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MOSTRA
INTERNACIONAL
DE CINEMA • SÃO PAULO
INT'L FILM FESTIVAL

 **Energacamerimage**
BEST CINEMATOGRAPHER'S DEBUT 2019

 **Energacamerimage**
BEST DIRECTOR'S DEBUT 2019

 
SSIFF
BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY
JURY PRIZE

 
SSIFF
GOLDEN SHELL

 
SSIFF
SILVER SHELL
BEST ACTOR

PACIFIED

A FILM BY
PAXTON WINTERS


SSIFF
67
Donostia Zinemaldia
Festival de San Sebastián
International Film Festival


R
A

PROTOZOA 

KINOMAD 


MUSKAT
FILMED PROPERTIES



SHORT SYNOPSIS

PACIFIED revolves around an unlikely friendship between a 13 year-old girl and an ex-trafficker as they navigate family and politics within the shifting terrain of their tight-knit community.

SYNOPSIS

Tati, an introspective 13 year old girl struggles to connect with her estranged father, Jaca, after he is released from prison in the turbulent wake of the Rio Olympics. As Brazilian "Pacification" Police battle to maintain a tenuous occupation of the surrounding Rio favelas, Tati and Jaca must navigate the clashing forces threatening to derail their hope for the future. Born of a seven year creative collaboration between the community of 'Morro dos Prazeres' and writer/director, Paxton Winters, PACIFIED offers a bracingly intimate portrait of a family trying to find peace in the ever-shifting urban battlefield they call home.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



I first met Maga Wellington, a charismatic and quick witted fixer, while shooting news features my first days in Rio. It was before the World Cup, as the Brazilian government was invading hundreds of favelas with the intention of occupying these massive communities controlled by heavily armed drug gangs. Soon, Maga was dragging me into his notoriously rough favela for their famous barbecues and 24 hour parties. When he first floated the idea of me moving there, I thought he was nuts. Then my relationship ended and I needed to find a new home in the economic boom that preceded the Rio Olympics. I decided to face my fears and relocate 'up the hill' for a few months until rents returned to earth.

The first months weren't easy, but Maga, his family and friends were always there to help me find my footing. As the community slowly opened to me, I found myself living in a highly functioning network of relationships where I felt welcomed and ironically, safe. Maga and I along with Joseph Carter, a journalist friend of ours who'd been diving deep into this area for decades, decided we wanted to design a workshop to teach basic film production and perhaps produce a documentary. As we proceeded, however, we realized it made more sense to build a fictional story based on an amalgam of real life stories from our community.

The idea for the production of *Pacified* was not only to tell a compelling story, but also to creatively collaborate with my friends, neighbors and their children. It was also imperative for us that the favela's violence not be glamorized nor its residents rendered as stereotypes. As more supporters and producers came on board, it was essential for us to maintain the authenticity of the story and keep the project grounded within the community.

The characters, relationships and their struggles had to be current and honest. Many of the actors, including our young lead, Cassia, were cast from the favela as were almost all of the extras. Each department was required to hire crew from the community; many of whom have since built careers in the industry.

With the support of the Brazilian government, the Brazilian film board and Fox International, our team of experienced producers and creative department heads enjoyed unprecedented access and a unique opportunity to capture a sincere approach to the traditional favela film. All of which could have never been possible without the heart, soul and collaboration of my adopted community.



A STATEMENT FROM THE PRODUCERS

When Paxton Winters first brought us his idea for the film PACIFICADO/PACIFIED, we were very aware of the challenges ahead, not only for the financing, but also because of the complexities of shooting in one of the most dangerous favelas in Rio, Brazil. With our first challenge, we are grateful for the support of Ancine and Fox Brazil for getting behind a project such as this story, which remains a controversial issue in Brazil.

If not for the undeterred dedication of our incredible cast and crew, we would not have been able to accomplish the physical production in this highly charged environment. Morro dos Prazeres, the location for the film, was and is currently demarcated as a high-risk war zone by the government of Rio de Janeiro. This very real situation clearly posed great difficulty when trying to produce a story of the people that live in the crossfire of this on-going battle on a daily basis.

Along with the casting of the actors, it was essential to fill certain positions within the creative departments and the production crew with individuals from the community. Each department, from Cinematography, Production Design, and Physical Production hired locals from the Morro. This helped lend another level of authenticity to our production while helping to offer a trade to a new generation of young people almost all of which continue to work in the industry today. During the months of preparation and the shooting period, the passionate people of the Morro, ensured that we were safe, physically and creatively, in order to capture the compelling story of PACIFICADO/PACIFIED.

