

Léo Bittencourt

Works as a director and director of photography in fictions and documentaries for cinema and TV. Born in Brazil in 1981, Léo graduated in Journalism at PUC-Rio, in Philosophy at UERJ and studied 1 year of History of Art at UAM (Spain). Léo started his professional life as a DoP in 2008.

> Major awards as director of photography (DoP):

Finalist for the ABC 2022 Award for best documentary cinematography for the film *A Bay* by Murilo Salles.

Finalist for the ABC 2021 Award for best photography for the short *Fireflies* by Léo Bittencourt.

Best cinematography for the feature *Hill of Pleasure* by Maria Augusta Ramos at the 48th Brasília Film Festival (2013).

> Major award as director:

International Grand Prize for the short *Fireflies* at Cork International Film Festival 2021 (Ireland). Qualifying award for the 2023 OSCAR.

Best film for the short film *Waves* at Mostra do Filme Livre 2016.

[Vimeo](#)

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Rule 34

2022, 100', fiction

by Júlia Murat, DoP Léo Bittencourt,
Prod. Esquina Films

Simone 23-year-old studies criminal law and advocates for women's rights and at night she performs in front of a live sex cam. One night watching a film awakens her dark impulses for a more dangerous means of sexual gratification.

Winner of the Golden Leopard for Best Film at the Locarno Film Festival 2022.

[Trailer](#)

Out of Breath

2022, 81', doc

by **Ana Petta** and **Helena Petta**, DoP **Léo Bittencourt**

Prod. **Paranoid Films**

The daily struggle of workers in the Brazilian public health system in defense of life, in a country abandoned by its president.

Out of Breath addresses the pandemic with a focus on care, revealing the human face of the collective struggle against Covid-19 in direct contact with doctors, nurses and community agents.

Best Film Award in the National Competition of the It's All True 2022 Festival.

[Trailer](#)





Good Vibes with Ivete

2022, HBO MAX Original Series 5 EPs 35', doc

by Katia Lund and Lili Fialho, DoP Léo Bittencourt and Miguel Vassy

Prod. Delicatessen Films

The singer Ivete Sangalo meets with guest artists on a farm to record the songs for her next album and exchange experiences.

[Trailer](#) [Series](#)

Fireflies

2021, 19', experimental

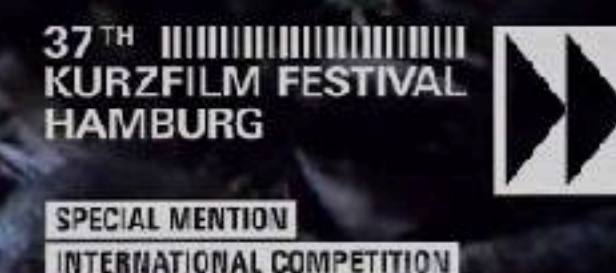
by Léo Bittencourt, Prod. Fauna Films

The night side of a modernist icon. The fauna and flora of Roberto Burle Marx's gardens inhabited by visitors to Flamengo's Park while the city of Rio de Janeiro falls asleep.

Fireflies is a fabulated ethnography of the night at Flamengo's Park.

It premiered at the Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival 2021 (France) and won the international grand prize at the Cork International Film Festival 2021 (Ireland). Qualifying award for the 2023 OSCAR.

[Trailer](#)





My Love

2021, TV episode of 60', doc

by Carol Sá, DoP Léo Bittencourt and Louise Botkay.

Prod. NETFLIX LA

A Netflix original production, the documentary series My Love: 6 True Love Stories, tells the story of 6 couples, together for more than 40 years, in six different countries: Brazil, South Korea, Spain, United States, India and Japan. We made the Brazilian episode.

Winner of Best Documentary Series at the International Documentary Awards – IDA 2022 (USA)

[Trailer](#) [Episode](#)

NETFLIX

A NETFLIX ORIGINAL SERIES



Rolê - Stories of Brazilian Protests in Malls

2021, 82', doc

by Vladmir Seixas, DoP Léo Bittencourt, Prod. Couro de Rato

Rolezinhos in malls in Brazil have mobilized thousands of people in recent years. This unusual form of demonstration threw open the barriers imposed by racial discrimination and social exclusion. Follow in this documentary the lives and memories of three black characters who faced traumatic situations of racism and participated in the occupations in malls.

It premiered at Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival 2021 and won the Grand Prize Vision Award. It also won the awards for best documentary feature at the Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival, best film by the popular jury and special jury prize at the Curitiba international Film Festival 2021.

