

É Tudo Verdade It's All True

FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE DOCUMENTÁRIOS
INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

2009 IT'S ALL TRUE ANNOUNCES FILMS IN COMPETITION AND IS NOW A TWICE YEARLY EVENT

** COMPETITION PROGRAMS HELD IN MARCH AND SPECIAL
PROGRAMS TO TAKE PLACE IN THE SECOND SEMESTER*

** 12 UNRELEASED BRAZILIAN DOCUMENTARIES
SELECTED FOR COMPETITION*

- *INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FEATURES WINNERS
AT AMSTERDAM, LEIPZIG, THE EUROPEAN "OSCAR",
AND SUNDANCE*
- *ISRAELI DOC MAKER AVI MOGRABI AND HIS "Z32" AT
SÃO PAULO AND RIO*

Twelve unreleased Brazilian long, medium and short length documentaries and some internationally awarded titles from top film festivals around the world, such as Amsterdam's IDFA and Sundance, are the highlights of the non-fictional program selected for the 14th edition of **It's All True – International Documentary Film Festival**.

The main event dedicated to documentary filmmaking in Latin America, **It's All True** will now be organized twice a year. The

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2009 it's All True – Competition Programs will be held between March 25 and April 5 in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, and in Brasília between April 13 and 26. The 2009 it's All True – Special Programs will take place during the second half of the year, also in São Paulo and Rio.

“The Festival has been divided in two different parts for two main reasons,” explains Amir Labaki, **It's All True** founder and director. “First, to better service our ever-growing audience, while expanding access to the titles and enhancing their visibility through a greater number of screenings. Secondly, to increase the number of documentaries in the annual cinema calendar with a large-scale event taking place twice yearly. In 2006, we ran a pilot program titled Evidence Brazil in São Paulo, in partnership with Cinusp Paulo Emílio. The pilot was a huge hit and confirmed the potential for a second program during the year,” adds Labaki.

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BRAZILIAN COMPETITION

Seven unreleased Brazilian documentaries have been selected for the medium and feature length competition. All entrants are eligible for the CPFL/It's All True Award of US\$ 40,000, which will be granted for the third time in 2009, and for a trophy designed by Carlito Carvalhosa. The films featured in the Brazilian competition include:

A Chave da Casa (The Home Key) by Paschoal Samora and Stela Grisotti (São Paulo, 68 min)

– Two moments in the life of Iraq's Palestinians in exile: their everyday routine in a refugee camp between Jordan and Iraq, and the challenges as they adapt to their new life in Brazil.

Cidadão Boilesen (Citizen Boilesen) by Chaim Litewski (Rio de Janeiro, 92 min)

– A look into the funding by entrepreneurs of the repressive regime during the Brazilian dictatorship against armed struggle. The film tells the story of Danish executive Albert Boilesen (1916-1971), CEO of the Ultra Group in Brazil, who was executed by the urban guerrilla movement for his connection with the paramilitary organization Oban.

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Cildo (Cildo) by Gustavo Rosa de Moura (Rio de Janeiro, 84 min)

– The life, work and ideas of Cildo Meirelles, one of the most important living plastic artists in Brazil, winner of the 2008 Velásquez Award.

Corumbiara (They Shoot Indians, Don't They?) by Vincent Carelli (Pernambuco, 117 min)

– In 1985, the farming land of Corumbiara, Rondônia State, northern Brazil, became the site of a mass slaughter of Indians who lived isolated in that part of the Amazon. Since then, filmmaker Carelli has used his camera to document his struggle against oblivion. It's time for reckoning.

Garapa (Garapa) by José Padilha (Rio de Janeiro, 110 min)

– According to the UN, chronic hunger today affects some 920 million people around the world, 11 million of whom live in Brazil. In spite of the Brazilian government's food assistance programs, several families across the country face the daily nightmare of shortage of proteins. This is the account of three of those families.

Moscou (Moscow) by Eduardo Coutinho (Rio de Janeiro, 80 min)

– The rehearsals of the Galpão Theater Company, from Belo Horizonte, for the play "The Three Sisters" by Anton Chekhov, directed by Brazilian actor and director Enrique Diaz, in full shots and backstage scenes of a performance that will be on film but not on stage.

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Sobreviventes (Survivors) by Miriam Chnaidermann and Reinaldo Pinheiro (São Paulo, 52 min)

– Several people of different sexes, and from different professions and social backgrounds, share their personal account of a borderline situation.