Each shoot day was a challenge, an adventure that required grit -- but we were all in it together. One shoot-day stands out as particularly chilling. A massive Police invasion, followed by an intense fire fight between the Elite Squad of Police and Traffickers, gave us a first-hand experience of the extreme situation the community in Prazeres as well as the other favelas of Rio must endure on a regular basis. Amongst the producers, we were honestly concerned an event, such as this one, would shut down production. However, the very next day, our entire cast and crew – every single one - showed up for work and carried on, alongside our friends in Prazeres.

In the end, we believe Pax and the team created a powerful film, a story we are compelled to share with you. We are equally aware of the complicated times that the community of Prazeres is still facing today, and we hope that PACIFICADO/PACIFIED helps shine a light on the families, the individuals and the communities in all of the favelas of Rio.

We have tremendous appreciation, humility and gratitude for our exceptional and talented cast and crew and the community of Morro dos Prazeres.

- Paula Linhares, Marcos Tellechea, Lisa Muskat and Darren Aronofsky



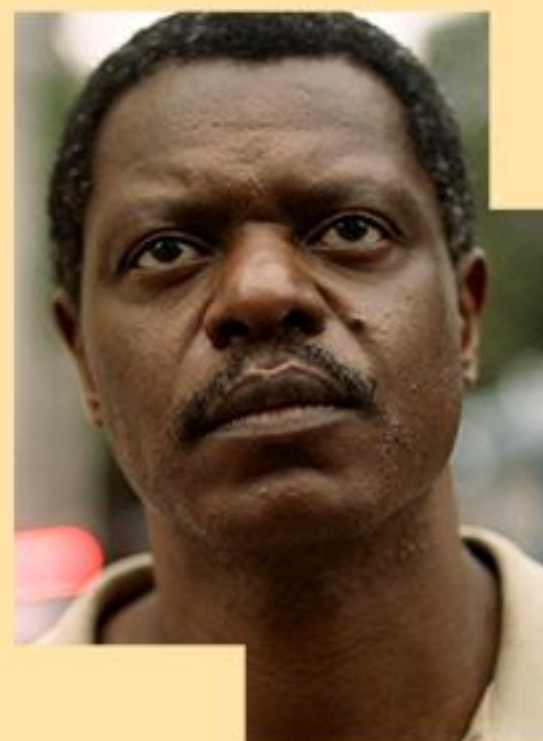


PACIFIED is a family drama about the challenges and sacrifices one must make to co-opt a system that is meant to break you.



starring
CÁSSIA
NASCIMENTO
as TATI

BUKASSA KABENGELE
as JACA



LÉA GARCIA
as DONA PRETA



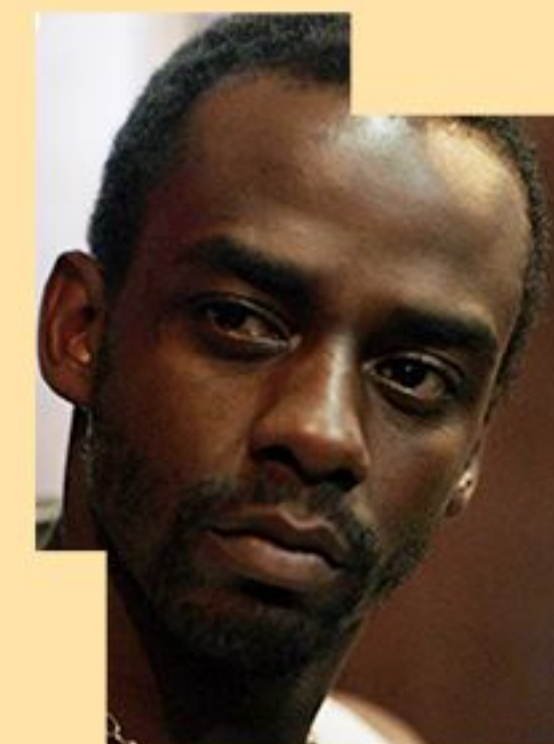
JOSÉ LORETO
as NELSON



DÉBORA
NASCIMENTO
as ANDRÉA



JEFFERSON
BRASIL as
JUNINHO



RAPHAEL LOGAM
as DUDU



DIRECTOR PAXTON WINTERS

Paxton's first documentary, *Silk Road ala Turka*, was made while traveling the Silk Road by camel caravan for 18 months through China, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Iran and Turkey. His feature film debut, *Crude*, about two opportunistic American backpackers who stage their own kidnapping, won the Best Feature Narrative award at the Los Angeles International Film Festival and a Special Jury Prize at the Seattle International Film Festival. His next script, an Iraq based story entitled *Outside the Wire*, was developed in the Sundance Institute Writer's Lab. Additional credits include directing the final season of the hit Turkish crime drama series, *Alacakaranlik* (Twilight). Fluent in Turkish and Portuguese, Paxton has shot news features around the world from the Middle East to the Amazon rainforest for BBC, Arte, Al Jazeera, CNN, TIME and Dutch NOS. Paxton developed his latest film PACIFIED with community members from 'Morro dos Prazeres', a favela in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil where he's resided for the past 8 years.

