

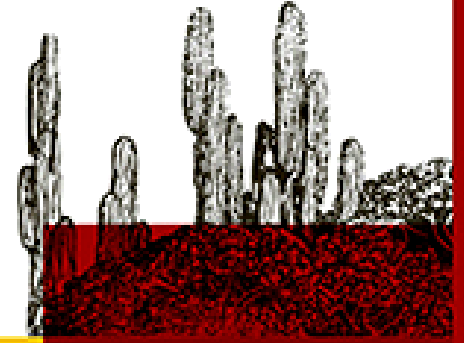
(i)NDEPENDENTLENS



Las Marthas

A FILM BY
CRISTINA IBARRA

January 17th | 6:00PM



Dating from the aftermath of the U.S-Mexican War, the annual debutant ball in Laredo, Texas is unlike any other. **Las Marthas** follows two Mexican American girls carrying this gilded tradition on their shoulders during a time of economic uncertainty and tensions over immigration. The film unravels the origins of the celebration and explores why a town like Laredo, with such deep Mexican roots, feels such affinity for America's Founding Father, and how against all odds the Washington's Birthday Celebration has managed to persevere and even flourish, thanks to the Mexican American girls who continue to wear the gilded burden of tradition.

A panel discussion will follow the film: Come meet community leaders working to create a better tomorrow. Learn, get involved and enjoy meeting a wide range of people all sharing a bond of community and cinema. Guest panelists are **Artelia Banks**, cotillion coordinator and **Carolina G. Hernandez**, executive director of Puentes New Orleans.

Ashé Cultural Arts Center 1712 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd. | New Orleans | 70113 | (504)-569-9070

