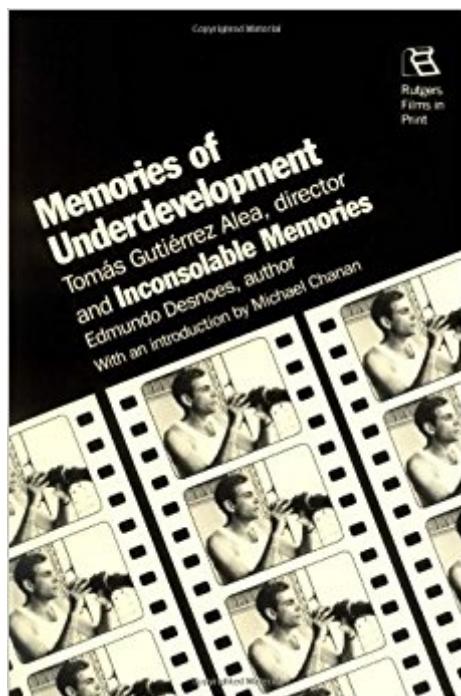


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# Memories Of Underdevelopment (Rutgers Films In Print Series)



## **Synopsis**

Memories of Underdevelopment was the first great international success of Cuban cinema. The film provides a complex portrait of Sergio, a disaffected bourgeois intellectual who remains in Havana after the Revolution, suspended between two worlds. He can no longer accept the values of his family's reactionary past and yet boredom and the conditioning of his early life prevent him from committing himself to the new revolutionary society. Sergio's story is played out in the turbulent period of the Bay of Pigs invasion and the 1962 missile crisis, events he can only watch on his television screen or from his apartment balcony. The film, initially banned by the U.S. government as part of its trade quarantine of Cuba, was shown here five years after its original release. But American critics responded enthusiastically to it and the National Society of Film Critics bestowed an award on its director. This double volume includes the complete continuity script of *Memories*, as well as the complete novel, *Inconsolable Memories*, upon which the film is based. An interview with Alea is reproduced here, as well as documentation of the political controversy that surrounded the film in this country. Michael Chanan's introduction places the film in the context of Cuban political and cultural history. The volume also includes a biographical sketch of Alea, a chronology of the Cuban Revolution, reviews, commentary, a filmography, and a bibliography. Michael Chanan lives in England, where he teaches and writes on film. He is the author of *The Cuban Image: Cinema and Cultural Politics in Cuba*.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Spanish --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Michael Chanan lives in England, where he teaches and writes on film. He is the author of *The Cuban Image: Cinema and Cultural Politics in Cuba*.

"Memories of Underdevelopment" is not the critique of Castro's economic program that I expected from my ignorant reading of the title; it is a remarkably written, complex adventure through the soul of man living through a unique and challenging time. The brilliantly crafted words and sentences are much more than artifacts of writing talent, they serve as a verbal whirlpool to connect the reader with the narrator, and carry us through the struggles of living to face the starkness of imminent death. What a way to experience the Cuban Missile Crisis almost a half a century later. Tom Dehnel Bay of Pigs, Blood of Cuba

For the ones who are interested in learning more about Latin American Cinema and specifically about Tomás Gutiérrez Alea. The book offers many information about the director and the context where the film *Memorias del Subdesarrollo* was produced with many specialized author's commentaries and interviews with the director. Add to that, it offers a translation of the script materials authorized by Alea that enriches the reading of this book and the comprehension of the film.

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