“It will be a well-balanced competition,” asserts Amir Labaki. “It’s a privilege for any festival in Brazil to screen in its main competition new films by so many renowned filmmakers and talented newcomers,” he says.

Nine short-length documentaries were selected for the Brazilian competition:

A Arquitetura do Corpo (The Body’s Architecture) by Marcos Pimentel (Minas Gerais, 21 min)

– The backstage footage of the audition for a contest of a dance company whose members are participants in a social program from Minas Gerais State, southeastern Brazil.

A Casa dos Mortos (The House of the Dead) by Débora Diniz (Distrito Federal, 24 min)

– The everyday life of the Salvador court mental hospital in northeast Brazil

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Chapa (Chapa) by Tatiana Toffoli (São Paulo, 18 min)

– A campfire blazes along the busy São Paulo ringroad. A man waves at a truck. He is holding up a sign that reads CHAPA. His job is to guide truck drivers through the megalopolis streets.

Confessionário (Confessional) by Leonardo Sette (Pernambuco, 15 min)

– As if he were making a confession directly to the camera, an Italian Catholic priest revisits his time as a missionary in the Indian reservation Raposa do Sol in Roraima State, northern Brazil.

Leituras Cariocas (Readings) by Consuelo Lins (Rio de Janeiro, 13 min)

– Fragments of readings made by Rio de Janeiro subway passengers.

Nello's (Nello's) by André Ristum (São Paulo, 25 min)

– This is the story of Nello de Rossi, an actor in Italy before WW2 and today a restaurant owner and filmmaker living in São Paulo.

No Tempo de Miltoninho (The Singer's Time) by André Weller (Rio de Janeiro, 18 min)

– A portrayal of Miltoninho, a Rio de Janeiro singer with a peculiar timbre to his voice and unique style of performing, whose career spans back to the 1940's.

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Samba de Quadra (Samba from Quadra) by Gustavo Mello and Luiz Ferraz (São Paulo, 16 min)

– The memory of country samba in São Paulo State lives on in the town of Quadra, population 3,000.

Ser Tão (Ser Tão) by Luiz Guilherme Guerreiro (Rio de Janeiro, 25 min)

– War and drama rituals blend together in Canudos, in the northeastern hinterlands of Brazil, which rises again from the waters and from oblivion in the staging of "Os Sertões" ("Rebellion in the Backlands") from the acclaimed novel of the late Brazilian writer Euclides da Cunha. The play is staged by Oficina Uzyna Uzona Theater Company directed by veteran and master director José Celso Martinez Corrêa.

“This year’s selection of Brazilian short-length films is living proof that documental production is at the forefront of short filmmaking in Brazil,” maintains Labaki. “The increase in the number of new shorts points to the continued growth in production,” he adds.

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INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Twelve long and medium length films unreleased in Brazil were selected for the international competition:

Am I Black Enough For You? by Goran Olsson (Sweden, 85 min)

– A superb film portrayal of US soul singer Billy Paul, from his early career in Philadelphia to stardom in the 1970's with his No. 1 hit "Me & Mrs. Jones". The ups and downs of his career, often characterized by activism regarding discrimination against blacks in the USA.

International Premiere.

Forgetting Dad by Rick Minnich and Matt Sweetwood (Germany, 84 min)

– In 1990, Richard Minnich, the father of one of the directors, lost his memory in a seemingly minor car accident. Was he really affected by a health condition or was he only trying to escape a life he could no longer bear?

Special Jury Prize – IDFA 2008

Oblivion (El Olvido) by Heddy Honigmann (Holland-Germany, 94 min)

– A foray into Peru's recent history as told by ordinary people from the streets, schools, bars and hospitals of Lima

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The Biggest Chinese Restaurant in the World by Weijun Chen
(China, 80 min)

– The hectic routine of the huge Chinese restaurant West Lake, in the city of Changsha, with its 5,000 seats, a kitchen resembling a production line and operating on a nearly military discipline.

Mental by Kazuhiro Soda (Japan, 135 min)

– An observation documentary about the Japanese mental health clinic Chorale Okayama, which treats patients with schizophrenia, bipolar illness, panic syndrome, and other mental disorders.

Best Documentary Film – Dubai 2008

Trouble is My Business by Juliette Veber (New Zealand, 82 min)

– Gary Peach, assistant principal at Aorere High School in South Auckland, New Zealand, does not believe in lost case students. At his school, most of the students are native Maoris or children of immigrants from the Pacific Islands.