PRODUCER PAULA LINHARES

Paula is a co-founder and managing partner of Reagent Media.

For the past five years she has worked as a consultant for the production and financing of feature films. Paula Linhares founded Reagent Media in 2015, as a production and film financing company that works in both the domestic and international market.

Paula Linhares was actively involved in the financing of *The Revenant*, featuring Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hardy and directed by the Oscar Winner Alejandro González Iñárritu and in 2016 *American Made*, starring Tom Cruise. Paula's most recent work as a producer was *Pacified* (competing at the San Sebastian International Film Festival in 2019), directed by Paxton Winters.





PRODUCER MARCOS TELLECHEA

Marcos is a co-founder and managing partner of Reagent Media.

Marcos began his producing career at Empyrean Pictures. While there he produced independent features such as *Sunlight Jr.*, which was selected by the Tribeca Film Festival in 2013 and features Naomi Watts and Matt Dillon. He then went on to Executive Produce *Rio Eu Te Amo* and Co-Produced *Bingo, o Rei Das Manhãs*, which was selected to represent Brazil at the 2018 Oscars.

Marcos co-founded Reagent Media in 2015 alongside Paula Linhares. They were actively involved in the financing for *The Revenant*, featuring Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hardy and directed by Oscar Winner, Alejandro González Iñárritu. Following this, he was an Executive Producer on Doug Lyman's 2017 film, *American Made*, starring Tom Cruise. Marcos is the producer of *Pacified* (competing at the San Sebastian International Film Festival in 2019), directed by Paxton Winters.

PRODUCER LISA MUSKAT

Pacified is Lisa Muskat's second collaboration with writer/director Paxton Winters, following his acclaimed debut feature, *Crude* which was filmed in Turkey and went onto win a myriad of awards internationally.

Lisa Muskat has produced numerous feature films directed by David Gordon Green, including his auspicious debut feature, *George Washington*.

Alongside her work with Green, Muskat also produced feature films directed by Ramin Bahrani, Jeff Nichols, Arielle Javitch, Amman Abbasi, Craig Zobel, among other directors, as well as the documentary films directed by Mei Juin Chen, Gary Hawkins and Mike Ramsdell.

Muskat is currently in post-production on Ferdinando Cito Filomarino's *Born to be Murdered*, starring JD Washington and Alicia Vikander.

Lisa Muskat is the recipient of the Sundance Producer Award and was cited as "Producer to Watch" by both *Variety* and *Deadline*. Prior to producing, Muskat taught at UNC's North Carolina School of the Arts and holds an MA from UCLA School of Film and Television.





PRODUCER
**DARREN
ARONOFSKY**

Darren Aronofsky is the Academy Award-nominated filmmaker behind *mother!*, *Noah*, *Black Swan*, *The Wrestler*, *The Fountain*, *Requiem for a Dream* and π . He is executive producer of the virtual reality experience *SPHERES: Songs of Spacetime* and the series *One Strange Rock* for NatGeo. He is an ardent advocate of science and the environment and a board member of the Sierra Club Foundation and the School for Field Studies.

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY LAURA MERIANS

Laura Merians Gonçalves is a cinematographer living in LA and New York with award winning work in commercials and music videos. She has created visuals for Beyonce, Bjork, Sigur Ros, and Thom Yorke. Her VR-360 experience for Bjork's *Stonemilker* was featured at Sundance and the MOMA. In 2017, her film *Child of the Sky* won best short at New York Film festival. Her advertising work for Microsoft "Make What's Next" campaign directed by JJ. Adler, won a Cannes Lion in 2018. She recently finished shooting an A24/Netflix film with John Mulaney. She is represented by ICM.





PRODUCTION DESIGNER RICARDO VAN STEEN

Ricardo Van Steen began his career in cinema creating posters for LcBaretto Production company in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. His keen aesthetic quickly transformed Van Steen into one of the most prolific and successful commercial directors in Brazil leading him to create the audacious and highly acclaimed creative advertisements for the World Cup and more. In 2008, Van Steen directed his debut feature film, *O Poeta da Villa*, a portrait of the Brazilian composer, Noel Rosa, who became one of the greatest names in Brazilian music for transforming traditional samba music internationally. Van Steen also directed the documentaries *Wet Paint* (2005) and *Shoot Yourself* (2012) alongside Paula Alzulgaray, who also wrote and produced. Van Steen, having never worked for another director, took on the adventure of production designer on *Pacified* with director, Paxton Winters. Currently, Van Steen is developing his next feature film. Beyond his work in cinema, Van Steen is a photographer, painter, designer, and currently creates furniture and interior design internationally with Mobillia Tempo Design.

