RUI CARLOS

Portugal, 2025, FIC, DCP, Colour, 14'45"
Stereo, 16:9

Director: Margarida Paias
Producer: Diogo Salgado, Gonçalo Pina, BRAVADO FILMES
Producer: Margarida Paias
Script: Margarida Paias
Editing: Diogo Vale
Photography: Bruno Reis Oliveira
Sound: Vicente Molder
Main Actors: David Peixeiro, Daniel Carvalho, João Lopes, Diogo Caeiro, Afonso Morgado, Henrique Yankov, Salvador Emiliano, Santiago Pimenta, Tomás Cardoso, Tomás Morgado
Original Language: Portuguese
Subtitles: English
Synopsis: In the mid-1980s, during a summer day, Rui Carlos and his friends Maranau and Tomané enjoy their free time in the neighborhood, between football matches and playful games. Rui Carlos repairs his worn-out shoes and heads out to borrow a valuable football from their neighbor, Dona Olinda, who daily entrusts it to him. As the teams are chosen and the game begins, typical neighborhood interruptions ensue: a visit from Mascote the dog, a break for lunch, and spontaneous games. But when the ball gets punctured, Rui Carlos is left to face responsibility and the realities of growing up.

| film data |

Margarida Paias

Margarida Paias (b. 2000, Almada). She graduated in Editing from the Lisbon Theatre and Film School (ESTC). During her studies, she worked mainly in the fields of directing, art direction and editing. Since then, she has worked in art and costume, most notably as art director and costume designer on the following films: ”Under the Mountains' Shadow” (Diogo Salgado, 2025); ”La Durmiente” (Maria Inês Gonçalves, 2025); ”Afternoon Sun” (Gonçalo Pina, 2020); ”Infinity River” (Gonçalo Pina) and ”The Days of Small Things” (Catarina Campos), to be premiered. In the theater, she was responsible for the set and costume design for ”The Journey of Kolka Pankin and Petra Erchov Who Couldn't Believe Anything”, ”Zaca, Zaca” and ”Constantino, An Animal of Tales”. As an actress, she has acted in films by directors such as Susana Nobre, Inês Lima and Pedro Ramalhete. She has published a book of poetry ”For the Death of a Swallow”. "Rui Carlos" is her first short film as a director.

Filmography:

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Festival Selections

2026 BogoShorts - Festival de Cortos de Bogotá, Colombia
2026 Planos Film Fest - Festival internacional de curtas-metragens de Tomar, Portugal
2026 Young Audience Film Festival Ale Kino!, Poland
2026 Cinematheque Passion Macao, Macau
2026 HaHa Art Film Festival, Portugal

2026 Cinemaforum Short Film Festival, Poland
2026 VISTACURTA - Festival de Curtas de Viseu, Portugal
2026 Festival de Curtas-Metragens Cómicas Portuguesas, Portugal
2026 Kaohsiung Film Festival, Taiwan
2026 Curt'Arruda - Festival de Cinema de Arruda dos Vinhos, Portugal
2026 International Short Film Festival in Drama, Greece
2026 Burgas International Film Festival, Bulgaria
2026 Triste Para Sempre , Portugal
2026 Festival Ibérico de Cinema de Badajoz, Spain
2026 Festival dos Miúdos, Spain
2026 Rebentos - Young directors film screening, Portugal
2026 ShortCutz Ovar - Junho, Portugal
2026 Rooftop Films Underground Movies Outdoors, USA
2026 Leiria Film Fest, Portugal
2026 IndieLisboa - Festival Internacional de Cinema Independente, Portugal
2026 Porto Femme - Festival Internacional de Cinema, Portugal
2026 Filmfest Dresden - Open air, Germany
2026 Prémios Curtas, Portugal
2026 Batalha Centro de Cinema - Oficina de Realização: Cinema ao Virar da Esquina, Portugal
2026 Cinequest Film & VR Festival, USA
2026 Play - Lisbon's International Kids Film Festival, Portugal
2026 Internacional Film Festival Rotterdam, Netherlands
2026 IndieJúnior Allianz Porto, Portugal
2025 Entre Olhares - Festival de Cinema Português, Portugal
2025 (Porto Femme) Telas na Rua – Bonfim , Portugal
2025 Curtas Vila do Conde International Film Festival, Portugal

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