

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.

KARIM AÏNOUZ

BIO

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.

KARIM AÏNOUZ

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL

Born 1966, Fortaleza, Brazil

EDUCATION

- 1992 **WHITNEY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART**, NYC. Independent Study Program - Studio Section
- 1991 **NEW YORK UNIVERSITY**, NYC. Master's in Studio Art
- 1988 **UNIVERSIDADE DE BRASILIA**, Brasilia, Brazil, BA in Architecture
- 1985 **UNITE PEDAGOGIQUE D'ARCHITECTURE 6**, Paris, La Villete, France, Visiting Student

FILMOGRAPHY

DIRECTOR

- 2019 **The Invisible Life of Eurídice Gusmão**, fiction, DCP, color, 139 min
- 2018 **Central Airport THF**, documentary, DCP, color, 97 min
- 2015 **Velázquez - Wild Realism**, documentary, HD video, color, 52 min
- 2014 **Futuro Beach**, fiction, 35mm, color, 106 min
- 2014 **Cathedrals of Culture**, documentary, 3D, color, episode Centre Pompidou
- 2011 **The Silver Cliff**, fiction, 35mm, color, 84 min
- 2010 **I Travel Because I Have To, I Come Back Because I Love You**, fiction, 35mm, color, 75 min
- 2006 **Love for Sale**, fiction, 35mm, color, 88 min
- 2002 **Madame Satã**, fiction, 35mm, color, 105 min

SCREENWRITER

- 2019 **The Invisible Life of Eurídice Gusmão**, co-writer, fiction, HD video, color, 139 min
- 2014 **Futuro Beach**, fiction, 35mm, color, 106 min

- 2014 **Cathedrals of Culture**, documentary, 3D HD video, color, episode Centre Pompidou
- 2011 **The Silver Cliff**, fiction, 35mm, color, 84 min
- 2010 **I Travel Because I Have To, I Come Back Because I Love You**, fiction, 35mm, color, 75 min
- 2006 **Love for Sale**, fiction, 35mm, color, 88 min
- 2005 **Cinema, Aspirins and Vultures**, fiction, color, 104 min – directed by Marcelo Gomes
- 2005 **Lower City**, fiction, 35mm, color, 93 min – directed by Sérgio Machado
- 2002 **Madame Satã**, fiction, 35mm, color, 105 min
- 2001 **Behind the Sun**, fiction, 35mm, color, 105 min – directed by Walter Salles

TELEVISION

- 2015 **Velázquez – Wild Realism**, documentary, HD video, color, 52 min - French ARTE
- 2008 **Alice**, 13 episode series for HBO Latin America
- 1998 **Le Ballon des Bairros**, 26min - program for the weekly series SagaCités - France 3

INSTALLATIONS

- 2014 **Promised Land**, video installation, 3 channel HD video, 5 - exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Art – Ceará and Parque Lage – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2011 **Sonnenallee**, visual essay, super 8/digital, color, 12 min - commissioned by Sharjah Art Foundation for the Sharjah Biennial, United Arab Emirates
- 2011 **Destriated.br**, visual essay, 16mm, color, 15 min - commissioned by Galeria Fortes Vilaça, Galpão, Brazil
- 2011 **Your empathic city**, video installation, *collaboration with Olafur Eliasson*, commissioned by Videobrasil São Paulo, Brazil
- 2004 **Se fosse tudo sempre assim**, film/video installation, super 8/digital, 4min - São Paulo Biennial, Brazil

SHORTS

- 2014 **Domingo**, documentary/visual essay, HD video, color, 26min
- 2014 **Vira Bola, Vira Lata**, visual essay, HD video, color, 3min - commissioned by project Short Plays
- 2014 **Gentilândia Park**, fiction, HD video, color, 26min - commissioned by project Short Plays

- 2011 **The man who defuses bombs**, video essay, video, color, 1,32 min. Commissioned by the 70th Mostra Internazionale d'Arte Cinematografica - 70 Futuro Reloaded, Venice, Italy
- 2004 **Sertão de Acrílico Azul Piscina**, documentary, super 8/digital, color, 26 min.
- 2000 **Rifa-me**, fiction, 35 mm, color, 28 min.
- 1996 **Hic Habitat Felicitas**, fiction, 35mm, color, 26 min.
- 1994 **Paixão Nacional**, experimental, 16mm, color, 9 min.
- 1993 **Seams**, documentary, 16mm, color, 29 min.
- 1992 **O Preso**, fiction, video, color, 19 min.

