



From July 29 to August 04 in Melgaço

A REVOLUTION ACROSS DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHIES IN THE 10 YEARS OF MDOC

In its 10th edition, MDOC once again becomes an open window for social and ethnographic documentary cinema from this border village in the Minho region. The International Documentary Film Festival returns, between July 29th and August 4th, to Melgaço. Films in competition can be submitted until May 19th and registrations are now open for film and photography residencies, as well as the film workshop. This year's edition will focus on the fiftieth anniversary of the 25th of April Carnation Revolution.

The **MDOC – Melgaço International Documentary Film Festival** continues to focus on the decentralization of culture and territorial cohesion and, this year will be extra special as it marks a milestone of resistance and consolidation of this event in Portugal, already with an international echo. These are 10 years of dedication and activity in which the focal point has been on promoting documentary cinematography, with a social and ethnographic aspect. *“In an atmosphere of conviviality and sharing between directors, public and participants, MDOC continues to focus on presenting documentaries with a cinematic expression that interrogate the world we live in and challenge us to debate universal issues with an emphasis on human rights”*, reveals Carlos Eduardo Viana, MDOC coordinator.

The event intends to continue being a means of reflection through documentaries on **identity, memory and borders, contributing to the creation of an exhaustive audiovisual archive of the territory.**



MDOC – Festival Internacional de Documentário de Melgaço

<https://mdocfestival.pt>

Since its inception in 2014, MDOC has continuously dared to challenge its peripheral geography and utilise it to its advantage by bringing to this border town of Alto Minho **75 national directors, 58 international filmmakers** from Brazil, Iran, Finland, Serbia, France, Spain, Iraq, India, Germany (among other nationalities), with a total audience turnout that, over the years, has reached more than **33 thousand participants** (including public and guest speakers).

Residencies and Workshops focusing on the Revolution across different geographies

These 10 years of MDOC were determined by a vast display of national and international cinematography about different realities and concerns that permeate the contemporary world. This year, MDOC simply could not ignore the **50th anniversary celebrations of the 25th of April Carnation Revolution** so, to mark this historic date, the festival organizers drew up a plan of activities relating to this thematic.

The **Off Screen – Summer Course** is back and takes place under the auspices of the 50th anniversary of the April Revolution. From **July 29th to August 4th**, Off Screen will be a meeting point for research, debate and development of creative practices from various sources. It will bring “**Cinema and Revolution**” to the table, addressing diverse themes and several geographies (such as Brazil’s Vertigo Democracy; Chile, Searching for dream images; Reflections and memories of the Spanish transition; Revolutions in landscapes; Photo memory; Africa, cinema and revolution, among other topics). Particular relevance will be given to cinematography that addressed the cinema and revolution in countries such as Spain, Brazil, Chile and Portuguese-speaking African countries. More information and program content can be found [here](#) and registrations must be completed [online](#) by July 15th.

MDOC is also a space for film and photographic residencies. As part of **Frontal Shot**, which runs between July 26th and August 4th, **Pedro Sena Nunes** will guide the “**Producing a documentary**” residency, challenging four teams to direct four documentaries on local themes yet to be proposed to them. The idea is to address the history of the region and contribute to the creation of an audiovisual archive on the intangible heritage of Melgaço. Each selected team will receive a grant worth **€5,000** for the payment of expenses related to accommodation, technical support, production and tutoring. Applications must be submitted by June 30th ([registration form](#)) and rules and regulations are available [online](#).

When it comes to **Frontal Shot – Photographic Residency**, for ten days (**between July 26th and August 4th**), participants will be challenged to photograph local themes yet to be proposed. This residency, also led by Pedro Sena Nunes, aims to promote photography and encourage the emergence of new photographers. The associated costs will be covered by an individual grant worth **€2,000**. Applications must be submitted by **June 30th** ([registration form](#)) and rules and regulations are available [online](#).



The usual **MDOC workshops** return to Melgaço Secondary School, **between July 29th and August 1st**. Director **Catarina Mourão** – winner of the awards for best Portuguese documentary in “The Wolf’s Lair” (MDOC 2016) and “Astrakan 79” (MDOC 2023) – will guide the **Documentary Film workshop “The House and the World”**. Catarina Mourão will share her creative process and promises to challenge participants to think about different approaches to reality, filming the conflict, improvisation, the Other, and work on a practical exercise that reflects the voice, a personal approach, a memory or different temporalities . Registration can be completed [here](#) until July 15th.

Additional information on MDOC: <https://mdocfestival.pt/pt>

Press

Sara Pereira de Oliveira

(+351) 919301232

sipoliveira@gmail.com