René by Helena Trestikova (Czech Republic, 83 min)

– For 20 years, the Czech filmmaker traced the life of René Plasil, who became a habitual criminal at 17 while the Czech Republic was undergoing major changes, from the Soviet-dominated Warsaw Pact to joining the European Union. The film won the European “Oscar” for best documentary film in 2008 and best feature length documentary at the 2008 Leipzig Festival.

Return to Fortin Olmos (Regreso a Fortin Olmos) by Patrício Coll

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and Jorge Goldenberg (Argentina, X min)

– In 1966, Argentinean filmmakers Coll and Goldenberg shot the documentary “Hacheros Nomás” about a woodcutters’ cooperative founded in Santa Fé province, northern Argentina. Four decades later they return to that area of the country as protagonists of the experience.

Bloody Mondays & Strawberry Pies by Coco Schrijber (Holland, 87 min)

– Narrated by John Malkovich, this is an essay about boredom and depicts the lives of a stressed desert nomad, a Wall Street stockbroker, the last living WW2 female spy, a painter obsessed with time, an American teenage girl who shot her schoolmates, and a young girl who dreams high while she earns a living making candies.

Rough Aunties by Kim Longinotto (UK, 104 min)

– A portrayal of female activists engaged in Operation Bobbi Bear, a project that works with sexually abused children in post-apartheid South Africa.

Best International Documentary Film – Sundance 2009

Everything is Relative (Alt er relativt) by Mikala Krogh (Denmark, 75 min)

– While traveling around the world, from Denmark to Thailand, from Japan and USA to Mozambique, the filmmaker investigates to what extent human reactions to the same situations are similar. Do

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we all harbor the same feelings of sorrow, happiness, anger and love in spite of our different situations?

Burma VJ – Reporting from a Closed Country (Burma VJ - Reporter I Et Lukket Land) by Anders Hogsbro Ostegaard (Denmark, 85 min)
– Carrying a camera in a dictatorship like Burma means risking receiving a life sentence without even having a trial. This is precisely what happened to Japanese journalist, Kenji Nagai, in 2007. The film takes a plunge into the everyday struggle of a group of video journalists who have challenged the Burmese dictatorship for the survival of freedom of expression.

Joris Ivens Award for Best Documentary – IDFA 2008 and Best International Documentary at CPH:DoX 2008

Nine shorts were selected for the Short Length International Competition:

Red Sands by David Procter (UK, 25 min)

– Bullfights at the crossroads of cruelty against animals and the continuation of tradition. The old and new Spain clash over the maintenance or extinction of bullfight arenas and bull running, such as those at the San Fermin festival.

Severing the Soul by Barbara Klutinis (USA, 18 min)

– The elder daughter of the Kennedy clan and sister of former president John F. Kennedy, Rosemary was a prodigy child. This did not prevent her father from subjecting her to a lobotomy when she

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began to suffer from mental disorders as a teenager. By portraying Rosemary's painful destruction, the filmmaker exposes the limits of this brutal psych technique, which was the preferred method to treat mental diseases in the USA between 1930 and 1960.

Home Away from Home (Sylistä Syliin) by Marika Vaisanen (Finland, 15 min)

– This partly animated documentary film is about 9-year old Oona's point of view on her parents' divorce.

The Chirola (La Chirola) by Diego Mondaca (Bolivia, 25 min)

– While doing time in prison, Pedro Cajias discovered more than just punishment. He had the unique opportunity to improve his nutrition and health, besides experiencing congenial companionship. Troubled by his imminent release, he gets a watchdog as a present.

Black Heart by Ada Bligaard Soby (Denmark, 23 min)

– Three New Yorkers and their way of coping with the loss of beloved ones in the 9/11/2001 attacks.

Slaves – An Animated Documentary (Slavar) by Hanna Heilborn and David Aronowitsch (Sweden, 15 min)

– The stories of Abouk, 9 yo, and Machiek, 15 yo, who were kidnapped by Sudanese militia backed by the government of Sudan. Using their interviews as narrative content, the film examines how their parents were killed and how the two orphans were later used as slaves by their captors.

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Best International Short Length Film – IDFA 2008

The Secret (O Segredo) by Edgar Feldman (Portugal, 25 min)
– Ninety-four year old Portuguese communist, António Dias Lourenço, recalls his years serving at Peniche Fort prison under Antonio Salazar's dictatorship in Portugal.

