

By ~~Mark~~ ~~2006~~ ~~George~~, Entertainment Editor

## [Eva Mendes Slams Rumors about Dating Joaquin Phoenix](#)

*The Cuban-American beauty was spotted dining with the "Walk the Line" star at New York City restaurant "La Esquina"*

Screen beauty Eva Mendes has denied rumors she is dating "Walk The Line" star Joaquin Phoenix. The "Hitch actress", who is already in a long-term relationship, sparked rumors of a romance with Phoenix after the pair showed up at New York City restaurant "La Esquina" on Monday night. An onlooker says that "They were absolutely adorable together" and reports that they "held hands and danced together" at Club Butter after dinner. However, Mendes' spokeswoman Nicole Caruso insists the actress was simply socializing with a work colleague, saying: "They are just friends. They are in town doing a movie together called We Own the Night with Mark Wahlberg. Eva is still with her boyfriend." Eva Mendes was born in Houston and raised in Los Angeles of Cuban-American heritage. In college she began acting, studying underneath acting coach Ivana Chubbuck. This led to her desire to appear in feature films. Along with acting, Eva is employed by Revlon Cosmetics as an international spokesperson. She joins the elite actresses and models such as Julianne Moore, Halle Berry, and Cindy Crawford who appear in Revlon's television and print ads. She is also a passionate supporter and active participant in Revlon's fight against breast cancer.