

## RUSSA



Portugal, Brazil, 2018, DOC, FIC, Blu-Ray Disc (BD), DCP, HD, Colour, 19'57"  
Stereo, 16:9

Director: João Salaviza, Ricardo Alves Jr.

Producer: Renée Nader Messoria, MATERIAL BRUTO

Producer: Ricardo Alves Jr., Thiago Macêdo Correia, [ENTRE FILMES](#)

Producer: João Salaviza, Renée Nader Messoria, KARÕ FILMES

Script: João Salaviza, Ricardo Alves Jr., Renée Nader Messoria, Germano Melo

Photography: Renée Nader Messoria

Editing: João Salaviza, Ricardo Alves Jr.

Sound: Léo Bortolin

Main Actors: Helena Campos, Maria Antonieta, Alberto Moreira

Original Language: Portuguese

Subtitles: Spanish, French, English

Synopsis: Russa returns to Bairro do Aleixo in Porto, visiting her sister and friends with whom she celebrates her son's birthday. In this brief reunion, Russa returns to the collective memory of her neighbourhood where three of the five towers still remain standing.

[| film data |](#)



## João Salaviza

Lisbon, 1984. Graduated from The National Film and Theater Academy (ESTC) in Portugal, and Universidad del Cine - Buenos Aires.

His feature debut **MOUNTAIN** (2015) had its world premiere at the Venice Film Festival - Critics Week and through many other festivals (Rotterdam, San Sebastian, Buenos Aires, S. Paulo, Munich, Angers, Kerala or Montpellier where it won the prize for Best Film), before its commercial release in Portugal and France.

João Salaviza directed a trilogy of internationally award-winning short films: **RAFA** (Golden Bear at Berlinale'12 and Ingmar Bergman Award at Uppsala); **ARENA** (Palme d'Or at Cannes'09); and **CERRO NEGRO** (premiere at Rotterdam).

His films were selected for the most important festivals, and also presented in places as Centre Pompidou, La Biennale di Venezia of Architecture, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Barbican Centre, Malba Buenos Aires, Fundação Gulbenkian, Casa de America Madrid, Belgrade Museum of Contemporary Art and Artium Basque Museum of Contemporary Art.

João Salaviza also directed the experimental short films as **STROKKUR** (FID Marseille, Belfort, Gijón, Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin/Madrid); **HOUSE AT COMPORTA** commissioned for the Portuguese architecture national exhibition at the Venice Biennale 2010; **HOTEL MÜLLER** on the work of Pina Bausch.

The short film **HIGH CITIES OF BONE** is his most recent work, with its World Premiere at Berlinale'17.

**CHUVA É CANTORIA NA ALDEIA DOS MORTOS**, co-directed with Renée Nader Messoria, have its premiere due in 2018.

Filmography:

- 2018 [RUSSA](#)  
Portugal, Brazil, 2018, DOC, FIC, Blu-Ray Disc (BD), DCP, HD, Colour, 19'57"
- 2017 [ALTAS CIDADES DE OSSADAS](#)  
Portugal, 2017, DOC, FIC, DCP, Colour, 19'
- 2011 [STROKKUR](#)  
Portugal, 2011, DOC, EXP, HD, B&W, 7'16"
- 2004 **DUAS PESSOAS**  
Portugal, 2004, FIC, 16mm, Colour, 9'

FIC, 90'  
2013 ~~RIC~~ **CONTANHA**  
FIC, 20'  
2012 **CERRO NEGRO**  
FIC, 22'  
2011 **CASA NA COMPORTA**  
FIC, 20'  
2010 **HOTEL MULLER**  
DOC  
2009 **ARENA**  
FIC, 15'  
2008 **CÃES DE CAÇA**  
  
2004 **DUAS PESSOAS**  
FIC, 9'



Ricardo Alves Jr.

retrospective of his short films took place at the Cinémathèque Française, in 2013. In 2016, he released his first feature, *Elon Doesn't Believe in Death*, which was contemplated by the Hubert Bals Fund for Script and Project Development in 2012. The film was selected for some of the most important Brazilian film festivals, such as: Festival de Brasília do Cinema Brasileiro (Best Actor Award); Panorama Coisa de Cinema (Best Film Award – Award IndieLisboa); and Semana dos Realizadores in Rio de Janeiro (Jury award). Its international premiere was at the Macao Film Festival & Awards, in China, where it won the Best Artistic Contribution Award. The film had its European premiere at the 2017 International Film Festival Rotterdam, in the Bright Future session. The Ibero-American premiere was in the competition section of the Cartagena Festival, in Colombia. It was also exhibited at IndieLisboa, in Portugal; FICUNAM, in Mexico; and BAFICI, in Argentina.

