O PROCESSO (the trial)

a feature length documentary film by Maria Augusta Ramos

Log line: "A behind-the-scenes look at the impeachment trial of Brazil's first female President. This film – a tale of betrayal and corruption - witnesses the profound political crisis and the collapse of the democratic institutions."

Synopsis

O PROCESSO offers a behind-the-scenes look at the impeachment of Dilma Rousseff, Brazil's first female President.

The film portrays the "judicial political" trial first at the House of Representatives and then, at the Senate focusing on the President's Defence Team: her lawyer José Eduardo Cardoso and two senators who struggle to prove the President's innocence against a majority vote by a Congress riddled with corruption.

A tale of betrayal and corruption, the film presents Rousseff's personal story: herself imprisoned and tortured by the country's former military dictatorship, she now faces impeachment accused of fiscal crimes and corruption charges. Rousseff declares herself innocent and accuses the right-wing opposition of perpetrating a Parliamentary Coup d'état. The principal architect of the impeachment is Vice-President Michel Temer, one of her former allies.

The filmmaker was granted unique access to the defence team, to left wing senators and to President Rousseff herself. Ramos' technique is wholly observational, without interviews and narrations. The camera captures telling physical and conversational interactions in the private and political sphere while offering viewers a glimpse of the outdoor mass demonstrations.

The film witnesses how the impeachment triggers a profound political crisis in Brazil. It looks at the collapse of the democratic institutions at the very heart of the crisis and reflects on the dangers facing so many democracies throughout the world.

Credits

Directed by Maria A. Ramos
Director of Photography: Alan Schvarsberg
Sound: Marta Lopes
Editing: Karen Akerman
Sound editing: Bernardo Uzeda
Sound mixer: Gustavo Loureiro
Executive Producer: Maria A. Ramos

PRODUCERS:
Maria A. Ramos
Wout Conijn
Paulo de Carvalho
Gudula Meinzolt

a Nofoco Filmes, Autentika Films, Conijn Film and Canal Brasil co-production
Brazil, Germany, the Netherlands 2018

with the support of the *World Cinema Fund* of the *Berlin Film Festival*

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MARIA RAMOS
Biography

Maria Ramos is a prizewinning Brazilian/Dutch documentary maker. She was born in Brasília, Brazil in 1964 and graduated in documentary film at the Netherlands Film and Television Academy in Amsterdam.

In 2013, the Board of the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights awarded Maria Ramos the **MAREK NOWICKI PRIZE** for her body of work and excellent achievement in showing human rights in film.

Her feature film **DESI**, won the **Audience Award** at the IDFA 2000, and the **"Golden Calf"** for best documentary film at the Netherlands Film Festival in 2001.

JUSTICE won several prizes among them: the ***Grand Prix*** at 'Visions du Réel', the ***Grand Prix*** at Taiwan Int. Doc. Festival, the **Amnesty Award** at CPH Doc: Copenhagen, the ***Dirk van der Sypen Award for best film*** in Belgian, **Best Film** at Play Doc - Tui Int. Doc. Festival (Spain) and the **LASA Award of Merit** (USA).

BEHAVE, opened at the Locarno Film Festival in 2007. It received the **FIPRESCI Award at DOK Leipzig** and was awarded **BEST FILM** at the One World Doc. Festival (Prague) and at the Watch Docs and Human Rights Film Festival (Warsaw).

HILL OF PLEASURES won the Prize for **Best Director, Best Photography and Best Sound** at the National Film Festival in Brasília, Brazil.

SECA (DROUGHT) was premiered at the 'Visions du Reel' 2015 and won the **MERIT PRIZE** at the Taiwan Int. Documentary Festival.

FUTURE JUNE won **BEST DIRECTOR** at the Rio Film Festival 2015 and **BEST FILM** at the VIII Janela Internacional de Cinema de Recife. The film was premiered at the Yamagata International Doc. Festival (Japan).

