Written by Michael Gingold
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After spearheading the modern revival of Spanish horror with the likes of ACCION MUTANTE and THE DAY OF THE BEAST, director Alex de la Iglesia (pictured) veered away from those elements recently to concentrate on dark comedies like THE LAST CIRCUS and this year’s AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT. Now he’s getting back to the supernatural.

Variety reports that de la Iglesia begins shooting next month on LAS BRUJAS DE ZUGARRAMURDI, a.k.a. WITCHING AND BITCHING, for top Spanish producer Enrique Cerezo. Described as “an outrageous comedy, in the line of IT’S A MAD MAD MAD MAD WORLD, but a horror/comedy” by the director, it’s about a gang of thieves attempting to flee to France after stealing 25,000 gold rings, but instead winding up in the town of Zugarramurdi, where they fall under a witches’ curse.

The cast includes Mario Casas, Hugo Silva, Carmen Maura (who won a Best Actress award at the San Sebastian Film Festival for her role in de la Iglesia’s LA COMUNIDAD/COMMONWEALTH), de la Iglesia regular Terele Pávez, Carolina Bang, Secun de la Rosa, Pepon Nieto and Jaime Ordonez. “We have brought together one of the most important casts in Spain in years, along with the best Spanish film director,” Cerezo tells the trade. “This should be one of the biggest film sensations in Spain for 2013.” Filming on the $7.8-million movie begins October 1 in Zugarramurdi, the moves after two weeks to Madrid for seven more weeks.