

SIX DIRECTORS, FIVE STORIES AND SEVERAL IDEAS IN ONE FEATURE-LENGTH FILM

THE FIRST FEATURE-LENGTH FILM BY CAMISA LISTRADA PORTRAYS A CONTEMPORARY BELO HORIZONTE

Cinco Frações de uma Quase História ("Five Fractions of an Almost Story"), an episode film which gathers six directors from the state of Minas Gerais, celebrates Camisa Listrada's debut on feature-length films and starts to be filmed on March 28, in Belo Horizonte.

Presenting five different stories, the script attempts to weave a web of sensations in the viewer, altering moments of thriller, surrealism, experimentalism and humor, and proposes reflection about human issues such as maniac depression, escape from reality, betrayal, abuse of power and loneliness.

Five Fractions of an Almost Story is the result of intense cinematographic research and is based on two original arguments, *O Magarefe* ("The butcher's Man) and *Título Provisório* ("Temporary Title"), in addition to adaptations from texts by three Brazilian authors: *Qualquer Vôo* ("Any Given Flight"), short story by **Yury Hermuche**, a young independent writer, extracted from the book *Sobre Viagens e Fugas* ("About Journeys and Escapes"); *145*, a short play written by **Gero Camilo**, playwright, theater director and actor of successful films such as *Carandiru* and *Bicho de Sete Cabeças* ("Animal with 7 Heads"); and *A Liberdade de Akim* ("Akim's Freedom"), short story by **Paulo Leônidas**, director and writer from the state of Rio Grande do Sul.

The feature-length film script is by **Cristiano Abud**, who had **Luís Alberto de Abreu**, experienced playwright, as a consultant. **Abreu** is a playwright and on television and cinema respectively screenplayed the miniseries *Hoje é dia de Maria* and the feature-length films *Kenoma* and *Narradores de Javé*, both by Eliane Caffé. In addition, he is closely connected to the cultural scenario in Belo Horizonte and was the Coordinator of the Núcleo de Dramaturgia do Grupo Galpão (Galpão Drama Center) from 1998 to 2002.

Produced by **André Carrera**, directors **Armando Mendz**, **Cristiano Abud**, **Cris Azzi**, **Thales Bahia**, **Lucas Gontijo** and **Guilherme Fiúza** have in common among their episodes one event which interferes in the everyday life of the city of Belo Horizonte, portrayed in a cosmopolitan and contemporary way as the film's main setting.

The cast of **Five Fractions of an Almost Story** is going to be prepared by **Gero Camilo** and is formed by actors with wide cinema experience like **Jece Valadão**, **Leonardo Medeiros**, **Cláudio Jaborandy** and **Murilo Grossi**, in addition to **Gero Camilo** himself. The cast is also composed of actors from Minas Gerais like **Fernanda Vianna**, **Inês Peixoto** and **Rodolfo Vaz**, from Grupo Galpão, and **Luiz Arthur**, **Cynthia Falabella**, **Carol Duarte** and **Nivaldo Pedrosa**, among others.

Five Fractions of an Almost Story is the accomplishment of a project which has been expected for a long time by **Camisa Listrada** team members, directed by **André Carrera**, **Armando Mendz** and **Rodolfo Buaiz**, and allows the exercise of diverse visions and languages of cinema in the first feature-length film by the producer.

The episodes:

Título Provisório ("Temporary Title")

The first episode, called **Título Provisório**, is directed by the writer **Cristiano Abud** and tells the story of Carlos, a photographer who suffers from maniac depression, played by **Leonardo Medeiros**. The photographer's new work shows one of his obsessions, women feet. All women are potential targets of his psychosis: his girlfriend, his psychologist, a bus passenger, a prostitute, women on the streets. Carlos's psychotic behavior makes his life always difficult.

Qualquer Vôo ("Any Given Flight")

A metalinguistic story. This is the best definition for the episode **Qualquer Vôo**, directed by **Cris Azzi**, based on the homonymous short story by **Yury Hermuche**. Through television, a man projects himself in movie characters. Delusion is the most concrete basis for this character. Played by **Luiz Arthur**, the character goes through a number of metaphorical escape-from-

reality journeys, which many times are crammed with unhappy relationships, afflictions and fears.

A Liberdade de Akim ("Akim's Freedom")

Ambition is the impulse that moves the character of the third episode, directed by **Armando Mendz**, based on the short story **A Liberdade de Akim**, by **Paulo Leônidas**. A bureaucratic worker from a court of appeals, settled, apathetic and with no future perspective, Akim receives a proposal that may change his life. But in order for this to happen, he will have to take blame for a crime committed by a corrupt judge, played by **Jece Valadão**. Akim, played by **Nivaldo Pedrosa**, is enchanted by the possibility of finally guaranteeing his freedom, but he is also in conflict with himself.

O Magarefe ("The Butcher's Man")

This is the title of episode number four, directed by **Thales Bahia** and **Lucas Gontijo**, based on original argument by the directors themselves. **O Magarefe** tells the story of Antônio, a manual worker in a slaughterhouse, played by **Cláudio Jaborandy**. With his marriage being at a crisis point, Antônio becomes suspicious of his wife's behavior. One day, he decides to follow her and finds out about the betrayal.

ZYR-145

Directed by **Guilherme Fiúza**, based on the short play *145*, by **Gero Camilo**, **ZYR-145** winds up the **5 Frações de Uma Quase História** quintet. The episode narrates a date between **Beto** and **Lúcia**, played by **Murilo Grossi** and **Cynthia Falabella**. A lady-killer trader and a secretary who dreams of getting married meet at a radio program which promotes dates for lonely people. Frustration and emotional instability conduct the story, along with comic and, at the same time, tragic situations.

