



Spain Kicks Off its National Day with a Series of Cultural Events this October

Press Release

The Embassy of Spain in Manila, through its Cultural and Education Office and the Instituto Cervantes, kicks off its month-long celebration of the Spanish National Day this October with a series of cultural events open to the public, bound to pique anyone's interest or passion, ranging from movies, history, exhibits, design, engineering, among others.

Exhibits have been a mainstay on our calendar of events. Not to be missed is the exhibition *Mezcla: Interwoven Cultures and the Mantón de Manila*, in collaboration with the Ayala Museum, that will run from October 10 this year till February 22, 2026. The public may still view two other on-going exhibits: *Four Centuries of Spanish Engineering Overseas*, a permanent exposition displayed at the Centro de Turismo in Intramuros; while the Ateneo Art Gallery hosts *A Synergy of Ventures. The Post War Art Scene* in commemoration of Fernando Zobel's centennial birth until February 2026.

Top Spanish industrial designer Héctor Serrano takes center stage at three leading Philippine universities: DLSU-St. Benilde (October 14), UP Diliman (October 15) and the University of Santo Tomás (October 16). The world-renowned Spanish National Design Awardee for 2024 offers a conference entitled *The Journey in Between* that will let students and enthusiasts of art and design take a glimpse of his creative and design processes that have developed a career spanning 25 years. The public may also catch him at the Manila FAME on October 17 and at the closing of the Manila Design Week on October 18.



Spain's pre-eminent expert on the Philippines, Lola Elizalde, offers three conferences: *Permeable Borders: Interactions between Population Groups in 19th Century Philippines* (October 14, Casa Azul in Intramuros); *Modernizing an Old Empire? Controversies over the Introduction of a Reformist Policy in 19th Century Philippines* (October 15, Centro de Turismo Intramuros); and *Leisurely Legacies: Social Histories of Recreation in the Spanish Philippines* (October 16, UP Diliman).

October would not be complete without the Spanish film festival *Pelikula*, which showcases movies made not only in Spain but also in Latin America from October 10 to 16. Making this year's edition extra special are short feature films created by young Filipino filmmakers, one even in Philippine creole chabacano, an important manifestation of Spanish influence on the local languages.

As part of the celebration of the Spanish language along with *Pelikula 2025*, the 7th edition of Jornadas de ELE Manila takes place on October 24 and 25 in UST, focusing on lesson planning, content sequencing and didactic resources. This yearly event, aimed at teachers of Spanish, is organized by Ateneo de Manila, UP Diliman and UST, along with the Education Office of the Embassy of Spain and the Instituto Cervantes.