



Film, fantasy
and Food

Class 2

Official History:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TDvz_53bjP4

Main ideas from Tremlett's *Ghosts of Spain*:

-Quoting Hugh Thomas, British historian, the Spanish Civil War was "the culmination of a hundred years of class war".

-Represents the end of the Second Republic, and the fight between the two Spains between **1936-1939**:

Left wing (socialists, communists, anarchists, urban working class, peasants, Basque and Catalan separatists, anticlerical, backed by the Soviet Union, Mexico, and the International Brigades)

vs. Right wing (Falangists, the pro-monarchy Carlists/Alfonsists, nationalists, military, land owners, the Catholic Church, backed by Portugal, Italy and Germany)

-goal of Franco and Falangists was a “fundamentalist Roman Catholic Crusade against a conspiracy of Marxists, freemasons, and separatists [...] not just to defeat the enemy but to eradicate it. [...] the Christian Reconquista of Spain from the Moors”

-by the end of the war an estimated 500,000 Spaniards died

-roughly 400,000 Spaniards went into exile at the conclusion of the war in 1939

-“a retroactive law was passed in 1939 which allowed for those deemed politically responsible for political “crimes” to that date to be arrested. The last person to be executed for Civil War crimes was [...] in 1963.

-Pan's Labyrinth is set in the post-war era of 1944 and is set during Franco's consolidation of power period: eradication of dissenters and anti-Nationalists

“State intervention in economic relations between citizens under the autarkic system was felt in prices fixed by decree, government regulation of the labour market, and control of industrial and agricultural production, supply and commercialization. Intervention extended to the last phase of the economic process with the government regulating the purchase of foodstuffs and food consumption through rationing.”

- Rationing 1939-1952, change in system in 1943
 - Quantity and quality (bread, milk, oil, flour, sugar, rice vs. coffee, meat, chocolate, vegetables)
 - Urban industrial and rural areas vs. Provincial capitals
 - Black market
- http://www.academia.edu/4329142/Hunger_and_the_Consolidation_of_the_Francoist_Regime_1939-1951

Botero's "La familia presidencial" (1957)



Pan's Labyrinth rationing/feast scenes and Ofelia's first task (30:00-40:39)

INTERCUT SHOTS: usually refers to a series of shots, consisting of two simultaneous events, that are alternated together to create suspense; Coppola's *Godfather*:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BHVN24peVyQ>

JUXTAPOSITION: in a film, the contiguous positioning of either two images, characters, objects, or two scenes in sequence, in order to compare and contrast them, or establish a relationship between them

INSERT SHOT: e.g. the watch from *Pan's Labyrinth* or the knife from *Heidi* from last week)

MASK (OR BLACKOUT): refers to covering up or blocking out a portion of the frame with blackness or opaqueness; most masks are black, but they could be white or some other color



“Diamonds Aren’t Forever” episode from *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*

GROUP A

Find examples of the following shots in the fig tree scene from *Pan's Labyrinth*: mask, intercut, insert shot

GROUP B

Analyze the *mise en scène* by considering how the following elements relate to the themes and overall message of the film: juxtaposition, contrasts in setting and costumes, masculine v. feminine worlds, rebels v. Falangists, fantasy world v. reality, etc.

Insert shot





Juxtaposiiton





**They're losing ground,
and one of them is wounded.**



Mask Shot



Pale Man scene stills and Goya's "Saturn Devouring His Son" (1819-23)



Guillermo del Toro speaking on the Pale Man in The Guardian (Nov 16, 2006) just before the film's release.

"Goya was an obvious reference, specifically with regards to the character of the Pale Man. There is a scene in which the Pale Man bites the heads off the fairies. That comes straight from Goya's painting of Saturn devouring his son".

-Goya (1746-1828). This was painted during the Black Period in which he seems to have been preoccupied with the civil strife enveloping Spain

Pale Man scene (55:45)

- What does the banquet scene symbolize?
- What is brought to mind by Ofelia's eating of the fruit?
- What parallels in imagery and thematic content do you note between the banquet scene of the “real world” and that of the fantasy world?
- How have the banquet scene and other scenes featuring meals been used in other classic films?

Mickey and the Beanstalk:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KqEVYbPw9II>

-NEXT WEEK: Half of Heaven (1986) La mitad del cielo

The film with English subtitles is found divided up into 3 segments at the following website:
www.dailymotion.com/jneyt

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY TO LAST WEEK'S SELECTIONS:

"Hunger and the Consolidation of the Francoist Regime (1939-1951)" by Miguel Ángel Del Arco Blanco found at the following website:

http://www.academia.edu/4329142/Hunger_and_the_Consolidation_of_the_Francoist_Regime_1939-1951

-To supplement your knowledge of film terminology, please see Corrigan's reading A Short Guide to Writing About Film and AMC's website for helpful terms, many of which have been included in the PowerPoints:

<http://www.filmsite.org/filmterms.html>

-For some Spanish language period television, check out *Gran Hotel* (*Grand Hotel*) and *El tiempo entre costuras* (*The Time in Between*) on hulu.com or netflix.com