



OFFICIAL SELECTION
FESTIVAL DE CANNES

O GRANDE CIRCO MÍSTICO

UM FILME DE
CARLOS DIEGUES
PRODUZIDO POR
RENATA A. MAGALHÃES





CARLOS DIEGUES, DIRECTOR

O GRANDE CIRCO MÍSTICO

Carlos Diegues is one of the greatest Brazilian filmmakers of all time. His filmography is imbued with the rare quality of being, at the same time, popular and artistic as well as enlightened and enchanting. Carlos's career began in the sixties when he founded, along with Glauber Rocha, Nelson Pereira dos Santos and others, the movement known as "Cinema Novo".

In the seventies, he ushered in a period of great popularity in Brazilian cinema with his film *Xica da Silva*, which broke all box

office records upon its release. In the early eighties, Carlos wrote and directed *Bye Bye Brazil*, one of the most acclaimed Latin American films worldwide.

His movies have been commercially released around the world, having participated and garnered in numerous awards in the most important international film festivals, including Cannes, Venice, Berlin, among others, which has made Carlos Diegues one of the most important filmmakers in Latin American today.

In 1998 he was honored with the title of "Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres" by the French government. Today, Carlos is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (Oscar).

This is his 4th film in Cannes's official selection, after *Bye Bye Brazil* (1980), *Quilombo* (1984), and *Subway to the Stars* (1987).

JORGE DE LIMA (1895–1953), THE POET

Author of the poem entitled *O Grande Circo Místico* (The Great Mystical Circus), Jorge de Lima was one of the most active and multifaceted poets of the Portuguese language. He began with the Parnassus Movement and then, in the late 20's drew closer to Modernism, especially in that related to free verse. In the 30's, Jorge de Lima became a surrealist and imagistic poet, the epitome of Brazilian baroque traditions. He also published novels and was active as painter and the first Latin American artist to incorporate photomontage in his work.

THE MUSICAL SCORE

Chico Buarque de Hollanda and Edu Lobo composed the songs for *The Great Mystical Circus* especially for the Teatro Guaíra Ballet conceived by Naum Alves de Souza, which made its debut in 1983 and was an immediate success throughout all of Brazil. It is today part of the country's collective musical memory.

SYNOPSIS



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The Great Mystical Circus is the 18th feature film by Carlos Diegues, one of the most important names in Brazilian culture and filmmaking today. The film is inspired on the poem by Jorge de Lima and counts on a musical score composed by Chico Buarque and Edu Lobo.

The movie tells the story of 5 generations of the same family-owned circus. From the inauguration of The Great Mystical Circus in 1910 up to present day, viewers will accompany, with the help of Celavi, the master of ceremonies, the adventures and loves of the Kieps family, from their prime through to their decadency, up until the surprise ending. A film in which reality and fantasy come together in a mystical universe.

FILM

A film by Carlos Diegues
Written by Carlos Diegues and George Moura
Based on a poem by Jorge de Lima
Produced by Renata Almeida Magalhães
Co-producers: Fado Filmes, (Portugal), Milonga Productions (France), Globo Filmes (Brazil)

CREW

Director of Photography: Gustavo Hadba
Production Design: Artur Pinheiro
Costumes: Kika Lopes
Sound Design: Simone Petrillo
Editing: Mair Tavares and Daniel Garcia
Music: Chico Buarque and Edu Lobo



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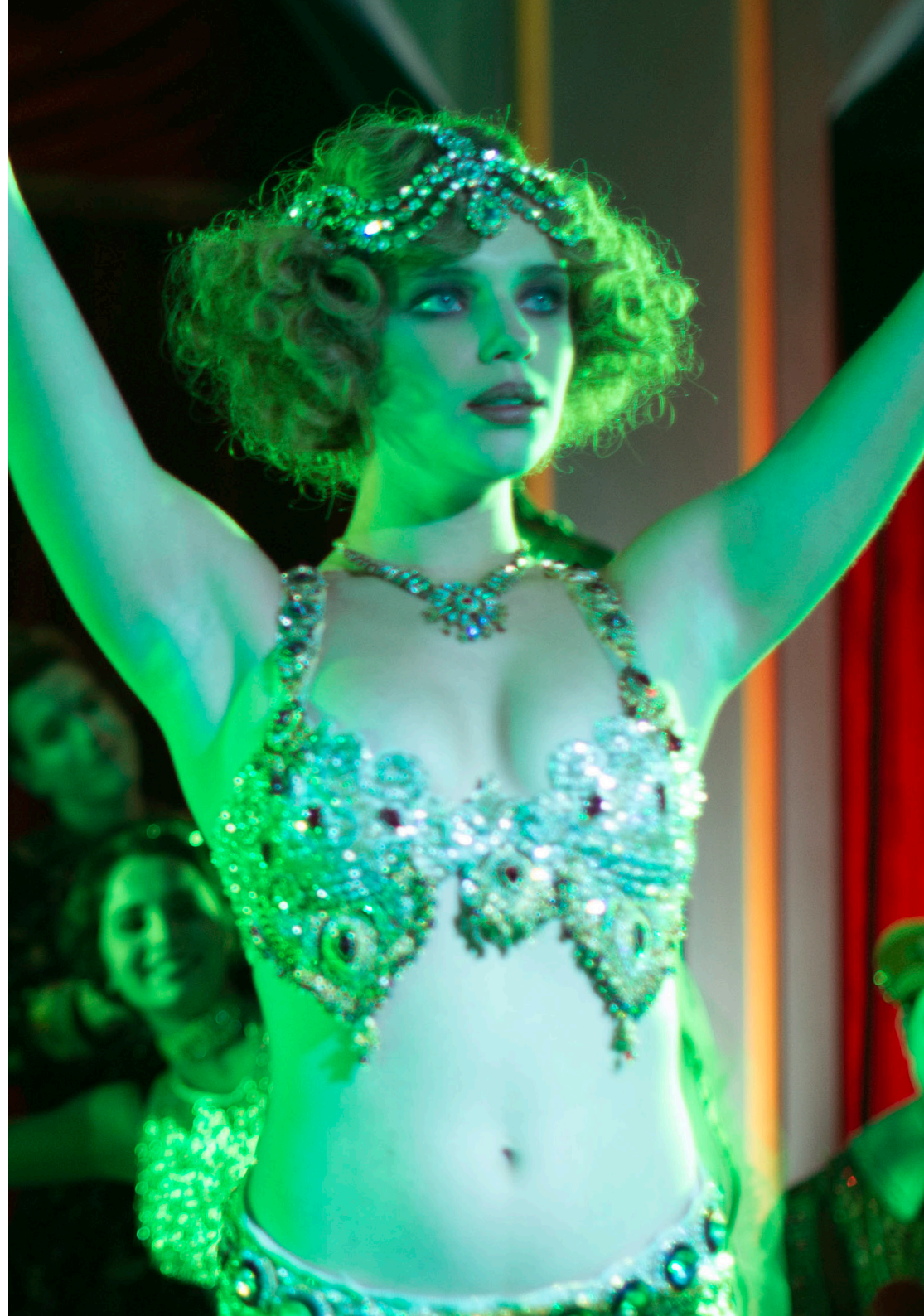
JESUÍTA BARBOSA (CELAVI)

