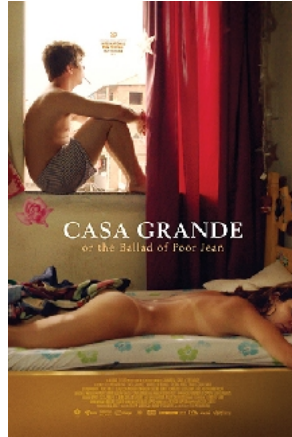




CINEMA SLATE



CASA GRANDE

A Film by Fellipe Barbosa

2014 / Brazil / Portuguese / Drama

A Cinema Slate Release

www.CinemaSlate.com

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Synopsis:

Coming-of-age as rude awakening: one high school senior's dawning sexuality is shadowed by the discovery of his upper-class white family's looming financial ruin. Polished and penetrating, Casa Grande renders a sharp social canvas of contemporary Brazil through the eyes of young Jean (Thales Cavalcanti), who struggles with newfound knowledge of his racial and class privilege as he sweetly courts a mixed-race girl from a lower-ranked school than his, and sows his oats with the family's nubile cinnamon-skinned maid.

Jean's parents, meanwhile, clutch at straws merely to survive. His father (Brazilian screen staple Marcello Novaes), a failed hedge-fund baron, tries vainly to conceal the true extent of the damage, as his formerly sheltered wife resorts to peddling cosmetics.

An international audience favorite, Casa Grande has stirred lively, searching discussion among Brazilians of the often repressed realities of stubborn racial bias and stark income inequality.

TECH SPECS:

Running Time: 114 minutes

Genre: Drama

Shooting Format: HD

Aspect Ratio: 1.85:1

Sound: 5.1

FESTIVALS:

Rotterdam International Film Festival (World Premiere)

Toulouse Latin American Film Festival

BAFICI

CPH: PIX

Latin Beat (at Film Society of Lincoln Center): Opening Night Film



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CAST

Marcello Novaes as Hugo

Suzana Pires as Sônia

Thales Cavalcanti as Jean

Alice Melo as Nathalie

Bruna Amaya as Luiza

Clarissa Pinheiro as Rita

CREW

Writer / Director: Fellipe Barbosa

Producer: Iafa Britz

Writer / Editor: Karen Sztajnberg

Executive Producer: Mauro Pizzo

Co-Producer: Fernanda De Capua

Director of Photography: Pedro Sotero

Art Director: Ana Paula Cardoso

Editor: Nina Galanternick

Sound Technician: Evandro Lima

Sound Designer: Waldir Xavier

Sound Mixer: Damião Lopes

Soundtrack: Patrick Laplan

Composer: Victor Barreto

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Casa Grande is my first narrative feature. It's an extremely personal film, since it portrays the world in which I grew up and from which I tried to escape. My main intention was to tell a great story, focusing on characters and their relationships, set in a very specific and authentic universe. I worked with non-professional teenage actors alongside soap opera stars, whose image connects with the characters in the film. Besides the naturalism in the performances, I strived for a formal rigor, through the repetition of familiar shots, which gradually narrate the transformation of the big house. The project went through the Sundance screenwriters and directors lab in 2008, where it won the Annenberg Foundation Grant, and was a finalist of the NHK award.



Fellipe Barbosa Biography:

Fellipe Barbosa has an MFA in film at Columbia University. His short films screened at Sundance, Clermont-Ferrand, NY Film Festival, among many other international film festivals.

In 2007, Barbosa was named one of Filmmaker Magazine's 25 New Faces of Independent Film. His feature *Laura* won Best Documentary at the 2011 Hamptons Film Festival, and then played at Hot Docs, Visions du Réel, Bafici, among others.

His fiction debut *Casa Grande*, supported by the Sundance Labs, premiered at the 2014 Rotterdam Tiger Competition and was selected at over 40 festivals, including San Sebastián, BFI London, CPH:PIX, Jeonju, Sydney, Munich, Cairo and Havana.

The film has won 13 awards, including the Fipresci, French critics and audience awards at Toulouse's Cinélatino, the audience award in Rio de Janeiro and the critics' in São Paulo.

Filmography:

Director:

“Casa Grande” (114 min, ficção, 2014);

“Laura” (78 min, doc, 2011);

“Canosaone” (17 min, doc, 2008);

“Salt Kiss” (18 min, fic, 2006);

“La Muerte Es Pequeña” (17 min, fic, 2005).

Writer:

“Casa Grande” (114 min, ficção, 2014);

“Rio, Eu Te Amo” - Transições (fic, 2014);

“Sangue Azul” de Lírio Ferreira (115 min, fic, 2014);

Collaborator “O Fim e os Meios” de Murilo Salles (fic, 2014)