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MARIA RAMOS
Filmography

O PROCESSO (The Trial)
2018, HD colour, 137 minutes
Director and producer
a Nofoco Filmes Production
World Premiere at the Berlinale (Panorama)

ALVO (Target)
2016, HD colour, 23 minutes
Director/screenplay/executive producer
a co-production Casa de Cinema, Nofoco Filmes e SPORTV (Brazil)

FUTURO JUNHO (Future June)
2015, HD, colour, 94 minutes
Director/screenplay/producer
a Selfmade Films, Nofoco Filmes and VPRO coproduction (the Netherlands/ Brazil)
BEST DIRECTOR at the Rio Film Festival
BEST FILM at the VIII Janela Internacional de Cinema de Recife

SECA (Drought)
2015, HD, cinemascope, colour, 90 minutes
Director/screenplay/producer
a Nofoco Filmes Production (Brazil)
MERIT PRIZE at the Taiwan International Documentary Festival

MORRO DOS PRAZERES (Hill of Pleasures)
2013, HD video, colour, 90 minutes
Director/ screenplay/ producer
a KeyDocs, Nofoco Filmes and VPRO coproduction (the Netherlands/Brazil)
BEST DIRECTOR, BEST PHOTOGRAPHY, BEST CAMERA
at the Brasília Film Festival, Brazil

UNEXPECTED
2011, HD video, colour 47 minutes
director / screenplay
a Selfmade Films in coproduction with HUMAN Television (the Netherlands)

JUIZO (BEHAVE)
2007, 35mm colour, 90 minutes
director / screenplay/ executive producer
a Nofoco Filmes and Diler Production (Brazil)

FIPRESCI Award at Dok Leipzig – Int. Festival for documentary and animated films, 2007 **Grand Prize** – One World Int. Documentary Festival in Prague, Czech Republic 2008
Grand Prize - Watch Docs Int. Documentary and Human Rights Film Festival, Poland, 2008

JUSTIÇA (JUSTICE)
2004, 35mm colour, 100 min. (the Netherlands / Brazil)
director / screenplay
a Selfmade Films and Limite Production in co-production with the NPS Television

LASA Award of Merit in Film, Latin American Studies Association, USA 2006
Grand Prix at Visions du Réel Int. Film Festival in Nyon, Switzerland, 2004
Grand Prix at Taiwan Int. Documentary Film Festival, 2004
"La Vague d'Or" for Best Film in Bordeaux Int. Festival of Women in Cinema, France 2004
Amnesty Award at Copenhagen Int. Doc. Film Festival, 2004
Special Jury Award in Lisbon Int. Doc. Film Festival, 2004
Best Film at Play Doc – Tui Int. Doc. Film Festival, Spain, 2004
Best director in Santiago Int. Film Festival, Chile, 2005

Dirk van der Sypen Award for best documentary in 2006, Belgium

RIO, A DAY IN AUGUST
2002, video colour, 50 min.
director / screenplay
Producer: Pieter van Huystee Film &TV and HUMAN Television

GNT Prize – 'It's all true' Int. Documentary Film Festival São Paulo, 2003

DESI
2000, 35mm colour, 90 min. (The Netherlands)
director / screenplay
Producer: Pieter van Huystee Film & TV in co-production with the VPRO Television

Audience Award Winner at IDFA 2000
Gouden Kalf for best long documentary film at the Netherlands Film Festival 2001

THE SECRET OF THE VIBRATO
1999, video colour, 25 min. (The Netherlands)
director, VPRO Television

BUTTERFLIES IN YOUR STOMACH
1998, director / screenplay (The Netherlands)
VPRO Television
Documentary series about children in love, 6 episodes

Nominated for the *Grote Kinderkast-televisieprijs* (Children's TV Prize) for non-fictiion, Cinekid, 1999

BRASILIA, A DAY IN FEBRUARY
1995, 35mm color, 72 min. (Brazil / The Netherlands)
director / screenplay / executive producer – a NFTA and Fundacão Athos Bulcao

Special Jury Prize – 'It's all true' Int. Documentary Festival, São Paulo, 1997
Best documentary at the National Film Festival in Brasilia.

"I THINK WHAT I WANT TO SAY IS..."
1993, 16 mm color, 40 min. (The Netherlands)
director / screenplay / executive producer
a NFTA Production

Nominated for the **Ogawa Shinsuke Prize** , Yamagata Int. Doc. Film Festival, Japan, 1995.