

NEXT WEEK, I PROMISE YOU PALMARES!

"Imagining your possible and impossible futures is the best way to salute the ancestors!" (Icá luori)

The science fiction short film, "Next week, I promise you Palmares!", is an Afro-presentism Brazilian film that tells a story of time travel, bringing historical figures from the struggle for racial equality to venture into the present day. In the film, Dandara and Zumbi dos Palmares, two martyrs of the anti-slavery struggle who lived in Brazil during the 17th century, are reincarnated in the bodies of a 21st century black couple and encounter a new world.

The script is by Icá luori, also part of the cast (as Zumbi), and is directed by Lara Júlia and Lux Machado, with executive production by Larissa Cavalcante and original soundtrack by Abraão Kimberley and Ingrid Anjos. The short film is a production of Madrugada Filmes, an independent film production company from São Paulo, which focuses on the valorization of the audiovisual made by black, peripheral and LGBTQIAPN+ narratives. The film, which is a co-production with SPCINE, also features Maytuti (as Dandara) and Dirce Thomaz (as Preta Velha) in its cast.

"This film talks about the unfolding of the African diaspora. Afro-presentism is about understanding our power to shape the future from the creations we make in the present time. From this perspective, time is a spiral, which makes the future be here and now!" said Icá luori.

The film seeks to imagine black futures, having the African diaspora as a way to reconstruct the perceptions of time-space, using Afro-Brazilian cosmologies and narratives as tools for the positive reconstruction of the collective imaginaries of the black population through the audiovisual.

"Although the work is a short film, the story presupposes a continuation. This film is only the beginning of a much larger adventure that these heroines will have to face," said Icá luori, affirming the possibility of a continuation of the short film as a series or feature film.

The work radicalizes the discourse by bringing dialogues that mix Brazilian Portuguese and Quimbundo (which would be one of the languages spoken in the Quilombo dos Palmares). Furthermore, the short mixes science fiction with Brazilian history, blending science and fantastic realism within its narrative, where historical figures become heroines who are given a difficult mission to accomplish. Within the short it is possible to see the humanization and closeness of these martyrs with the viewer, thus recreating scenes about their relationships of affection, besides the intense contact with the spiritual world under the Afro-Brazilian perspective, which ends up being a spear pointed at religious racism.

" 'Next week, I promise you Palmares!' is about ancestry, black love from other lives, deep looks and telepathy. Regardless of religion or belief, much is speculated about what happens after death, and this film seeks to imagine what happens to Dandara and Zumbi dos Palmares after they both died ..." commented Icá luori.