

(TE DOY MIS OJOS)

## CAST

PILAR	LAIA MARULL
ANTONIO	LUIS TOSAR
ANA	CANDELA PEÑA
AURORA	ROSA MARÍA SARDÁ
ROSA	KITI MANVER
THERAPIST	SERGI CALLEJA
JUAN	NICOLAS FERNÁNDEZ LUNA
JOHN	DAVID MOONEY
LOLA	ELISABET GELABERT
CARMEN	ELENA IRURETA
RAQUEL	CHUS GUTIÉRREZ

## CREW

Director:	ICIAR BOLLAIN
Screenplay:	ICIAR BOLLAIN y ALICIA LUNA
Producer:	SANTIAGO GARCÍA DE LEANIZ
Associate producer:	ENRIQUE GONZÁLEZ MACHO
Line producer:	PIZCA GUTIÉRREZ
Director of photography:	CARLES GUSI a.e.c.
Editor:	ANGEL HERNÁNDEZ ZOIDO
Music:	ALBERTO IGLESIAS
Art director:	VICTOR MOLERO
Costumes:	ESTIBALIZ MARKIEGUI
Make up:	ANA RIBACOBIA
Sound:	EVA VALIÑO, PELAYO GUTIÉRREZ & ALFONSO PINO
Production Companies:	LA IGUANA & ALTA PRODUCCIÓN
Distributor Spain:	ALTA CLASSICS
International sales:	SOGEPAQ Simón de Santiago <a href="mailto:simons@sogecable.com">simons@sogecable.com</a> Tel: +34917367450 Fax: +34917368991
Locations:	Toledo & Madrid, Spain
Format & length:	35 mm. Color. 1:1,85. 1h,46´min.
World premiere:	September 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2003 San Sebastián Film Festival Official Section.

## **AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS**

Update December 2005

### **GOYAS SPANISH ACADEMY AWARDS:**

- ξ Best Film
- ξ Best Director (Iciar Bollain)
- ξ Best Original Screenplay (Iciar Bollain & Alicia Luna)
- ξ Best Leading Actress (Lai Marull)
- ξ Best Leading Actor (Luis Tosar)
- ξ Best Supporting Actress (Candela Peña)
- ξ Best Sound (Eva Valiño, Pelayo Gutiérrez & Alfonso Pino)

### **51 SAN SEBASTIÁN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2003 :**

- ξ Silver Shell Best Actress: Laia Marull
- ξ Silver Shell Best Actor: Luis Tosar
- ξ Best Film (Spanish Film Writers Guild ,C.E.C)
- ξ Special Mention Signis Jury

### **SPANISH FILM WRITERS GUILD (C.E.C):**

- ξ Best Film
- ξ Best Director (Iciar Bollain)
- ξ Best Original Screenplay (Iciar Bollain y Alicia Luna)
- ξ Best Leading Actress (Lai Marull)
- ξ Best Leading Actor (Luis Tosar)
- ξ Best Supporting Actress (Candela Peña)
- ξ Best Original Score (Alberto Iglesias)

### **“FOTOGRAMAS DE PLATA” NATIONAL FILM AWARDS**

- ξ Critics´ Award Best Film of the Year 2003
- ξ Readers´ Award Best Actress: Laia Marull
- ξ Readers´ Award Best Actor : Luis Tosar

### **A.D.I.R.C.E Awards (Spanish Film Directors Guild)**

- ξ Juan Antonio Bardem Best Director Award: Iciar Bollain
- ξ Best Lead Acting: Laia Marull

### **CADENA SER RADIO NATIONAL AWARDS:**

- ξ Best Spanish Film 2003

### **ONDA CERO RADIO NATIONAL AWARDS:**

- ξ Best Actress: Laia Marull
- ξ Best Actor: Luis Tosar

### **R.N.E. (SPANISH NATIONAL RADIO) SANT JORDI AWARDS 2004**

- ξ BEST ACTRESS: Laia Marull

**I INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF EUROPEAN SCREENWRITERS 2004**

ξ GRAND EUROPEAN SCREENPLAY PRIZE

Te doy mis ojos (Iciar Bollain & Alicia Luna)

**SUNDANCE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2004, USA.**

World Cinema Section (Non competitive)

**XXVI CRETEIL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN FILM FESTIVAL , FRANCE**

ξ Grand Jury Prize

ξ Best Film: Audience Award

**XVIII GUADALAJARA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL , MEXICO**

ξ Best Iberoamerican Film

ξ FIPRESCI Critics' Award

ξ Best Iberoamerican Film: Audience Award

**XIV SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL , NANTES 2004 , FRANCE**

ξ Audience Award Best Film

ξ Best Actress (ex aequo): Laia Marull

**SEATTLE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2004**

ξ Best Actor: Luis Tosar

**COPENHAGEN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2004**

ξ Golden Swan Award Best Actor: Luis Tosar

**PALIC INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, SERBIA & MONTENEGRO 2004,**

ξ Silver Tower Prize

**14 PARAGUAY'S INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2005**

ξ Manambí Award Best Film "Women and Cinema"

