NHA MILA

Portugal, Switzerland, 2020, FIC, DCP, Colour, 18'30"
Dolby SR, 1:1.85

Director:	Denise Fernandes
Producer:	Sandro Aguilar, Luis Urbano, O SOM E A FÚRIA
Producer:	Elda Guidinetti, VENTURA FILM
Script:	Denise Fernandes
Editing:	Pedro Marques
Photography:	Marta Simões
Sound:	Miguel Moraes Cabral, António Porém Pires
Main Actors:	Yaya Correia, Maria Sanches, Cleo Tavares, Lourença Semedo
Original Language:	Criole, Portuguese
Subtitles:	Spanish, English, Italian, Portuguese
Synopsis:	After 14 years away from her homeland, Salomé is forced to return to Cape Verde to see her dying brother. During her stopover at Lisbon airport, Águeda a cleaning lady recognizes Salomé as "Mila", her childhood friend. Águeda invites Salomé to leave the airport and spend the stopover at her home, with the women of her family. The neighborhood transports her on a spiritual journey, whose destination unfurls a painful bond with her homeland.

| film data |

Denise Fernandes

Denise Fernandes was born in Lisbon in 1990 from Cape Verdean parents and she was raised in southern Switzerland. In 2011 she graduated in film directing and production at the International Conservatory of Audiovisual Sciences in Lugano (CISA). In the same year, her diploma short film Una Notte debuted at the 64th edition of the Locarno FILM Festival. From 2011 to 2013, she studies filmmaking at Cuba's International School of Film and TV (EICTV), where she directs Pan Sin Mermelada, which deserves the nomination of Upcoming Talent at the Solothurn Festival and Idyllium, awarded at the Winterthur International Festival. She is currently preparing her first feature film, Hanami, set in Cape Verde. Hanami was selected from 70 projects for the Solothurn Talent Lab 2016 and awarded the Best First Project by the Swiss Society of Authors (SSA).

Filmography:

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2013 **IDYLLIUM**
FIC, HD, Colour, 14'

2012 **PAN SIN MERMELADA**
FIC, HD, Colour, 12'

2011 **UNA NOTTE**
FIC, HD, Colour, 28'

Festival Selections

2026 Disjuntor – Escola de Verão, Portugal
2026 Sessão Cultural Vila de Mora e Brotas, Portugal
2026 Portal do Retorno (Portal of Return), Portugal
2025 Nôs Filme, Nôs Voz – Conversa Aberta com Cineastas de Cabo Verde, Cape Verde
2025 Black Gaze – Mostra de Cinema Negro em Portugal, Portugal
2025 Interfilm, Internationales Kurzfilmfestival Berlin, Germany
2025 Mostra Internacional de Cinema Anti-Racista - MICAR, Portugal
2025 Artistic Residency "Journey(s) Through the Eyes of Malaury ÉLOI PAISLEY", France
2025 Kino Xenix screening, Switzerland
2025 (Camões) Dia da Língua Portuguesa - Consulado de Cabo Verde na Suécia, Sweden
2025 Batalha Centro de Cinema - Luas Novas: Marta Simões, Portugal

