

LASA condemns restructuring of INCAA that threatens film production in Argentina

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The Latin American Studies Association (LASA) is concerned about the future of film production in Argentina in light of the recent restructuring of the National Institute of Cinema and Visual Arts (INCAA). LASA has always articulated itself not only with the academic production of Latin American studies academic production, but also with the artistic production of the region. In the case of audiovisual studies, the INCAA is of particular interest both for the Film Studies Section of LASA and for the organization of the Film Festival, that takes place during each of its annual congresses.

With Resolution 62/2024 of April 18, 2024, the Argentine government has created a new organizational structure for the National Institute of Cinema and Audiovisual Arts (INCAA), which eliminates essential functions of the agency provided for in the 1968 Film Law. This restructuring threatens to eliminate support for film production and paralyze production throughout the country. The recent appointment of an economist with no connection to film production as president of the INCAA comes on top of the refusal to reinstate 170 dismissed workers and the announcement of new layoffs. It has also announced the suspension of projects already approved and the implementation of a series of possible decisions that would profoundly affect the very existence of Argentine cinema, such as the closure of the digital platforms that today allow international access to national audiovisual content (Cine.Ar and Cine.Ar Play); the sale of the emblematic Gaumont cinema, a space dedicated to Argentine cinema; the privatization of the Escuela Nacional de Experimentación y Realización Cinematográfica (ENERC); the defunding of festivals held in the country, such as the Mar del Plata Festival, as well as industry programs and events dedicated to cinema, such as Ventana Sur.

Today, nearly 400 projects are at a standstill; these are films that have been in the works since 2023 and others that have begun shooting and cannot be completed under these circumstances. All of these measures together create a delicate situation for the Argentine film industry and a blow to its foundations. Today, the INCAA continues to collect taxes, but its integral mission has ceased. It is imperative that all the functions of the INCAA be reopened immediately and completely, and that sure actions be taken in defense of Argentine cinema, a cinema that is one of the most important and recognized cinematographies in the world, which has been a leader in the region and a reference model for other Latin American cinematographies. For decades, Argentine cinema has enjoyed great visibility on the world stage. As a result, the decisions made by the government will have an impact far beyond Argentina.

The Latin American Studies Association (LASA) expresses its concern and calls on the Argentine government to reconsider the measures it has taken. These measures have negative repercussions not only in the Argentine community, but also in our region, as well as in other communities in the world related to cinema, since they affect university programs in Latin America, Europe and the United States, professors, researchers and students specialized in film production in the region, who have access to Argentine cinema, for example, through the free platform CINE.AR. INCAA is an institute directly linked to the production of Argentina's cultural memory, which is fundamental for the film and audiovisual studies represented in our association and the dissemination work carried out by our film festival.

- [Instituto Nacional de Cine y Artes Audiovisuales](#)
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- [Alarma en el cine argentino: denuncian que se profundiza el desmantelamiento del INCAA](#)
- [Que no apaguen el cine nacional](#)
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- [Una de terror en el INCAA: despidos, venta del cine Gaumont y desfinanciamiento de los festivales](#)
- [Se realizó manifestación en el INCAA por el desmantelamiento completo del área de Fomento](#)
- [El INCAA y el cine documental, verdades y falacias, negocios y censura](#)

About LASA

The Latin American Studies Association (LASA) is the world's largest professional association constituted by individuals and institutions devoted to the study of Latin America and the Caribbean. LASA currently has over 13,000 members from around the world and a committee that defends academic freedom and human rights.

If you wish to interview a LASA Executive Council member, you can contact the LASA communications office at (412) 648-7929 or send an email to lasa@lasaweb.org.

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