

# KARIM AÏNOUZ

## SHORT BIO

Karim Aïnouz is an award-winning film director, screenwriter and visual artist.

His first feature, **Madame Satã**, premiered in Cannes Un Certain Regard in 2002. He also directed **Love for Sale**, 2006 (Venice Orizzonti), **I Travel Because I Have To, I Come Back Because I Love You**, 2009 (Venice Orizzonti), and **The Silver Cliff**, 2011 (Cannes Directors' Fortnight). In 2014 **Futuro Beach** screened in the Berlinale Competition.

The documentary **Central Airport THF** premiered at the 68th Berlinale (Panorama) and won the Amnesty International Prize. **The Invisible Life of Eurídice Gusmão**, his latest feature, was recipient of the Un Certain Regard Prize at the 2019 Cannes Film Festival – his previous films have won together more than 40 awards worldwide.

In 2008, Aïnouz has co-directed the TV series **Alice** for HBO Latin America. His installations and collaborative projects as visual artist have been part of events such as Sharjah, São Paulo and Whitney Museum Biennials. He is currently screenwriting tutor at the Porto Iracema das Artes in Fortaleza, Brazil. Since 2017 Aïnouz is member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

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Film director and visual artist, Aïnouz latest work, **The Invisible Life of Eurídice Gusmão** premiered at Cannes International Film Festival (2019) where it was awarded with the Un Certain Regard Prize.

The documentary **Central Airport THF** premiered at Berlinale Panorama (2018) and was awarded with the Amnesty International Filmpreis.

In March 2015 **Velázquez – Wild Realism**, a documentary on Spanish painter Diego Velázquez, had its world premiere at the Grand Palais in Paris and was broadcast by french-german channel ARTE.

In February 2014, his feature film **Futuro Beach**, shot in Brazil and Germany, premiered at the 64th Berlinale Competition. **Cathedrals of Culture**, a 3D film project about the soul of buildings which features Aïnouz as one of the directors and Wim Wenders as executive producer premiered at the Berlinale Special section this same year.

Aïnouz latest experimental documentary piece, **Domingo**, shot from his encounter with Danish artist Olafur Eliasson during the 17th Videobrasil Festival, had its world premiere at Rio International Film Festival in September 2014.

In 2012, he was invited jury at the Cannes Film Festival for the Cinéfondation and Short Film Competition. Aïnouz was also invited to direct a short the project **Destricted.br**, inspired by Larry Clark's *Destricted*, along with Adriana Varejão, Janaína Tschäpe, Julião Sarmiento, Lula Buarque de Hollanda, Marcos Chaves and Miguel Rio Branco exhibited at Gallery Fortes-Vilaça.

In 2011 Aïnouz was invited to direct a commissioned film for the Sharjah Biennial 10 and so produced the short film **Sonnenallee**, shot in Berlin. On the same year he collaborated with Olafur Eliasson creating the video installation *Your Empathic City* for the 17th Videobrasil Festival.

His third feature, **I travel because I have to, I come back because I love you**, premiered also at the Venice Film Festival, Orizzonti 2010 and won the Grand Prix Coup de Coeur of the 22nd Rencontres Cinémas D'Amérique Latine of Toulouse, France. **The Silver Cliff**, premiered at the Quinzaine des Réalisateurs at the Cannes Film Festival in 2011 and won Best Director at Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival.

His feature debut, **Madame Satã**, premiered in 2002 at the Cannes Film Festival - Un Certain Regard and has won over 40 prizes in national and international film festivals. **Love for Sale**, his following film, premiered at the Venice Film Festival, Orizzonti, in 2006 and won the Grand Coral – First Prize at the Havana Film festival among other 50 awards.

He is co-author of the films **Behind the Sun** by Walter Salles, **Cinema, Aspirins and Vultures** by Marcelo Gomes and **Lower City**, by Sergio Machado. He directed several shorts and documentaries including **Seams** (1993, 29') and **Paixão Nacional** (1994, 9').

In 2008, Aïnouz directed **Alice**, a 13-episode fiction series for HBO Latin America. His short films and installations have been shown at numerous venues including The Whitney Museum of American Art, the São Paulo Biennial, the Sharjah Biennial and Videobrasil.

He was part of the Cannes Residency, Cinéfondation, and a resident artist of the Banff Centre for the Arts in Canada and of the DAAD – German Academic Exchange Service. Aïnouz was also a jury member for the Heiner Carow Award at the Berlin International Film Festival, the Abu Dhabi Film Festival and Tokyo Short Shorts Film Festival among others.

As invited lecturer Aïnouz has been to Princeton University, Birkbeck College - London, the Wexner Center for the Arts, Massachusetts Institute of Technology - Program in Art, Culture and Technology, EICTV - Cuba, the Department of Cinema Studies - NYU and the San Francisco Art Institute. As creative advisor and tutor Aïnouz has been invited to Sundance Screenwriters Lab, Rawi Screenwriters Lab in Jordan, Curso de Desarrollo de Proyectos Iberoamericanos in Madrid, Taller Andino de Desarrollo in La Paz and Westerdals Oslo School of Arts, Communication and Technology.

From 1989 to 1992, he worked as assistant director to Todd Haynes in New York and assistant editor to several feature films. In 1992, Aïnouz began to devote himself to his own film projects.

Karim holds a degree in Architecture from the University of Brasilia and a Master's degree in Cinema Studies from the New York University. After his Master's, he enrolled in the Program of Independent Studies of the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Since 2013, Aïnouz has been developing, alongside fellow filmmakers Marcelo Gomes and Sérgio Machado, The Center for Audiovisual Narratives in partnership with State authorities of Ceará, Brazil. Among other activities, they coordinate and work as creative advisors to the Screenwriters Lab, a one-year program committed to the development of a new generation of filmmakers, providing support throughout their projects.

Aïnouz is currently in postproduction of his next two features, **Algerian by Accident** a hybrid documentary where he investigates his origins through his parents improbable love story while travelling around Algeria and **Nous sommes les oiseaux qui apportent la tempête** a portrait of the new Algerian generation. Aïnouz is also developing a future feature called **The Sun On the Head**, to be shot in Brazil in the first semester of 2020.