



Film

National treasures

Facets takes a weeklong tour of Iberia with the Festival of New Spanish Cinema. By Hank Sartin



THE RAPTURE Nerea Camacho is carried by her faith in *Camino*.

If we say "European cinema," what countries come to mind? France, Germany, Italy...maybe, if you're an art-house regular, Sweden. What about Spain? For a variety of reasons, Spanish cinema has never gotten as much attention internationally. Maybe it's because the Franco regime did not foster cinematic work in the crucial post-war period when other nations were making a splash on the world cinema scene. Maybe Spain hasn't marketed its filmmakers as effectively, though Pedro Almodóvar has certainly done well. Whatever the case, most people in the United States, even those who are reasonably well-versed in international cinema, couldn't name five Spanish filmmakers on a bet.

Facets' Festival of New Spanish Cinema may not solve that problem in one week, but, based on the three films made available for preview, it does offer some real treats, from light comedy to dark drama.