

"Marvelously funny"

-Time Magazine

"A classic erotic comedy"

-Washington Post

"Sonia Braga is bewitchingly beautiful"

-People

DONA FLOR

and her two husbands





presents

JORGE AMADO'S

DOÑA FLOR and her two husbands

a film by
BRUNO BARRETO

starring
SONIA BRAGA JOSE WILKER
and **MAURO MENDONCA**

"Marvelously funny."
—*Time Magazine*

"A classic erotic comedy."
—*Washington Post*

1976 | Brazil | Portuguese with English subtitles | 110 minutes | 1.85:1 | Mono

NEW HD RESTORATION - U.S. THEATRICAL PREMIERE
Opening March 4th in New York at QUAD CINEMA

Press Contact:

Michael Krause | Foundry Communications | (212) 586-7967 | mkrause@foundrycomm.com

Film Movement Booking Contacts:

Clemence Taillandier | Theatrical | (201) 736-0261 | theatrical@filmmovement.com
Maxwell Wolkin | Festivals & Non-Theatrical | (212) 941-7744 x211 | maxwell@filmmovement.co

SYNOPSIS

On the Sunday of Carnival in Bahia, Vadinho (Jose Wilker), Dona Flor's first husband, drops dead of a heart attack while dancing wildly in the streets with his friends. At his funeral, he is remembered by his friends and neighbors as a rascal, gambler, gigolo and by some, even as a great man.

After Vadinho's burial, Dona Flor (Sonia Braga) is inconsolable and repeatedly remembers the life she had with her husband. Not all of the memories are pleasant, but they are all part of the man she loved and can't forget. For example, on her wedding night, Vadinho slipped out of bed when she was asleep and made straight for the roulette board and for the local brothel, in the company of his bar-room friends.

Vadinho was a man who never knew what day it was, much less the time. He recognized no limits, nor did he have any kind of discipline. He could disappear from home for day at a time and on his return, offer no explanation and continue to amuse himself, flirting with Dona Flor's cooking students. Apart from these minor failings, Vadinho was a marvelous man. He was as great a lover as he was an idler.

Vadinho deeply loved Flor, which makes it all the more difficult for her to forget him. Encouraged by his friends, Flor decides to marry again, but this time her husband is quite different; in fact he is the exact opposite of the first. The husband, Teodoro Madureira (Mauro Medonca) is a respectable pharmacist and an admirer of classical music. He is a methodical man in everything he does, even when he makes love – on Wednesdays and Saturdays, but he permits himself "twice" on special occasions.

After a year of marriage to this kind and considerate husband, Flor gives an anniversary party at their home. Exhausted after all the excitement of the day, she goes to her room and finds, of all people, Vadinho lying naked on her bed. The apparition of her first husband doesn't frighten Flor. She has missed him so much and now it will be so nice to sit down and talk to him. But this is not in the cards at all. Vadinho hasn't come back for just some pleasant chit chat. He begins where he left off in life and tries to make love to Flor. She is quite shocked and explains that she is now a respectable married woman, and for the time being, Vadinho leaves her alone. He turns his attention to the casinos and being invisible to other, helps his friends to make a fortune on his favorite number, 17, at the roulette wheel.

Vadinho then continues his advances to Flor and each time she finds it harder to resist his love-making overtures. Finally she succumbs to her first husband and in the process, discovers how happy she can be, living with two husbands.

Newly restored, the "marvelously funny" (*Time Magazine*) DONA FLOR AND HER TWO HUSBANDS was an instant international hit, launching the career of the "bewitchingly beautiful" (*People*) Sonia Braga and becoming (at the time) Brazil's highest grossing box office feature.

LOGLINE

Based on the novel by Jorge Amado, this Golden Globe and BAFTA-nominated comedy follows the strange events that befall Dona Flor (Sonia Braga) after she is left a widow by the death of her wild, irresponsible husband. Shortly after remarrying, she finds her new, less-than-satisfying sex life revived when the ghost of her late husband returns.