CURATORIAL, JURY AND PROFESSORSHIPS

- 2019 Filmmaker Mentor at Qumra– Doha Film Institute – Doha, Qatar
- 2017 Jury for Sørfond project selection – Norwegian South Film Fund – Oslo, Norway
- 2017 Creative Advisor at Sundance Screenwriters Lab – Park City, USA
- 2016 Jury - International Competition - Fiction at Festival de Cine de Lima - Peru
- 2016 Creative Advisor at Sundance Screenwriters Lab – Park City, USA
- 2016 Creative Advisor at Center For Audiovisual Narratives – Screenwriters Lab One Year Program, Feb - Dec – Fortaleza, Brazil
- 2015 Creative Advisor in Screenwriting at Curso de Desarrollo de Proyectos Iberoamericanos - Ibermedia – Madrid, Spain
- 2015 Creative Advisor to hybrid projects at Taller Andino de Desarrollo - Ibermedia – La Paz, Bolivia
- 2015 Invited to deliver a Masterclass during the Taller Andino de Desarrollo - Ibermedia – La Paz, Bolivia
- 2015 Creative Advisor at Sundance Screenwriters Lab – Park City, USA
- 2015 Invited to compose the jury of Forum Expanded at the Berlin International Film Festival
- 2015 Creative Advisor at Center For Audiovisual Narratives – Screenwriters Lab One Year Program, Feb - Dec – Fortaleza, Brazil
- 2014 Invited to conduct the workshop Framing our Society - Tendencies in Contemporary Film at Westerdals Oslo School of Arts, Communication and Technology – Oslo, Norway
- 2014 Invited lecturer at the Wexner Center for The Arts - Visiting Filmmakers – Columbus, USA
- 2014 Invited to deliver a Masterclass at the Travelling Film Festival – Rennes, France
- 2014 Invited to the Massachusetts Intitute of Technology, Program in Art, Culture and Technology - Cinematic Migrations, public lecture and seminar for enrolled students – Cambridge, USA

- 2014 Creative Advisor at Center For Audiovisual Narratives – Screenwriters Lab One Year Program, Feb - Dec – Fortaleza, Brazil
- 2013 Jury for the Heiner Carow Award at the Berlin International Film Festival – Berlin, Germany
- 2012 Invited to compose the Evaluation Committee for Final Projects at EICTV – San Antonio de los Baños, Cuba
- 2012 Jury at the Cannes Film Festival for Cinéfondation and Short Film Competition – Cannes, France
- 2012 Workshop on script development at Project Ficção Viva II – Curitiba, Brasil
- 2011 Invited lecturer to Director in Focus at the Birkbeck College - Centre for Iberian and Latin American Visual Studies – London, UK
- 2011 Invited lecturer at the Princeton Documentary Festival – Princeton, USA
- 2008 Creative Advisor at the 5th Rawi Middle East Screenwriters Lab – Amman, Jordan
- 2009 Invited lecturer at the International Meeting of the Contemporary Image – São Paulo, Brazil
- 2008 Invited lecturer at the San Francisco Art Institute for the Spheres of Interest Graduate Lecture Series – San Francisco, USA
- 2008 Jury at the Short Shorts Film Festival – Tokyo, Japan
- 2008 Creative Advisor at the 4th Rawi Middle East Screenwriters Lab – Amman, Jordan
- 1994 Visiting lecturer at Media Arts Dept., Columbia College – Chicago, USA
- 1994 Visiting lecturer on Sexuality in Brazilian Media, invited by Prof. Robert Stam, Cinema Studies Department, New York University – New York City, USA
- 1993 Co-director of Mix, New York Experimental Lesbian and Gay Film Festival – 93/94

AWARDS, GRANTS, RESIDENCIES AND RETROSPECTIVES

- 2019 **The Invisible Life of Eurídice Gusmão** has its world premiere at the 72nd Cannes International Film Festival and won Un Certain Regard Prize
- 2018 **Central Airport THF** has its world premiere at the 68th Berlin International Film Festival Panorama and won the Amnesty International Prize
- 2015 Retrospective of feature films at the International Film Festival Panama
- 2014 Retrospective of work at the Wexner Center for The Arts – Columbus, USA
- 2014 Retrospective of work at the Travelling Film Festival – Rennes, France
- 2014 **Futuro Beach** has its world premiere at the 64th Berlin International Film Festival Competition
- 2014 **Cathedrals of Culture** has its world premiere at the 64th Berlin International Film Festival - Berlinale Special
- 2013 Invited to create short film in celebration of the 70th Venice International Film Festival