Ricardo Alves Jr. was born in Belo Horizonte in 1982. He is a Brazilian screenwriter, filmmaker and theater director. His works were screened and awarded in several

- 2018 **RUSSIA**  
 International festivals such as Cannes Critic's Week, Rotterdam, Locarno,  
 Oporto, B. Kailash, 30th Sao Paulo Doc Film Festival, 19th  
 Portuguese B. Kailash, 30th Sao Paulo Doc Film Festival, 19th  
 2016 **ELON DOESN'T BELIEVE IN DEATH**  
 Fic, 75'  
 2013 **TREMOR**  
 Fic, 14'  
 2010 **PERMANÊNCIAS**  
 Doc, 34'  
 2007 **INVITATION TO DINE WITH COMRADE STALIN**  
 Fic, 10'  
 2006 **RAW MATERIAL**  
 16'

## Festival Selections

- 2019 Semana do Cinema Português em Zhukovski, Russia  
 2019 Shorts Mexico - International Short Film Festival, Mexico  
 2019 Concorso Film Festival, Italy  
 2019 MDOC - Melgaço International Documentary Film Festival, Portugal  
 2019 Manlleu Film Festival, Spain  
 2019 Cinema Jove International Film Festival, Spain  
 2019 Semana do Cinema Português na Rússia - Junho, Russia  
 2019 Arquiteturas Film Festival Lisboa, Portugal  
 2019 Festival de Cinema Ibero-Americano, Russia  
 2019 Festival de Cine y Televisión Reino de León, Spain  
 2019 Mostra de Cinema - DESOBEDOC, Portugal  
 2019 Festival de Cinema Luso-brasileiro de Santa Maria da Feira, Portugal  
 2019 CórteX - Festival de Curtas Metragens de Sintra, Portugal  
 2019 Festival de Cinema Português - Rússia, Russia  
 2019 Academia Portuguesa de Cinema - Gala de Prémios Sophia, Portugal  
 2019 Short Waves Festival, Poland  
 2019 Glasgow Short Film Festival, United Kingdom  
 2019 IB AFF - Festival Internacional de Cine, Spain  
 2019 Shortcutz Vila Real - February, Portugal  
 2019 Mostra de Cinema de Tiradentes, Brazil  
 2019 Stuttgarter Filmwinter - Festival for Expanded Media, Germany  
 2018 Centre Phi - Canada, Canada  
 2018 Festival de Cinema Português - Rússia, Russia  
 2018 Berlinale Spotlight: India, India  
 2018 Caminhos do Cinema Português, Portugal

2018 FIKE International Short Film Festival, Portugal  
2018 PANORAMA Internacional Coisa de Cinema, Brazil  
2018 International Festival of Documentary and Short Films of Bilbao, Spain  
2018 Medfilm Festival, Italy  
2018 VISTACURTA - Festival de Curtas de Viseu, Portugal  
2018 Uppsala International Short Film Festival, Sweden  
2018 Montpellier International Festival of Mediterranean Film, France  
2018 Festival de Cine La Orquídea , Ecuador  
2018 Urbanism Futurism Reality - Berlin, Germany  
2018 Casa das Artes Famalicão - Outubro, Portugal  
2018 Curt'Arruda - Festival de Cinema de Arruda dos Vinhos, Portugal  
2018 CineMigrante - Festival Internacional de Cine y Formación en derechos humanos de las personas migrantes, Argentina  
2018 Monstra - Festa do Avante, Portugal  
2018 São Paulo International Short Film Festival, Brazil  
2018 As Noites de Boris - Cineclube do Porto, Portugal  
2018 Makedox - Creative Documentary Film Festival, Republic of Macedonia  
2018 Belo Horizonte International Short Film Festival, Brazil  
2018 kinemastik International Short Film Festival, Malta  
2018 Guanajuato International Film Festival Expresión en Corto, Mexico  
2018 Macao International Documentary Film Festival, Macau  
2018 Curtas Vila do Conde International Film Festival, Portugal  
2018 EcoPorto, Portugal  
2018 Hamburg International Short Film Festival, Germany  
2018 IndieLisboa - Festival Internacional de Cinema Independente, Portugal  
2018 Berlinale - Berlin International Film Festival, Germany