2025 Cinema no Estendal - Extensão Portimão, Portugal
2025 Festival Filministes, Canada
2025 Black Europe Film Festival, Switzerland
2024 Mostra Vida Justa, Portugal
2024 Cinema no Estendal, Portugal
2024 Cineclube Dentu Zona, Portugal
2024 Cinema Jove Festival Internacional de Cine - Curt Creixent, Spain
2023 ODMC - Cinema Ideal (Sessão Especial), Portugal
2023 Cineclube de Pombal - Julho, Portugal
2022 Portuguese Short Films on CORTO DORICO - Amnesty International Award - "Short on Rights", Italy
2022 Festival Porretta Cinema - Corto Dorico Special Program, Italy
2022 Festival Tous Courts - Curtas Vila do Conde Program, France
2022 Mostra de Cinema Negro de Sao Paulo, Brazil
2022 Cinematheque Passion Macao, Macau
2022 Linz International Short Film Festival, Austria
2022 Nevada City Film Festival, USA
2022 Chicago Latino Film Festival, USA
2022 MUJERES 22 - Cinemaattic, United Kingdom
2022 Olhares do Mediterrâneo - Extensão Palmela, Portugal
2022 UCCLA - "De DENTRO e FORA" , Portugal
2022 Locarno Shorts Weeks, Switzerland
2022 Shortcutz Guimarães - Janeiro, Portugal
2021 Porto Femme - Festival Utopia, Portugal
2021 Frames Portuguese Film Festival, Sweden
2021 Olhares do Mediterrâneo - Cinema no Feminino, Portugal
2021 EFA - Festival del Cinema Europeo, Italy
2021 EFA - Metropolis Art Cinema Association - 26th European Film Festival in Lebanon, Lebanon
2021 VISTACURTA - Festival de Curtas de Viseu, Portugal
2021 CinemAfrica Film Festival, Sweden
2021 Olhar de Cinema - Curitiba International Film Festival, Brazil
2021 Porto Femme - Festival Internacional de Cinema, Portugal
2021 EFA - Reykjavik IFF, Iceland
2021 Imagineindia International Film Festival Madrid, Spain
2021 Academia Portuguesa de Cinema - Gala de Prémios Sophia, Portugal
2021 Festival Internacional de Curtas de Verin, Spain
2021 Diaspora International Short Film Festival, Turkey
2021 EFA - Jerusalem Film Festival, Israel
2021 EFA - Concorto FF, Italy
2021 Edinburgh International Film Festival, United Kingdom
2021 EFA - European Film Festival Palic, Serbia
2021 EFA - Curtas Vila do Conde, Portugal
2021 EFA - ShorTS – International Film Festival, Italy
2021 Festival de Cinema Luso-brasileiro de Santa Maria da Feira, Portugal
2021 EFA - Brussels SF, Belgium
2021 The Norwegian Short Film Festival Grimstad, Norway
2021 EFA - Hamburg ISFF, Germany
2021 Tarifa African Film Festival, Spain
2021 New Directors/New Films International Festival, USA
2021 Go Short International Short Film Festival Nijmegen, Netherlands
2021 Go Short International Short Film Festival Nijmegen - African Museum program, Netherlands
2021 EFA - Glasgow Short FF, United Kingdom

2021 Vilnius Film Festival, Lithuania
2021 EFA - Tampere Film Festival, Finland
2021 Journées de Soleure, Switzerland
2021 EFA - Minimalen SFF, Norway
2020 O DIA MAIS CURTO - ZOOM Barcelos, Portugal
2020 O DIA MAIS CURTO - Município de Setúbal, Portugal
2020 O DIA MAIS CURTO - Planetário do Porto - Centro Ciência Viva, Portugal
2020 O DIA MAIS CURTO - Cineclube de Joane, Portugal
2020 O DIA MAIS CURTO - ESMAD I Escola Superior de Media Artes e Design, Portugal
2020 O DIA MAIS CURTO - Centro Cultural Malaposta, Portugal
2020 O DIA MAIS CURTO - Escola Artística António Arroio, Portugal
2020 O DIA MAIS CURTO - Cineclube de Tomar, Portugal
2020 Caminhos do Cinema Português, Portugal
2020 Cinemateca - O SOM E A FÚRIA, Portugal
2020 EFA - POFF Shorts, Estonia
2020 International Festival of Documentary and Short Films of Bilbao, Spain
2020 Brest European Short Film Festival, France
2020 EFA - Leeds IFF, United Kingdom
2020 Montpellier International Festival of Mediterranean Film, France
2020 Uppsala International Short Film Festival, Sweden
2020 Curtas Vila do Conde International Film Festival, Portugal
2020 Locarno International Film Festival, Switzerland

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