**EUROPEAN FILM AWARDS 2005**

\* AUDIENCE AWARDS Nominated Best European Director: Iciar Bollain

\* AUDIENCE AWARDS Nominated Best European Actress: Laia Marull

\* European Film Award Nomination Best Composer: Alberto Iglesias

**ARGENTINEAN FILM CRITICS ASSOCIATION AWARDS 2005**

\* Nominated Best Foreign Film, Spanish Language

(Mejor Película Extranjera en Habla Hispana)

**BODIL AWARDS, COPENHAGEN, DENMARK 2005**

\* Nominated Best Non-American Film (Bedste ikke-amerikanske film)

**ICIAR BOLLAIN**  
**Writer & Director**



Born in Madrid in 1967, **Iciar Bollain** has worked as leading actress in selected films like **“EL SUR”** (1983) by Victor Erice, **“MALAVENTURA”** (1988) by Manuel Gutiérrez Aragón, **“UN PARAGUAS PARA TRES”** (1992) by Felipe Vega, **“LAND AND FREEDOM”** (1996) by Ken Loach, **“LEO”** (2000) by Jose Luis Borau, nominated for Best Actress by the Spanish Academy Awards, **“THE STONE RAFT”** (2003) by George Sluizer and just recently **“LA NOCHE DEL HERMANO”** (2005) by Santiago García de Leániz.

In 1991 she became a partner of film production company La Iguana, writing and directing both documentaries and short fiction films. In 1995 she wrote and directed her feature film debut **“HOLA, ¿ESTÁS SÓLA? (HI, ARE YOU ALONE?)**, awarded among others with Best New Director and Audience Award in Valladolid International Film Fest. and nominated for the Spanish Academy Award for Best Directorial Debut. The film became one of Spain's 1996 box office hits. **“FLORES DE OTRO MUNDO”** (1999) (FLOWERS FROM ANOTHER WORLD) co-written with award winning novelist Julio Llamazares, was her second feature film and was awarded at **Cannes Film Festival 1999, Best Film** in the **International Critics' Week**. The film was theatrically released in Spain during May 1999 and it became an acclaimed audience's and critics' choice. **TAKE MY EYES**

is her third feature film, winner of **7 Goya Spanish Academy Awards: BEST FILM, BEST DIRECTOR, BEST ACTRESS, BEST ACTOR, BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY, BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS & BEST SOUND**. Theatrical admissions in Spain went over 1.000.000. The film was also awarded in the Official Section of San Sebastian Film Festival **BEST ACTRESS** (Laila Marull) and **BEST ACTOR** (Luis Tosar). International sales have been made so far in 25 countries. She is now shooting **“MATAHARIS”**, principal photography began March 21<sup>st</sup> and its world premiere scheduled by first term of 2007.

## **FILMOGRAPHY AS WRITER AND DIRECTOR:**

“**MATAHARIS**”(2007) (in production)

“**TE DOY MIS OJOS**” (TAKE MY EYES) (2003)\*

(\*see page 9 for awards and nominations)

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“**FLORES DE OTRO MUNDO**” (Flowers from another world) (1999)

- **BEST FILM**, INTERNATIONAL CRITICS' WEEK, CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 1999

- **BEST FEMALE ACTING** (*Elena Irureta, Lissete Mejía y Marilyn Torres*), **BEST SCREENPLAY**, & **AUDIENCE AWARD** ARCACHON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FILM FEST, FRANCE, October 1999

- **PRESS AWARD: BEST FILM**

ESSONNE EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL, PARIS, FRANCE, October 1999

- **BEST FILM** BOGOTÁ (COLOMBIA) INTERNATIONAL FILM FEST:, Nov. 1999

- **BEST FILM** (*ex aequo*) FESTIVAL INTERNAZIONALE CINEMA DONNE, TORINO (ITALY), MARCH 2000

- **BEST FILM XX** NIMES SPANISH FILM WEEK, (FRANCE) MARCH 2000

- **EMERGING TALENTS AWARD** SEATTLE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL , USA, 2000

SPANISH ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATION best ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY

SPANISH ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATION best NEW ACTOR (Luis Tosar)

SPANISH FILM WRITERS GUILD NOMINATION best SCREENPLAY

SPANISH FILM WRITERS GUILD NOMINATION best NEW ACTOR (Luis Tosar)

SPANISH PRODUCERS GUILD NOMINATION best FILM 1999

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“**HOLA, ¿ESTÁS SOLA?**” (HI, ARE YOU ALONE?) (1995) feature film.