One of the up and coming young Brazilian talents, Jesuíta Barbosa attained international recognition after his participation in the film *Praia do Futuro*, by Karim Ainouz, which participated in the Berlin's 2014 Film Festival. In *The Great Mystical Circus*, he plays Celavi, the timeless master of ceremonies who conducts the century-long narrative of the Kieps Circus.

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BRUNA LINZMEYER (BEATRIZ)

Another young revelation in Brazilian cinema, Bruna Linzmeyer plays Beatriz, a role allowing her to further develop her aptitudes as ballerina. Participated in the international Project *Rio, I Love You*.





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VINCENT CASSEL (JEAN-PAUL)

In 1995 starred in the film *La Haine*, by Mathieu Kassovitz after which he gained acclaim with his vast international filmography. Has strong ties with Brazil, a country which he has adopted as his second home. He plays Jean-Paul in this film by Carlos Diegues.

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CATHERINE MOUCHET (EMPRESS)

Member of the Conservatoire National Supérieur d'Art Dramatique, Catherine is known worldwide for her work in "Thérèse", by Alain Cavalier, the participation of which led to her winning the following awards: Prix du Jury du Festival de Cannes, César du Meilleur Espoir Féminin (1987) et le Prix Romy Schneider.





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MARIANA XIMENES (MARGARETE)

One of the better known actresses in Brazilian TV, standing out for her versatility both on TV as well as on the big screen, for which she has participated in over 20 movies. In *The Great Mystical Circus*, she took trapeze lesson to play the role of Margarete.

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DAVID OGRODNIK (LUDWIG)

Discovered by filmmaker Carlos Diegues after seeing his performance in the film *Ida*, by Pawel Pawlikowski, winner of the Oscar for Best Foreign Film in 2015, one of the most active actors in new Polish cinema.





O GRANDE **CIRCO MÍSTICO**

ANTONIO FAGUNDES
(DR. FRED KIEPS)

RAFAEL LOZANO
(FRED)

MARINA PROVENZZANO
(CHARLOTE)

JULIANO CAZARRÉ
(OTO)

FLORA DIEGUES
(CLARA)

LUIZA MARIANI
(LILY BRAUN)

MARCOS FROTA
(OSVALDÃO)

AMANDA AND LUIZA BRITO
(MARIA & HELENA)

**O GRANDE
CIRCO MÍSTICO**

**AND
THE VICTOR HUGO CARDINALI CIRCUS**



QUOTES

“*Carlos Diegues is more than just a director, he is a veritable thinker of Brazil and all its particularities. His films are all fundamental in understanding the country through its social, anthropological and philosophical perspectives, all illuminated by the author’s poetic outlook.*”

(Mário Abadde, filmmaker and president of the jury of the International Film Critics Federation – FIPRESCI, in 2015)

“*A movie impregnated with magical realism, with Jesuita Barbosa as the meneur du jeu, Celavi, while the grand circus stands as a metaphor for everything – Brazil, the world, cinema. Glorious, the Halley comet traces its luminous curve through space. The film possesses elements coming from Lola Montes, of course, and much of Carlos Diegues’s movies – Os Herdeiros, Quando o Carnaval Chegar, Bye Bye Brazil. The apogee of the circus’s decadence includes the rise of the radio and the coming of TV. I’m still rationalizing everything I saw. Sensually, very powerful. Beautiful*”.

(Luiz Carlos Merten, Estado de São Paulo Newspaper)

“*A movie about a century of inventions, betrayals, disillusion and sexual bouts of a troupe’s struggles for daily Bread. Celavi is the master of ceremonies who accompanies the various owners as they pass through the ring without ever growing old himself, as if some kind of Feline-like magician. The narrative, supported by the beautiful camerawork of Gustavo Hadba, focuses on the extremes occurring under an enchanted big top and the wrongdoings of various of the characters associated with it. Plenty of eroticism, laughter, trepidation*”.

(Rodrigo Fonseca, Jornal do Brasil)

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