

SLEEP TIGHT

Autumn Season 2013

Release: 2011 Cert (UK): 15

Language: Spanish with English sub-titles

Runtime: 102 mins

Director: Jaume Balaguero **Screenwriter**: Alberto Marini

Cast: Luis Tosar, Marta Etura, Alberto San Juan

Jaume Balaguero and Paco Plaza came to fame as the co-writers and directors of



[REC] (2007) a Spanish horror film shot in Barcelona. The title is the abbreviation of the word 'record' as it appears on the screen of a video camera; the feature was shot as *found footage* film and used a 'shaky camera' technique. There have been two sequels [REC] 2 (2009) and [REC] 3:Genesis (2014) and the final film in the franchise [REC] 4: Apocalypse is due next year. Balaguero's first feature was Fragile (2005) a joint Spainish and UK production about

a new night nurse at a soon to be abandoned children's hospital. Once again, Balaguero is sole director of *Sleep Tight*, another a psychological thriller also shot in a Barcelona apartment block.

The film follows César (Luis Tosar), the concierge to the residents at a wealthy apartment building. César seems extraordinarily helpful and polite and is consequently adored by the residents, but little do they know that he makes it his goal in life to make others as miserable as he is. He focuses much of his attention on Clara (Marta Etura), a beautiful young woman. With a blend of underhand tricks, César begins to unnerve Clara...



'The technique is old-school, simmering with Hitchcockian suspense. The two-faced title is just perfect, it doubles up as a threat. Sleep Tight is, at its dark heart, a character study preaching sympathy for the devil. But the trust comes at a cost when Cesar finally unveils his master-plan. Balaguero directs at a steady tempo, on key and in tune with his lead's contained performance. With his boom-mike eyebrows, sunken eyes and Beluga-whale forehead, Luis Tosar has the look of an Iberian Boris Karloff, and the film feed off his wounded presence. A taut twisted thriller infused with slow burn intensity' – Empire