**BEST NEW DIRECTOR**

**BEST FILM: AUDIENCE CHOICE**

**SPECIAL YOUNG JURY MENTION**

40 VALLADOLID INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, SPAIN, NOV.95

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**SPANISH ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE:** best NEW DIRECTOR 1995

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**SECOND PRIZE**

BERGAMO INTERNATIONAL FILM FEST. ITALY, NOV.95

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**GRAND JURY PRIZE**

7th SPANISH FILM WEEK, ANNECY, FRANCE, MARCH 96

\*\*\*

**BEST FILM**

**BEST DIRECTOR**

**BEST ACTRESS** (Candela Peña)

INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FILM FEST. PEÑISCOLA, SPAIN, JUNE 96

\*\*\*

**BEST FILM**

EUROPEAN FILM FEST. HUESCA, SPAIN , JUNE 96

\*\*\*

**BEST FILM: JURY AWARD**

CADIZ ATLANTIC INT. FILM FEST, SPAIN , SEPT.96

\*\*\*

**BEST SPANISH FILM OF THE YEAR**

ASOCIATION OF ANDALUSIAN FILM CRITICS AWARD, SEVILLE 1997

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**SAINT JORDI AWARD FOR BEST NEW DIRECTOR**

ASOCIATION OF CATALONIAN PRESS CINEMA AWARD 1996

\*\*\*

**BEST FIRST FILM 1996**

VI PREMIOS CARTELERIA TURIA, VALENCIA MAY 1997

\*\*\*

**BEST FEMALE ACTING AWARD (CANDELA PEÑA , SILKE y ELENA IRURETA)**

-MOSTRA DE NOVOS REALIZADORES, FORTALEZA, BRASIL, JUNE. 97

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**SHORT FILMS:****"LOS AMIGOS DEL MUERTO"** (FRIENDLY DEAD) (1994) short film 35 mm.-**First Prize** IX Week of Spanish Cinema, MURCIA, 1994-**Best Acting Award for the Whole Cast** L'ALFAS del PI Film Fest.1994-**First Prize 35mm Short Film & Best Director Award**

XVII Festival Internacional de Cine de ELCHE, 1994

**"BAJA, CORAZÓN"**, (COME DOWN, SWEET HEART) (1992) short film 35 mm

Official Section Alcalá de Henares Film Festival (Spain) 1992.

**"AMORES QUE MATAN"**, (A LOVE THAT KILLS) (2000) short film 35mm.

Valladolid International Film Festival 2000 (Out of competition)

Alcalá de Henares National Film Fest. 2000 , Opening Film (Out of Competition)

Jury Special Mention Cinema Donne Torino Film Fest, Italy, 2001

**ACTRESS FILMOGRAPHY:**

Since 1983, as leading actress in feature films such as:  
 "EL SUR" (1983) by Víctor Erice  
 "MIENTRAS HAYA LUZ" (1987) by Felipe Vega  
 "MALAVENTURA" (1988) by Manuel Gutiérrez Aragón  
 "EL MEJOR DE LOS TIEMPOS" (1990) by Felipe Vega  
 "SUBLET" (1991) by Chus Gutiérrez  
 "UN PARAGUAS PARA TRES" (1992) by Felipe Vega  
 "JARDINES COLGANTES" (1993) by Pablo Llorca  
 "TOCANDO FONDO" (1993) by José Luis Cuerda  
 "EL TECHO DEL MUNDO" (1994) by Felipe Vega  
 "LAND AND FREEDOM" (1995) by Ken Loach  
 "NIÑO NADIE" (1997) by José Luis Borau  
 "LEO" (2000) by Jose Luis Borau  
 "NOS MIRAN" (2002) by Norberto Pérez  
 "THE STONE RAFT" (2003) by George Sluzier  
 "THE NIGHT OF THE BROTHER" (2005) by Santiago García de Leániz

**ACTING AWARDS:**

- BEST YOUNG ACTRESS Spanish Film Festival Murcia 1990
- ICARO ACTING Award by the Spanish Newspaper Diaro 16. 1991
- BEST ACTRESS International Film Festival of Gijón 1992
- BEST SPANISH ACTRESS of the year Cartelera Turia Valencia 1992
- FRANCISCO RABAL Best Actress Award Spanish Film Fest. Murcia 1992
- UP COMMING CINEMA CARREER Award by CINEMA JOVE Valencia Int. Film Fest. 93
- NATIONAL CINEMA AWARD from the SPANISH NATIONAL RADIO, RNE. 1993
- NOMINATED BEST ACTRESS for "LEO", SPANISH ACADEMY AWARDS 2001

\* \* \*

**OTHER FILM WORK:**

- She is a partner of film production company LA IGUANA since 1991
- Author of "KEN LOACH, UN OBSERVADOR SOLIDARIO"  
 ("Ken Loach. A sympathetic observer") published by El Pais Aguilar, Spain, 1997.
- ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY "HOLA, ESTÁS SOLA?" published by VIRIDIANA , volume 5. Madrid, March 1997.
- ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY and SHORT STORY "HOLA, ESTÁS SOLA?"  
 published by PLANETA. Madrid, May 1997
- "FLORES DE OTRO MUNDO. CINE Y LITERATURA." Editorial Páginas de Espuma, Madrid, September 2000, screenplay & interview with the authors Iciar Bollain & Julio Llamazares.
- "TE DOY MIS OJOS" original screenplay with Alicia Luna. Published by Ocho y Medio. Madrid, 2003