Best Portuguese Short Length Documentary – DocLisboa 2008

Second Me by Anna Thommen (Switzerland, 19 min)
– Thirtysomething Bendix Freutel has no wife and no job in real life, but he has created a full and fulfilling life through his avatar on Second Life, a virtual, 3-D world on the Internet.

Zietek by Bartosz Blaschke (Poland, 17 min)
– A portrait of the Polish self-taught artist and sculptor, Bogdan Zietek, who has been creating life-size female sculptures for over 40 years. Under the eyes of his complaisant wife, his whole house is filled with sexy pin-up girls made out of trees.

“The international competitions gather together documentaries that were filmed all over the world in the five continents,” highlights Labaki. “The medium and long feature competition combines films by renowned filmmakers and young revelations. The competitions also feature acclaimed documentaries screened at top festivals worldwide. Once again, the number of female directors is on the rise,” adds Labaki.

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The **2009 It's All True** will also feature the 8th edition of the *International Documentary Conference*, which is coordinated by Maria Dora Mourão and co-organized with Cinusp – Paulo Emílio and SESC-SP.

This year's main international guest to **It's All True** is the Israeli documentary filmmaker and pacifist Avi Mograbi, who will show his latest film "Z32" and participate in the São Paulo closing round table session. Mr. Mograbi's visit to Brazil is sponsored in partnership with Hebraica. He will also be attending a debate in Rio de Janeiro following the screening of "Z32".

The full 2009 It's All True – Competition Programs, including the opening screenings and the Cinemark Premieres (Eldorado Cinemark, São Paulo, and Barra Cinemark, Rio de Janeiro), will be announced on March 16.

Selection for the 2009 It's All True – Special Programs will be announced in July 2009. "By splitting the festival in two separate programs, we will increase the opportunity of **It's All True** attendees to gain access to the cream of world documentary film. And by reducing the time interval between selections, we will be "rising the temperature" of the films screened," explains Labaki.

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2009 It's All True – 14th International Documentary Film Festival

From March 25 to April 5, 2009 (São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro) and from April 14 to 26, 2009 (Brasília)

Director: Amir Labaki

Sponsors: Petrobras, CPFL Energia, Banco do Brasil Cultural Center, SESC-SP, São Paulo State Culture Department, Riofilme and Cinemark, Brazilian Ministry of Culture through Rouanet Law # 8313/91.

Institutional Supporter: Oi Futuro, Imprensa Oficial

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

São Paulo Venues

Cinesesc – Rua Augusta, 2075 – (5511) 3087-0500 (326 seats)

Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil São Paulo – Rua Álvares Penteado, 112 – (5511) 3113-3651 (110 seats)

SESC Avenida Paulista – Av. Paulista, 119

Cinemark Shopping Center Eldorado – Av. Rebouças, 3970 – (5511) 2197-7472 (265 seats)

Cinemateca Brasileira – Largo Sen. Raul Cardoso, 207 – (5511) 3512-6111 (205 seats)

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Rua Mourato Coelho n. 325 cj 06 cep 05417-010

São Paulo – SP

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Cinusp - Rua do Anfiteatro, 181 - Colméia - Favo 04 - Cidade Universitária – (5511) 3091-3540 (100 seats)

Rio de Janeiro Venues

Unibanco ArtePlex 6 – Praia de Botafogo, 316 – (5521) 2559-8750 (250 seats)

Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil Rio de Janeiro – Rua Primeiro de Março, 66 – (5521) 3808-2020 (110 seats)

Cinemark Downtown - Av. das Américas, 500 - bl. 17 sl. 201 – (5521) 2494-5004

Media Contacts:

Media Relations in São Paulo

Cinnamon Comunicação

Ms. Marione Tomazoni

Tel: (5511) 3062-2015 ext: 21/ Mobile: (5511) 9155-1298

marionetomazoni@cinnamon.com.br

www.cinnamon.com.br

Media Relations in Rio de Janeiro

Ms. Andréa Cals

Mobile : (5521) 8203-7372

cals.andrea@gmail.com

Media Relations in Brasília

Objeto Sim

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Rua Mourato Coelho n. 325 cj 06 cep 05417-010

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FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE DOCUMENTÁRIOS
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Ms. Gioconda

Tel: (5561) 3443-8891

objetosim@terra.com.br

É Tudo Verdade – Festival Internacional de Documentários

Rua Mourato Coelho n. 325 cj 06 cep 05417-010

São Paulo – SP

www.etudoverdade.com.br