

O QUE ARDE CURA (AS THE FLAMES ROSE)



Portugal, 2012, FIC, HD, Colour, 26'

Stereo, 4:3

Director: João Rui Guerra da Mata

Producer: João Figueiras, [BLACKMARIA. Produção Audiovisual](#)

Script: João Rui Guerra da Mata

Editing: Mariana Gaivão

Photography: Rui Poças

Sound: Nuno Carvalho

Main Actors: João Pedro Rodrigues

Original Language: Portuguese

Subtitles: French, English

Synopsis: At dawn on August 25th, 1988, Portugal wakes up with the largest fire ever since the Great Earthquake of 1755. In Lisbon, Chiado district burns. Across the city, away from the smoke and fire, Francisco receives an unexpected phone call and flames from the past burst through his bedroom, suffocating his life.

[| film data |](#)



João Rui Guerra da Mata

João Rui Guerra da Mata was born in Lourenço Marques, Mozambique. He taught Art Direction at the Lisbon Film School from 2004 to 2011. In 1997 he co-starred in the short *PARABÉNS!*, directed by João Pedro Rodrigues, that won the Special Jury Mention at the 54th Mostra di Venezia. As an Art Director, he worked in several features and shorts, notably the ones directed by João Pedro Rodrigues, whose films he also co-scripted. This collaboration lately evolved to co-direction, namely in the shorts *CHINA, CHINA* (2007) – 39th Directors' Fortnight, Cannes; Best Short Film and Audience Award, Belfort Film Festival and *ALVORADA VERMELHA* (2011) – Best Portuguese Short Film, IndieLisboa Film Festival; international premiere at Locarno Film Festival. *O QUE ARDE CURA* (2012) is his debut solo film.

Filmography:

- 2021 [UM QUARTO NA CIDADE](#)
Portugal, 2021, DOC, DCP, Colour, 5'17"
- 2014 [IEC LONG](#)
Portugal, 2014, DOC, EXP, FIC, HD, Colour, 31'28"
- 2013 [MAHJONG](#)
Portugal, 2013, FIC, HD, Colour, 35'
- 2012 [O QUE ARDE CURA](#)
Portugal, 2012, FIC, HD, Colour, 26'
- 2011 [ALVORADA VERMELHA](#)
Portugal, 2011, DOC, FIC, HD, Colour, 27'
- 2007 [CHINA, CHINA](#)
Portugal, 2007, FIC, 35mm, Colour, 19'
- 2012 [A ÚLTIMA VEZ QUE VI MACAU](#)
FIC, 88'

Festival Selections

- 2025 FIlmoteca Española - Cinemateca Portuguesa Program, Spain
- 2025 Cinemateca - Retrospectiva João Pedro Rodrigues e João Rui Guerra da Mata, Portugal
- 2022 Film Archive of Toulouse - João Pedro Rodrigues, João Rui Guerra da Mata program, France
- 2021 Exibição - Cinema Trindade, Portugal
- 2020 Cinema Medeia Nimas - Programa Dezembro, Portugal
- 2020 International Kurzfilmtage Oberhausen, Germany
- 2020 Short Films For Long Days, Portugal
- 2019 Programa Queer Lisboa / Gasworks, United Kingdom

2019 Olhar de Cinema - Curitiba International Film Festival, Brazil
2018 Black Movie Geneva International Independent Film Festival, Switzerland
2017 FICA - Festival Internacional de Cinema Arte, Portugal
2017 Arsenal institut fur film and videokunst, Germany
2017 João Pedro Rodrigues - Instituto Moreira Salles, Brazil
2016 João Pedro Rodrigues at the Centre Pompidou, France
2016 Mix Brasil Festival Culture of Diversity, Brazil
2016 Extensão Curtas Vila do Conde - Cinemateca Portuguesa, Portugal
2015 Mostra de Verão - Cineclube de Faro, Portugal
2015 Taipei Film Festival, Taiwan
2014 In&Out - Festival du Film Gay & Lesbien de Nice, France
2014 Munich Filmmuseum - Jean Cocteau Program, Germany
2013 Bucharest International Experimental Film Festival, Romania
2013 Ciclo de Cinema Português - Galiza, Spain
2013 Sevilla Festival de Cine - Cine Europeo y Contemporáneo, Spain
2013 Janela Internacional de Cinema do Recife, Brazil
2013 Belo Horizonte International Short Film Festival, Brazil
2013 Film Society of Lincoln Center, USA
2013 João Pedro Rodrigues Retrospective - Yamaguchi, Japan
2013 The Onion City Experimental Film and Video Festival, USA
2013 Hollywood Brazilian Film Festival, Canada
2013 Cineclube Guimarães, Portugal
2013 D' A Festival Internacional de Cinema d'Autor de Barcelona, Spain
2013 Filmfest Dresden - International Short Film Festival, Germany
2013 NexT International Film Festival, Romania
2013 Joao Pedro Rodrigues Retrospective - Japan, Japan
2013 Black Movie Geneva International Independent Film Festival, Switzerland
2013 Museum of the Moving Image, USA
2012 Festival de Cinema Luso-Brasileiro de Santa Maria da Feira, Portugal
2012 Torino Film Festival, Italy
2012 Janela Internacional de Cinema do Recife, Brazil
2012 Caminhos do Cinema Português, Portugal
2012 Pink Screens festival - Genres d'à côté, Belgium
2012 Mix Brasil Festival Culture of Diversity, Brazil
2012 Leeds International Film Festival, United Kingdom
2012 Slovak Queer Film Festival, Slovakia
2012 Festival do Rio, Brazil
2012 Lisbon Queer Film Festival, Portugal
2012 Locarno International Film Festival, Switzerland
2012 Curtas Vila do Conde International Film Festival, Portugal
2012 IndieLisboa - Festival Internacional de Cinema Independente, Portugal