EDITOR AYLIN ZOI TINEL

After abandoning a budding career as a musician, Aylin entered the film industry as a director's assistant. By the age of 19 she had gone on to found and run one of Turkey's largest and most commercially successful post-production studio, Autopsy.

Following this, she edited and supervised post-production on the American Independent Film *Crude*, which went on to win the Los Angeles Film Festival and a Special Jury prize at the Seattle International Film Festival. Next Aylin found herself beckoned by the academic world, and was invited to teach and lecture at Bahcesehir University, Kadir Has University and Bilgi University.

In 2005 she left teaching to co-found the Film Collective, Vav Film Group to develop, nurture and support film and documentary projects. In addition to countless commercials, Aylin has edited a variety of notable feature films, documentaries and art installations. Right now she continues her work at 'Civil Editors', an editors collective which she and her editor friends founded in 2012.





ASSOCIATE PRODUCER **JOSEPH CARTER**

Joseph Carter has over 15 years of experience in Latin America- mostly in Brazil where he was based in Rio de Janeiro. He has worked as a director, cameraman, presenter, producer and actor for Brazilian, European and American channels and production companies on a freelance basis for the last 13 years. He is fluent in all the regional languages, and has an extensive web of contacts throughout Central and South America. This has helped him produce and film stories ranging from following drug gangs in the Rio slums, to illegal gold mining and logging in the Peruvian, Ecuadorian, Colombian, and Brazilian Amazon, following police operations against gangs in the Caracas slums of Petaré and La Vega, to covering the Colombian conflicts in the Choco, Putumayo and Cauca regions of Colombia. He began his career as a sociologist and earned a Masters in Latin American Studies from the University of Texas at Austin before moving to Washington D.C. and working in International Development. After 2 years in Washington he moved to Latin America where he still resides. He understands the complex web of issues and contradictions throughout the region and has extensive experience working there. Recently Joe was production manager and lead researcher for the Documentary “L’Autre Rio”, Associate producer, making of, and a writer for Pacified (Direction Paxton Winters, Executive Producer Darren Aranofsky) and Brazil Production Manager for the documentary “This is Climate Change”, where he led the film crew into dangerous logging areas in Rondonia and Para. He also directed “Shots in the Dark”, a film on public health threats in the Peruvian Amazon and has led several expeditions into the Xingu reserve of Brazil for German television as well as others into the Guajajara and Munduruku indigenous reservations of Maranhão and Pará for Getty Images and Al Jazeera.

CREW

Written and Directed by **Paxton Winters**.

Story by **Paxton Winters**, **Wellington Magalhães** and **Joseph Carter**.

Produced by **Paula Linhares**, **Marcos Tellechea**, **Lisa Muskat**, **Darren Aronofsky** and **Paxton Winters**.

Executive Producers: **Guilherme Martin Somlo**, **Noberto Pinheiro Junior**, **Giovana Refatti**, **Fernando Loureiro** and **Giovanna Arede**.

Co-Produced by **Caio Gullane** and **Fabiano Gullane**.

Director of Photography **Laura Merians**.

Production Designer **Ricardo Van Steen**.

Edited by **Aylin Zoi Tinel**.

Original Soundtrack by **Beto Villares**.

Colorist **Ely Silva, ABC**.

Associate Producer **Ricardo Montanha**, **Wellington Magalhães**, **Joseph Carter**, **Luiz Tellechea**.

Line Producer **Tim Maia**.

Mixed by **Coll Anderson**.

Sound Editing by **Miriam Biderman**.

Costume Designer **Bella Cardoso**



AWARDS

- **Golden Shell for Best Movie, Silver Shell for Best Actor for Bukassa Kabengele, and Best Cinematography for Laura Merians at San Sebastián International Film Festival (Spain);**
- **Audience Award for Best Brazilian Feature at 43ª Mostra Internacional de SP;**
- **Best Director's Debut for Paxton Winters and Best Cinematographer's Debut for Laura Merians at Camerimage (Torún/2019);**
- **Hors Concours at Festival do Rio 2019**
- **Grand Jury Award at Cordillera International Film Festival - Nevada, USA;**
- **Honorable Mention to the Golden Linx at FEST - New Directors | New Films Festival (Espinho, Portugal);**
- **Best Actor for Bukassa Kabengele, Best Actress for Débora Nascimento, Best Cinematography for Laura Merians and Honorable Mention for Lea Garcia at Fest Aruanda Paraíba (Brasil).**
- **Audience Award at 9th edition of Festival Primavera do Cine.**



WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY **PAXTON WINTERS**

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX
PRESENTS

A **REAGENT MEDIA** PRODUCTION

CO-PRODUCED WITH

FOX FILMS DO BRASIL
MUSKAT FILMED PROPERTIES
PROTOZOA PICTURES
KINOMAD PRODUCTIONS
AND
SPRAY FILMES
GULLANE ENTERTAINMENT

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