

# 'Zapata' Westerns

An offshoot of the Italian Western genre, the term 'Zapata' Western denotes a leftist critique of the typical Hollywood handling of Mexican revolutions, and of imperialism in general.



## A Bullet For The General

Friday, 13 October 2017 at 8:00pm

Damiano Damiani | Italy 1966 | 118 min | Italian with English subtitles

At the height of the Mexican revolution, a mysterious young American (Lou Castel) joins a gang of marauding bandits led by El Chucho (Gian Maria Volontè) on a series of savage raids to steal guns for a powerful rebel general. But when the Gringo brings his own cold-blooded ideals to the bandits, El Chucho discovers that the real weapons of war belong to no army. In a land ravaged by poverty and violence, can

true freedom be bought with a single bullet? Klaus Kinski and Martine Beswick co-star in this legendary 'Zapata' Western.

"Damiano Damiani's sweaty, sun-baked Spaghetti Western is one of the best in the genre. A true epic, it takes in a gallery of colourful characters and action setpieces all set against a vast, dusty landscape and doesn't shy away from its strong political elements." (*The Spinning Image*)



## The Big Gundown

Friday, 20 October 2017 at 8:00pm

Sergio Sollima | Italy 1966 | 110 min | Italian with English subtitles

A relentless bounty hunter (Lee Van Cleef) is on the trail of Cuchillo (Tomas Milian), a Mexican outlaw accused of the rape and murder of a twelve-year-old girl. Considered one of the best in the Italian Western genre, a genuine cult classic, full of drama, action and mystery. The film is a sumptuous example of style and form expressing a deeper meaning within the plot.

"*The Big Gundown* manages to thrill, tickle, and thunder in all the ways a masterful western should. It's a wonderful film, rich with style and loaded with surprises, with a fluid storytelling touch that brings substance to a genre that's often concerned solely with appearance." (*Blu-Ray.com*)