

¿Que He Hecho Yo Para Merercer Esto?

("What Have I Done to Deserve This?")

Spain : 1984 : dir. Pedro Almodovar : Metro / Tesauro / Kaktus : 101 min
prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

Miguel Angel Herranz; Carmen Maura; Luis Hosalot; Angel De Andres-Lopez;
Gonzalo Suarez; Veronica Forqué; Juan Martinez; Chus Lampreave; Kiti Manver; Amparo
Soler Leal; Emilio Gutiérrez Caba

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω □ ≠ Z ☺	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 1996
review:

"Off-the-wall black comedy about an off-the-wall
housewife (delightfully played by Maura) and
her various trials and escapades. A fresh,
original film, featuring a feminist heroine of
classic proportions. *** "

Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

"A couple become embroiled in murky business
through a foreign singer... In this film the
much talked-about Pedro Almodóvar once again
gives free rein to his homosexual nature. «* "

[by implication, presumably, only h'terosexual
natures are to be "given free rein"..]

Halliwell's Film Guide review:

"A slum family falls apart, to the indifference of
the busy mother, who takes drugs to keep her
awake as she works hard as a cleaner. Fast-
paced inconsequential black comedy, lacking
any internal coherence as it rushes from one
tasteless joke to another. Scr: Pedro
Almodóvar; dir.ph: Angel Luis Fernandes * "

"Almodóvar is an underground theatre clown.
He may not know how to make anything stay
with you - he may not even care to. He just
likes to put on a show. Some of the vignettes
might be comedy classics if their timing weren't
so sloppy. "

- Pauline Kael, New Yorker

Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89
review:

"A bizarre but liberating comic exploration
about a woman under the influence of modern
times in Spain. Beset on all side by problems,
Gloria could keep a daily diary that would rival
the Book of Job. The director's pro-feminist
stance is free of condescension toward his
targets, and the film's wacky and irreverent
sensibility is delightful. ***« "

Video Movie Guide 1993 review:

"Outrageously funny black comedy about a
working-class housewife who struggles to
maintain her sanity while keeping her crazy
family afloat. This perverse fable on
contemporary life is superbly directed by Pedro
Almodóvar and features a brilliant performance
by Carmen Maura. In Spanish with English
subtitles. Not rated, but contains nudity and
profanity. **** "

[no listing in "The Good Film and Video
Guide", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The
Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film &
Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide
1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. So what's it doing here? I gather that Gloria's son (Miguel Angel Herranz) plays a small but significant part as her son (she farms him off onto the hands of some suitably lecherous p'dophile barber). Hence see subject index under COMEDY and SEX & SEXUALITY.

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available

See also "**BADKONAK-E SEFID**" and "**BASHU**" - both recent Iranian films, and subject index under **ARAB WORLD / MIDDLE EAST**.