5 FRAÇÕES DE UMA QUASE HISTÓRIA

(5 Fractions of an Almost Story)

(Camisa Listrada, 2006)

Directed by: Armando Mendz, Cristiano Abud, Cris Azzi, Thales Bahia, Lucas Gontijo and Guilherme Fiúza

Produced by: André Carrera

Screenplay: Cristiano Abud

Production Direction: Antônio Irivan

Photography: Luís Abramo and Juarez Pavelak

Art Direction: Adriane Lemos

Costume Design: Rica

Make up: Tayce Vale

Soundtrack Direction: Ronaldo Gino

Soundtrack: Victor Mazarelo, Célio Balona and Lucas Miranda

Direct Sound: Gustavo Campos

Opening Credits: Conrado Almada

Sponsored by: Telemig Celular

CAMISA LISTRADA

PRODUCER STARTS SHOOTING ITS FIRST FEATURE-LENGTH FILM IN BELO HORIZONTE

Facing the needs of the audiovisual sector in Belo Horizonte, some professionals decided to combine forces and, in 2000, founded **Camisa Listrada**. Investing in its own productions, co-productions and distribution of audiovisual work, the producer is now experienced in which concerns the production of video and cinema.

Among the several documentary projects, short films and video clips produced by **Camisa Listrada**, we can highlight the production of one of the episodes of the international co-

production *O Cobrador (The Collector)*, by the Mexican filmmaker Paul Leduc and the DVD *Ser Minas Tão Gerais*, with Milton Nascimento, *Ponto de Partida* and *Meninos de Araçuaí*.

Now, the producer, managed by **André Carrera** and **Armando Mendz**, is involved in a major new project. On **March 28**, the first feature-length film by **Camisa Listrada** starts to be shot: **5 Frações de Uma Quase História** (5 Fractions of an Almost Story). Gathering six directors in a plot with five episodes, the film mixes themes such as maniac depression, everyday afflictions, betrayal, abuse of power and loneliness.

André Carrera, manager partner of **Camisa Listrada**, is the producer of 5 Frações de uma Quase História. With wide experience in cinema, **Carrera** has worked in the production of several feature-length films like *A Partilha*, by Daniel Filho, *Lavoura Arcaica*, by Luís Fernando Carvalho, in addition to *Amor & Cia* and *Uma Onda no Ar*, by Helvécio Rattón, a director from Minas Gerais. In 2003, **Carrera** taught a workshop on "Production of Feature-length Films" during the Tiradentes Cinema Festival.

Armando Mendz, also a manager partner of **Camisa Listrada**, is the director of the third episode, **A Liberdade de Akim** (Akim's Freedom), based on the homonymous short story by **Paulo Leônidas**. As a documentarist, he has directed films such as *Água Benta, Fé Ardente* (Holy Water, Ardent Faith) and *Secos & Molhados* (Dry & Wet Goods). All of which have received several awards in Brazilian festivals, like the Rio Festival, MIS-São Paulo Festival and Tiradentes Cinema Festival. In 2003, one of his institutional works was awarded the ABERJE Minas Gerais and Brazil prize as Best External Communication Video, in a production for COPASA-MG.

Responsible for the script of **5 Frações de Uma Quase História**, **Cristiano Abud** also directs the first episode of the film, called **Título Provisório** (Temporary Title). During his career on audiovisual, he has directed the documentaries *O Amanuense e os Grafômanos* (The Amanuensis and the Grasshopper), *Bandeira 2* (Flag #2) and *Minha Vida É Esta* (This is my Life).

Directing the second episode, **Qualquer Vôo** (Any Given Flight), based on the short story by Yury Hermuche, filmmaker **Cris Azzi** has worked on the production of several feature-length films, such as, *Acquaria, Filhas do Vento, Uma Onda no Ar* and *A Partilha*. In 2005, he was assistant director of Sérgio Rezende on the feature-length film *Angel* (yet to be launched). As a director, he has just finished the short film *Sumidouro* (Cesspool), which tells the story and the circumstances involving the construction of the Irapé drain, located on Vale do Jequitinhonha, drawing a parallel between two communities affected by such construction.

O Magarefe (The Butcher's man), the fourth episode of **5 Frações de Uma Quase História**, is directed by **Lucas Gontijo** and **Thales Bahia**, in an original argument by both authors. In the cultural field, **Lucas Gontijo** directed the short movie *A Aposta* (The Bet) and the experimental film *Em Obras: A história do vazio em Belo Horizonte* (At Work: the story of emptiness in Belo Horizonte), granted an award in the Teresina Festival, in 1999. **Thales Bahia** has directed video clips for bands like Berimbrown and Radar Tantã. In partnership with **Lucas Gontijo**, he has made several advertisement films, which granted them several prizes like the Profissionais do Ano 2005 (Best Professionals of 2005), golden medal of the Minas Gerais Creation Club and Grand Prix Columnist Award - 2004.

Guilherme Fiúza is the director of **ZYR-145**, the fifth episode of the film, based on a short play by **Gero Camilo**, *145*. **Fiúza** has been assistant director of several filmmakers like Nelson Pereira dos Santos, Tizuka Yamasaki, Helvécio Rattón, Sérgio Machado and Sílvio Back. In addition, he was the executive producer of *Depois Daquela Baile* (After that Ball), by Roberto Bomtempo and *O Batismo de Sangue* (Blood Baptism), new movie by Helvécio Rattón.

5 Frações de Uma Quase História is the first production the six directors made together and shows the life of ordinary characters, who live, though, very different realities within the same urban environment. In the moments of thriller, surrealism, experimentalism and humor, the directors present a cosmopolitan and contemporary Belo Horizonte.