



✓ Julian Assange, resilient women and the music of Pixinguinha



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At the 37th Ibero-Latin American Film Festival, there are not only many filmmakers, many, as per tradition, but also many beautiful portraits of women, to tell the other half of the subcontinent's sky; determined and resilient women, who face difficult family histories, who challenge taboos and pursue their goals. Just as there are films that recall the restless and rebellious soul of Latin America, the one that does not give in to injustice and fights to recognize the rights of every human being and of the planet itself. And then music,

without which the cultural richness of these incredible lands could not be imagined.

Wednesday 16 November begins in the Sala Grande of the Miela Theater at 9, with Contemporanea Concorso and the Dominican film *Rafaela* by Tito Rodríguez, the story of a girl who grew up in a dangerous neighborhood of Santo Domingo and in search of her transgender identity, in an increasingly violent. The LGBT world is also mentioned in the Brazilian *Os primeiros soldados* by Rodrigo de Oliveira, which, scheduled for the Official Competition at 11, takes us to Brazil in the 1980s, where a group of young people come into contact with a frightening disease that no one he still knows AIDS.

In the afternoon, at 3 pm, again the Official Competition with the Mexican *Expira* by Leopoldo Laborde, which follows the steps of a young woman determined to discover the identity of the serial killer who killed her mother years earlier. Tempo di musica, at 16.45 in Contemporanea Competition: the Brazilian *Pixinguinha, um homem carinhoso* by Denise Saraceni, is a biopic dedicated to Alfredo da Rocha Vianna Jr, Pixinguinha (1897-1973), the father of Brazilian popular music, thanks to whom then, decades later, the bossa nova of Tom Jobim, João Gilberto and Caetano Veloso established itself; *la di lui Carinhoso di lui* is the most recorded Brazilian song of all time. After the screening, a meeting with Carlos Moletta, producer and international distributor. Again Contemporary Competition, but Out of Competition, with the exciting journey of the cocoa bean between Mexico and Italy on the one hand a plant of precious cultural significance, on the other popular and beloved chocolate, with all its derivatives, including a drink: at 7.00 pm, the Italian-Mexican co-production *La leyenda del árbol secreto – The legend of the secret tree* by Giuseppe Carrieri. To follow, the meeting with Massimo De Giuseppe (producer and screenwriter). The evening in the Sala Grande is marked by two women, both present in the hall to meet the public at the end of the screenings of their respective films: at 8.40 pm, for the Official Competition, the Argentine-Mexican *Retiros (In)voluntarios* by Sandra Gugliotta, which traces the devastating consequences of human resource management policies in telecommunications companies in France and Argentina in the 90s: the psychological violence and fear of dismissal used by companies to subdue their own; depression, illness and, in the worst case, suicide, among the consequences. The Dominican Tatiana Fernández Geara is the director of *Vals de Santo Domingo*, scheduled at 10.25 pm for the Contemporary Competition section: she recounts the friendship between three young dancers and the prejudices of a country that still sees dance as a thing for women. As in a waltz, a three-beat melody, the three retrace Santo Domingo facing, and sometimes embracing, the machismo that governs Dominican society.

In Sala Birri, Wednesday 16 November starts at 9.10 with Spazio Colombia and the film *Camilo Torres Restrepo, el amor eficaz* by Marta Rodríguez and Fernando Restrepo, in which the author imagines a dialogue between herself and the revolutionary priest Camilo Torres. A conversation that tries to retrace and analyze Camilo's 56-year absence from the social and political life of Colombia, from Liberation Theology to Effective Love. Rights and militancy also in the documentary that follows at 11: the Argentinian *RJW* by Fermín Rivera, in Contemporanea Concorso, is a documentary dedicated to the journalist Rodolfo Jorge Walsh, from his childhood up to "Operation Massacre"; Walsh was among the first journalists to denounce the Argentine dictatorship and is still disappeared today.

The Cinema and Literature section opens the afternoon of the Sala Birri at 3 pm, with the Mexican *El lugar sin límites* by Arturo Ripstein, based on the homonymous novel by José Donoso to tell the story of Pancho's return to his country and the struggle that will unleash between "La Manuela", a transvestite in

charge of a brothel, and his daughter "La Japonesa", among men who desire power, women who desire men and men who desire each other.