

## CUL-DE-SAC



Croatia, Portugal, 2023, EXP, FIC, DCP, HD, ProRes SQ, Colour, 18'25"  
Dolby SR, 1:2.35

Director: Mário Macedo, Vanja Vascarac

Producer: Vanja Vascarac, [VERTIGO](#)

Producer: Luís Costa, André Guiomar, [OLHAR DE ULISSES](#)

Script: Mário Macedo, Vanja Vascarac

Editing: Mário Macedo, Vanja Vascarac, Sebastian Søgård

Photography: Filip Romic

Sound: Maurício D'Orey

Music: Ivan Šaravanja

Animation: Kristijan Petrovic

Main Actors: Antonio Pekovi?, Domagoj Gudac, Marko Kadi?, Ben from Hong Kong

Original Language: Croatian

Subtitles: English, Portuguese

Synopsis: A group of skaters take refuge in a shopping mall, making it their playground. As they spend time skating the empty hallways the stillness creeps in. It's a dead end.

[| film data |](#)



## Mário Macedo

Mário Macedo (1989) was born and raised in a small town in the north of Portugal. His work encompasses cultural, visceral and ethereal elements rooted in his passion for generational storytelling, as well as a consistent critique of capitalistic society, dreams and the fears that crush them. Having lived in various European cities, Macedo's work reaffirms his belief in shapeshifting perceptions, always fluid and deeply entrenched in human connection, all the while trying to grasp the poetics of existence and the latent irony it entails, together with all its superstitious matters. His films have been selected for several festivals, such as Cannes Film Festival, Cairo IFF, Doclisboa IFF, Sarajevo Film Festival, Mostra São Paulo IFF, Clermont- Ferrand IFF and was awarded the Grand Prix and the European Film Academy Award at Curtas Vila do Conde 2024, the Best Director award at Curtas Vila do Conde 2021 and also got the National Grand Prix at FEST New Directors/New Films 2017. He published with Lebop (PT) and Editions Loco (FR), together with Olhar de Ulisses, his first photobook 'Running Away Into You', that premiered at Rencontre d'Arles in 2024.

### Filmography:

- 2025 **THREE OF CUPS**  
Denmark, Portugal, 2025, DOC, FIC, DCP, Colour, 15'08"
- 2024 [THAT'S HOW I LOVE YOU](#)  
Croatia, Portugal, 2024, FIC, DCP, HD, Colour, 18'
- 2023 [CUL-DE-SAC](#)  
Croatia, Portugal, 2023, EXP, FIC, DCP, HD, ProRes SQ, Colour, 18'25"
- 2023 [MARIA](#)  
Portugal, France, 2023, FIC, DCP, Colour, 15'
- 2011 **TIO RUI**  
32 Min
- 2016 **MARIA SEM PECADO**  
29 Min

2018 **A VOLTA DA REVOLTA**

27 Min

2021 **TERCEIRO TURNO**

19 Min



## Vanja Vascarac

Vanja is a Croatian director with a BFA in Film and Television at Savannah College of Art and Design (USA). He directed several short films: *Insomniac* (2002, Cannes Film Festival/ Director's Fortnight), *Wayking* (2003), *Carver is Dead* (2012, Zagreb Film Festival) and *Lora Wears Black* (2019, Zagreb Film Festival).

Vanja is experienced in directing TV commercials for leading brands such as T-Mobile, Vodafone, as well as for international clients such as Sony Asia Pacific. He participated in Berlinale Talent Campus and Sarajevo Talent Campus. He is developing his first feature film, *Blok 62* (Ekran+, Connecting Cottbus).

Filmography:

- 2023 [CUL-DE-SAC](#)  
Croatia, Portugal, 2023, EXP, FIC, DCP, HD, ProRes SQ, Colour, 18'25"
- 2002 **INSOMNIAC**  
8 Min
- 2003 **Wayking**
- 2012 **Carver is Dead**  
15'
- 2019 **Lora Wears Black**  
23'

Festival Selections

- 2025 London Short Film Festival, United Kingdom
- 2024 International Short Film Festival Leuven, Belgium
- 2024 Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin, France
- 2024 Entre Olhares - Mostra de Cinema Português, Portugal
- 2024 Lobo Fest - International Film Festival, Brazil
- 2024 Film and Festival Culture - Oberhausen Meets Paderborn, Germany
- 2024 Waking Life Festival, Portugal
- 2024 Oberhausen - Distributor's section, Germany
- 2024 Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, France
- 2023 ODMC - Cineclube de Guimarães, Portugal
- 2023 International Short Film Festival Leuven, Belgium
- 2023 Caminhos do Cinema Português, Portugal
- 2023 Curtas Vila do Conde International Film Festival, Portugal