- 2012 Retrospective of work at the 14th Festival FILMAR en America Latina – Genève, Switzerland
- 2011 Retrospective of feature films together with fellow director Marcelo Gomes at Casa de America – Madrid, Spain
- 2011 **The Silver Cliff** was selected for the Quinzaine des Réalisateurs at the Cannes Film Festival and won Best Director at Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival
- 2011 Invited to direct a commissioned film for **Sharjah Biennial 10**
- 2011 Retrospective of work with Marcelo Gomes at Casa de América – Madrid, Spain
- 2011 Invited to develop videoinstallation with Olafur Eliasson and to direct a documentary commissioned by Videobrasil Festival
- 2009 Film **I Travel Because I Have To, I Come Back Because I Love You** won the FIPRESCI Award at the Havana Film Festival and Best Director at Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival
- 2006 Film **O Céu de Suely** was selected for the Venice Film Festival, won the Grand Coral - First Prize at the Havana Film Festival and Best Film at Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival, among other 50 prizes
- 2004 Artist-in-residence at the **Berliner Künstler Program/DAAD**, Berlin, Germany
- 2003 Writer-in-residence at the **Cannes Film Festival Cinéfondation**, Paris, France
- 2003 Project **Sertão de Acrílico Azul Piscina** awarded production funds from Instituto Itaú Cultural
- 2001 Film **Madame Satã** screened at the Cannes Film Festival and also at Sundance, Toronto, Havana, Chicago. The film was more than 40 prizes worldwide and it was distributed in over 20 countries
- 1998 Project **Madame Satã** awarded with production financing from the Hubert Bals Fund – Holland
- 1998 Best short film, **Paixão Nacional**, Ann Harbor Film Festival – Michigan, USA
- 1997 Project **Madame Satã** awarded with financing from Fonds Sud, France
- 1996 New York Foudation for the Arts, artist fellowship – NYC, USA
- 1996 Jerome Foundation, grant for the project **Hic Habitat Felicitas**, Saint Paul, USA
- 1996 Artist in residence at the Banff Centre for the Arts – Alberta, Canada
- 1996 Art Matters Foundation, grant for the project **Paixão Nacional I** – NYC, USA
- 1993 New York State Council on the Arts, grants for the documentary **Seams** – NYC, USA
- 1992 Artist in residence, Film/Video Arts Artist/Mentor Program – NYC, USA

KARIM AÏNOUZ

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

SELECTED FEATURES

Central Airport THF

2018 – documentary, HD video, color, 97 min

Berlin's historic defunct Tempelhof Airport remains a place of arrivals and departures. Today its massive hangars are used as Germany's largest emergency shelter for asylum seekers, like 18-year-old Syrian refugee Ibrahim. As Ibrahim adjusts to his transitory daily life of social services interviews, German lessons and medical exams, he tries to cope with homesickness and the anxiety of whether or not he will gain residency or be deported.

<https://vimeo.com/248143707>

password: thf

Velázquez – Wild Realism

2015 – documentary, HD video, color, 52 min - French channel ARTE

From the paintings of Velázquez and especially what gets free of it, the movie goes off to explore the peculiarity of the "painter of the painters" and of the artistic and esthetic revolution which Diego Velázquez caused. Since the "Venus with a Mirror" up to the mirror of Ménines, the movie escapes any didacticism and attempts to recreate the exceptional emotional link between the work of Velázquez and the look of the public, between the eye of the painter and the one of the spectator. Between his life and our lives.

<https://vimeo.com/118221861>

password: Karim2015

Praia do Futuro (Futuro Beach)

2014 – drama, 35mm/DCP, color, 107 min

Water is lifeguard Donato's element and the sea is his home. The 'Beach of the Future' mentioned in the film's title unexpectedly gives his life new direction. When two men are caught by a dangerous current, Donato dives in and manages to save Konrad, a German tourist, but his best friend's life is claimed by the sea. While along the coast the search is on for the body, Konrad and his rescuer get to know each other. Donato follows Konrad to Berlin, a city that may not be by the sea but which is nonetheless a place where he can reinvent himself. Years later, Donato is confronted with his past when his younger brother Ayrton appears at his door furious and wanting to know why Donato left him without saying a word. But just like Donato before him, Ayrton will also throw himself into the maelstrom of the strange city, and he, too, will find more questions than answers. Those in search of love and identity who are prepared to risk everything to discover themselves and their emotions.

<https://vimeo.com/174396531>

password: pdf3697

TRAILER - <https://vimeo.com/89125431>

O Abismo Prateado (The Silver Cliff)

2011 - drama, 35mm, color, 84 min

Violeta, a dentist in Rio de Janeiro, is happily married and still engages in passionate morning lovemaking with her husband. Then he leaves on business and calls to tell her he never plans to return. Confused, she begins to wander the streets, trying to figure out what happened and why. Rio is as much a protagonist as Violeta, its energetic and melancholic landscapes a reflection of her changing moods in this ode to resilience in the face of heartbreaking loss.

