

É Tudo Verdade It's All True

FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE DOCUMENTÁRIOS
INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

IT'S ALL TRUE ANNOUNCES BRAZILIAN AND INTERNATIONAL SELECTIONS

*Highlighting the 2008 Festival edition is a variety of styles and themes as
contenders vie for the \$60 thousand award*

The 2008 edition of **It's All True – International Documentary Film Festival** will include seven titles selected for the Brazilian Competition in the feature and medium length category. For the second consecutive year, contenders vie for the CPFL ENERGY/IT'S ALL TRUE Award “A Window to Contemporary Documentary” in the amount of R\$100 thousand Brazilian Reals (\$60 thousand), the largest ever cash award for a documentary in Brazil. Eleven other finalists contend in the Brazilian short-length category.

“The selection of 18 documentaries to take part in the Brazilian Competition among feature, medium and short length films – 16 of which are worldwide releases – serves as an unmistakable indication of the vitality of Brazilian documentary today,” states critic Amir Labaki, founder and director of **It's All True**. “Given the scant non-fictional filmography currently available in the world, it is an accomplishment to feature such a wealth of content in one single festival,” he muses.

Labaki further underscores that this year the Festival will boast a wide variety of styles and themes. “It is remarkable to realize that a refreshing audiovisual complexity has been imparted to crucial issues such as abortion, the right to housing and property, the struggle of indigenous people and Afro-descendants and public security, among others. In addition, the short-length category shows clear signs that a revival of this format is also underway,” remarks the Festival director.

Among the films running this year, three portray controversial personalities of the recent Brazilian history. **Ninguém sabe o duro que dei – Wilson Simonal** (“**Wilson Simonal – You Don't Know How Tough It Was**”), by Claudio Manoel, Micael Langer and Calvito Leal (Rio de Janeiro, 84', 2007), narrates the career of the first Afro-Brazilian singer to make a splash in Brazilian show business, through interviews with the likes of Nelson Motta, Tony Tornado and Pelé. **João Saldanha**

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(**“João Saldanha, The Brain Behind the Beautiful Game”**), by André Siqueira and Beto Macedo (Rio de Janeiro, 80', 2007) is a biographical foray into the life of this sports commentator, journalist, communist activist and Brazilian soccer team coach who got fired on the eve of the 1970 Soccer World Cup games.

Award-winning Brazilian director Carlos Nader, whose films have been shown on major worldwide TV screens, presents us with **Pan-Cinema Permanente (“Permanent Pan-Cinema”)** (São Paulo, 83', 2007), a unique depiction of poet Waly Salomão's personality, as a globetrotting performance partner who believed that reality is fiction, life is a stage and it all boils down to cinema. “The gallery of Brazilian portrayals is so compelling that in order not to miss out on so many titles we love very dearly, we decided to introduce a rather special section comprised of five “Brazilian lives” in addition to three biographical works selected for the competitive showcase,” explains Labaki.

The Brazilian reality today is focused on two films. **O Tempo e o Lugar (“When and Where”)**, by Eduardo Escorel (Rio de Janeiro, 97', 2008), recounts the story of Genivaldo, a family farmer in the semi-arid region of Alagoas State who from lay member of the Catholic Church became a Landless Peasant Movement (MST) leader and Workers' Party (PT) activist. **O Aborto dos Outros (“The Abortion of the Other”)**, by Carla Gallo (São Paulo, 72', 2007), lays bare the heated debate on abortion by means of an investigation of cases condoned by Brazilian law and depicts maternity in an extreme condition.

The process of migration experienced by two Brazilian hinterland communities flooded by the waters during the construction of the Irapé Hydroelectric Plant, in the Jequitinhonha Valley, Minas Gerais State, is the subject of **Sumidouro (“Bye River”)**, by Cris Azzi (Minas Gerais, 72', 2008). This documentary retraces the relationship between the population and the river and the locations that were washed away by the floods, while following in parallel the different angles of their tribulations.

To top the Brazilian selection, **Dia dos Pais (“Father's Day”)**, by Julia Murat and Leonardo Bittencourt (Rio de Janeiro, 73', 2007) documents the everyday life of five cities located in the old-time coffee plantation region known as Paraíba Valley. The filmmaker's quest to visit and learn all about this region intermingles with the

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search for her family's identity.

Event Timetable

It's All True – 13th International Documentary Festival

São Paulo – March 26 to April 6, 2008

Rio de Janeiro – March 27 to April 6, 2008

Campinas – April 7 to 13, 2008

Brasília – April 14 to 20, 2008

Recife – April 21 to 27, 2008

Director: Amir Labaki

Enquiries: (5511) 3064-7485 or www.etudoverdade.com.br

Media Contacts:

São Paulo: Atti Comunicação e Idéias – Valéria Blanco/ Elizangela Ferreira

Tel: (5511) 3578-0020/ 3729-0020/ 9455-2266

imprensa@etudoverdade.com.br, valeria@atticomunicacao.com.br

Rio de Janeiro: Lílian Hargreaves

Tel: (5521) 2286-6336 / 9136-0941

formigas@uol.com.br