[Trailer:](#)



A Bay

2021, 109', experimental

by **Murilo Salles**, DoP **Léo Bittencourt** and **Fabrício Mota**

Prod. **Cinema Brasil Digital**

From the observational mode of the documentary, *A Bay* weaves eight visual fables that make pulse what gives meaning to the journeys for survival of each of its characters. They are investigations into the conflicts between life and history, between the beauty of the bay and the amazement of its characters around Guanabara Bay.

It premiered in the competition of DOK Leipzig 2021 (Germany) and won the awards for best direction and best editing at *Première Brasil* do Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival 2021 (Brazil). Finalist for the ABC 2022 Award for best documentary cinematography

[Excerpts from the movie](#)



Shine Your Eyes

2020, 90', fiction

by Matias Mariani, DoP Léo Bittencourt, Prod. Primo Films

The film follows Amadi on his journey from Nigeria to São Paulo, where his brother Ikenna reportedly works as a professor at a technology institute. But not only can Amadi not find Ikenna, the institute doesn't exist either.

It premiered at the 2020 Berlin Film Festival at the Panorama Show and won the Coral Ópera Prima Award at the 2021 Havana Film Festival.

[Trailer](#)





ANA. Untitled

2020, 110', hybrid.

by **Lúcia Murat**, DoP **Léo Bittencourt**,

Prod. **Taiga Films**

Stela, a young actress, decides to work on the letters exchanged between Latin American visual artists during the 1970s and 1980s. She travels to Cuba, Mexico, Argentina and Chile. Amid the investigation, Stela discovers the existence of Ana, a young Brazilian woman who was part of this world, but disappeared.

It premiered at the Moscow Film Festival 2020 and won the Caminos award from the Martin Luther King Center at the Havana Film Festival 2021. Nominations for Best Fiction Cinematography, Best Film and Best Direction at the Brazilian Cinema Grand Prix 2022.

[Trailer](#)



Let It Burn

2019, 85', doc.

by **Maira Bühler**, DoP **Léo Bittencourt**

Prod. **Klaxon Films**

Residents of a hotel in São Paulo's downtown live in a vulnerable condition because of the abuse of crack. Between circular stairs, decorated rooms and the sound of music from the radio the characters are crossed by the specter of loneliness.

Libraries Awards - Cinéma du Réel 2019; Best Latin American Film - Havana International Film Festival 2019; Best Film by the Critics Association - Uruguay International Film Festival 2019; Best film - Curitiba International Film Festival 2019; Official Selection at True / False Film Festival 2019.

[Trailer](#)



Tuã Ingugu

2019, 13', doc.

by **Daniela Thomas**, DoP **Léo Bittencourt**

Prod. **Syndrome Films**

In the Kalapalo cosmogony - ethnic group that lives in the Xingú Indigenous Park - water is the source of life, sustenance and joy. The idea of poisoning water is a dystopia. In Tuã Ingugu, the chief Faremá - from the village of Caramujo, on the banks of the Kuluene River - tells us about the birth of water and warns about the consequences of disrespecting it.

National Competition at Festival Curta Cinema 2019; Official Selection at the Rio Film Festival 2019; Short commissioned by the UN as part of the anthology *Interdependence*.

[Trailer](#)



Feras

2019, 13 episodes of 26', fiction series.

by Teo Poppovic and Maria Farkas,
DoP Léo Bittencourt, Prod. Primo Films

An intimate, humorous and unprejudiced portrait of the fears and pains of falling in love and separating.

Currently on display on Globo Play.

[Series](#)

[Trailer](#)



Favela é Moda

2019, 84', doc.

by Emílio Domingos, DoP Léo Bittencourt
Prod. Espiral, Co-Prod. Osmose Films

The movie deals with the representation of black people in Brazilian fashion. It is the third film in the body trilogy directed by Emílio Domingos, after *A Batalha do Passinho* and *Deixa na Régua*.

Best documentary by the Popular Jury at the 21st Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival 2019; Best Feature Film at the XIII Pierre Verger Prize.

[Trailer](#)



The First Stone - The Rise of Lynching in Brazil

2018, 56', doc.

by Vladimir Seixas, DoP Léo Bittencourt
Prod. Futura Chanel, Co-Prod. Couro de Rato

An investigation of lynching in Brazil that shows how this violence has become an everyday problem.

2019 International Emmy nominee for best documentary; Best Documentary at TAL (Televisón América Latina) of DocMontevideo in 2019; Bronze medal at New York TV & Film Awards in 2019.

[Trailer](#)