<https://vimeo.com/87803884>

password: abismo

Viajo Porque Preciso, Volto Porque Te Amo (I Travel Because I Have To, I Come Back Because I Love You)

2010 - drama, 35mm, color, 75 min

José Renato, a 35-year-old geologist, is sent on a fieldtrip to the scrublands of the Sertão, a semi-arid isolated region in the northeast of Brazil. As the fieldtrip progresses, it

becomes clear that Renato shares something in common with the places he visits: emptiness, a sense of abandonment, and isolation. His geological research is slowly pervaded by a sensation of groundlessness, an incessant pining for his ex-wife, and a yearning to return home. But he presses ahead, continuing the trip in the hope that the voyage can somehow transmute his feelings.

<https://vimeo.com/27191789>

password: vi_eng_holan_2018

O Céu de Suely (Love for Sale)

2006 - drama, 35mm, color, 88 min

Hermila, 21, grew up in the wayside town of Iguatu, and as the film opens she is returning, with her baby boy, from a failed foray in São Paulo. She uneasily settles back into Iguatu's torpid rhythms, moving in with her family and reconnecting with an old boyfriend (Miguel), as well as a friend (Castro) who now works, casually, as a prostitute. When it becomes clear that Hermila's husband back in the city will not be joining her, she hatches a scheme to escape again, selling raffle tickets for —one night in paradise with — Suely, her alter ego. Where she will go—and how she will survive there—remains an open question.

<https://vimeo.com/63181198>

password: suely

Madame Satã

2002 - drama, 35mm, color, 105 min

The film is based on the real person João Francisco dos Santos (1900-1976), better known by name of Madame Satã. He was a 1.78 meter black man weighing 88 kilos of muscle. In turn a bandit, a transvestite, street-fighter, cook, hero, convict and father to seven adopted children. Satã spent most of his years on the hot streets of Lapa, the Montmartre of the tropics, the bohemian Rio.

<https://vimeo.com/83931726>

password: madame

SELECTED SHORTS AND INSTALLATIONS

Domingo

commissioned for Videobrasil Festival on Olafur Eliasson site-specific work developed for the Festival

2014 - documentary, 35mm, color/B&W, 26 min

Sunday is a short film by Karim Aïnouz, based on the record of ten Sundays, between 12 February and 30 December 2012, in the city of São Paulo. This creates a temporal and spatial reference that helps to build up the narrative, in a film in which the main characters are the city of São Paulo itself and the work of Olafur Eliasson. The visitors filmed at the shows and the passers-by captured in the images are bit actors in a spectacle that invites us to contemplate and reflect on the meaning of the city.

<https://vimeo.com/107633806>

password: ola7845

Your Empathic City

2011 - video installation, 3-channel HD video, 24 spotlights, color filter foil

Never-before-seen work created in collaboration with Olafur Eliasson, explores the production of color and its consequences in space and time. In the projections, organized into sequences, trapezoidal shapes and images of São Paulo vary in color and composition. In response to the superimposition of images, visitors see afterimages.

<https://vimeo.com/117406950>

password: cidade

Sonnenallee (Sunny Lane)

commissioned for the Sharjah Biennial

2011 - visual essay, super 8/digital, color, 12 min

Sunny Lane is Sonnenallee in German, a famous street in the south west of Berlin, home to a large number of Arab immigrants. When the Berlin Wall was still dividing the city, a young man was shot while trying to cross to West Berlin near a checkpoint on Sonnenallee. He was the last fugitive to be shot dead before the fall of the Wall. Sunny Lane is an essay on border crossing and exile. It is a film about an imaginary place – a road filled with snow, a horizon exploding with rain, the blinking lights of a nocturnal fairground.

<https://vimeo.com/22490320>

password: sunnylane

Destricted.br

2011 - experimental, 16mm, color, 14min.

<https://vimeo.com/91492239>

password: destricted

Sertão de Acrílico Azul Piscina

2004 - documentary, super 8/digital, color, 26min

A journey as a film, a film like reverie through the Brazilian backlands. Remote places reveal traditions and customs of a Brazilian landscape that is both primitive and contemporary, regional and global.

<https://vimeo.com/69723393>

password: sertao

Hic Habitat Felicitas

1996 – fiction, 35mm, color, 26 min

<https://vimeo.com/83966638>

password: hic

Paixão Nacional

1994 – experimental, 16mm, color, 9 min

A young Brazilian man attempts to flee his country by stowing away in the hold of an airplane. AS he freezes to death, his dying memories of the sexual hypocrisies of his native land, interwoven with a tourist's impression of Brazil as an oversexed paradise, provide a somber look at one gay man's life.

<https://vimeo.com/83965204>

password: paixao

Seams

1993 - documentary, 16mm, color, 29 min

During a family visit, the director's five great aunts tell stories about romance, suffering and survival in a man's world. From this anecdotal evidence, it assembles a subtle, salutary story about the machinery of machismo.

<https://vimeo.com/210129780>

password: seams