CAST

Dona Flor.....	Sonia Braga
Vadinho.....	Jose Wilker
Teodoro.....	Mauro Mendonca
Rozilda.....	Dinorah Brillanti
Mirandao.....	Nelson Xavier
Carlinhos.....	Arthur Costa Filho
Cazuza.....	Rui Rezende
Arigof.....	Mario Gusmao

CREW

Director/Writer.....	Bruno Barreto
Based on the novel by.....	Jorge Amado
Director of Photography.....	Maurilo Salles
Editor.....	Raimundo Higino
Art Director.....	Anisio Medeiros
Music.....	Chico Buarque
Sound.....	Francis Hime
Produced by.....	Luiz Carlos Barreto, Newton Rique, Cia Serrador

SELECT PRESS

“Serendipity is the discovery of wonderful surprises when you are least expecting to find them. And so it was that I came upon DONA FLOR AND HER TWO HUSBANDS, an enchanting film from Brazil... DONA FLOR is highly romantic, in a mischievous way... a rousing and resonant film treat.”

—Rex Reed, *New York Daily News*

“Brazil’s all-time top-grossing film (it even outdrew *Jaws*) is an erotic delight. Directed by 23-year-old Bruno Barreto, and shot in Bahia, Brazil’s answer to San Francisco, it tells the story of a young woman who can’t seem to forget her dead husband. Never mind that he was a drunk, a philanderer and a compulsive gambler – he was also a terrific lover, something her second spouse clearly is not. Sonia Braga is bewitchingly beautiful as the young widow, and Jose Wilker sparkles as the roguish husband who returns to haunt her dreams. Lots of laughs, with some very steamy love scenes that confirm they do more in Brazil than drink coffee and attack soccer referees.”

—*People*

“This wonderfully sexy and funny comedy, a variation on *Blithe Spirit*, shattered Brazilian box-office records and proved very popular worldwide, chiefly because of Braga’s tremendously sensual presence.”

—*The Movie Guide*

“Braga is a joy to watch... she is quite irresistible.”

—Judith Crist, *New York Post*

“Bruno Barreto and Sonia Braga created an iconic film that provides us with an unforgettably sensual cinematic image of the most powerful myth of Brazilian identity in the 20th century.”

—Marshall Eakin, *Perspectives on History*

“Almost 20 years ago, Bruno Barreto emerged from Brazil as the most precocious young stylist on the international filmmaking scene. He shot his third feature – the exuberant, erotic comedy DONA FLOR AND HER TWO HUSBANDS – when he was all of 20. The movie took Brazil by storm, grossing about \$8 million on a production budget of \$600,000. It made leading lady Sonia Braga an exotic sex star for the better part of a decade. And its influence, particularly in interweaving culinary and carnal motifs, was evident in later imports such as *Tampopo* from Japan and *Like Water for Chocolate* from Mexico.”

—Gary Arnold, *News World Communications*



AWARDS

Nominee - Golden Globes - Best Foreign Film

Nominee - BAFTA Awards - Outstanding Newcomer - Sonia Braga

Winner - Golden Kikito - Best Director - Gramado Film Festival

Winner - Special Jury Award - Gramado Film Festival

Winner - Best Music - Gramado Film Festival





ABOUT FILM MOVEMENT

Founded in 2002, Film Movement is a North American distributor of award-winning independent and foreign films based in New York City. It has released more than 250 feature films and shorts culled from prestigious film festivals worldwide. Its catalog includes titles by directors such as Hirokazu Kore-eda, Maren Ade, Jessica Hausner, Andrei Konchalovsky, Andrzej Wajda, Diane Kurys, Ciro Guerra and Melanie Laurent. In 2015, Film Movement launched its reissue label Film Movement Classics, featuring new restorations released theatrically as well as on Blu-ray and DVD, including films by such noted directors as Eric Rohmer, Peter Greenaway, Bille August, Marleen Gorris, Takeshi Kitano, Arturo Ripstein, Sergio Corbucci and Ettore Scola. For more information, visit www.filmmovement.com.

