



Leonardo Pirondi

• **Fractais Tropicaux (Tropical Fractals)**

Film

October 14

WED, 8 PM

CaLARTS

REDCAT

**ROY AND EDNA DISNEY
CALARTS THEATER**

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Fractais Tropicaïs (Tropical Fractals) depicts environmental collapse and a vision of the post-apocalyptic world. On an interstellar journey, an intelligent system named Museo records the crew's diaries as Brazilian archivists transport Earth's last living remnants and their digitized copies. This fractured history of humanity is contrasted with a lone wanderer, perhaps the last man on Earth (played by Ivo Müller), who roams the ruined landscape as it slowly recovers. Shot in Super 16mm, the debut feature film by Leonardo Pirondi (CalArts BFA 22 + MFA 24 in Film and Video) crafts a textured analog visual world in contrast to slick, digitally rendered science fiction visual tropes.

The screening will be followed by a conversation with Leonardo Pirondi and Ivo Müller moderated by Jheanelle Brown.

Fractais Tropicaïs (Tropical Fractals) (2026), 72 min.

Whispers in the middle of outer space. In an interstellar journey, Brazilian archivists carry Earth's last living remnants and their digitized copies. An intelligent system, Museo, becomes a portal into the crew's diaries and a fractured archive of humanity. Below, a lone wanderer, perhaps the last man on Earth, roams a recovering planet Earth in ruins. Here, sounds and images collide replicas and their originals in a fractal dimension like waves crashing on the shoreline, transforming into galaxies.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Leonardo Pirondi is a Brazilian-Portuguese filmmaker and artist. His works create and inhabit alternate worlds that blur the lines between reality and fiction, challenging conventional storytelling structures. His films have screened internationally at festivals such as the Toronto, Tiger Short Competition, New York, Viennale, Slamdance, Mar del Plata, IndieLisboa, FICUNAM, BFI London, Nouveau Cinéma, Edinburgh, Oberhausen, and Media City among others. His work has been presented in art centers such as the Museum of Modern Art Rio de Janeiro, CCCB, Wexner Center for the Arts, and REDCAT. He has had solo shows at Galeria Mola in Portugal and Spectacle Theater in NYC. Some of his films live in the Cinematheque of the MAM Rio, UCLA Film & Television Archive, James Baldwin Library, and The Film-Makers' Coop. He holds BFA and MFA degrees in Film from CalArts. Pirondi was named one of Filmmaker Magazine's 25 New Faces of Independent Film, is a Sundance Institute Fellow, and was awarded a MacDowell Fellowship in 2025. His short and feature films have been supported by the Instituto do Cinema e do Audiovisual of Portugal, Locarno Residency, Projeto Paradiso, and the Tim Disney Prize for Excellence in the Storytelling Arts.

Ivo Müller is a Brazilian actor, producer, and teacher whose career bridges theater, film, and television across Brazil and the international scene. On stage, Müller has built a solid trajectory with acclaimed productions such as *Twelve Angry Men*, which remained in repertory for eight years and received the APCA Award for Best Play in 2010, as well as *Huis Clos (No Exit)*, *Stitching*, and *Dear Listeners*. His long-term research with the work of Rainer Maria Rilke led to his solo creations *Letters to a Young Poet and Rilke*, culminating in the new English-language solo *Rilke, One Million Words*, premiering in New York in 2025. In cinema, he gained international recognition with *Tabu*, directed by Miguel Gomes, which was honored at the Berlin International Film Festival in 2012. His credits include features such as *Hebe: A Estrela do Brasil*, *California*, *O Diabo Mora Aqui (The Devil Lives Here)*, *Cine Marrocos*, and *Barba Ensopada de Sangue*, as well as award-winning short films like *The Orphan* and *The Artificial Humors*.

Image Credit: Courtesy of Leonardo Pirondi. Still from *Fractais Tropicais (Tropical Fractals)*.

CAST & CREATIVE TEAM

Cast: Ivo Müller, Valentina Rosset, André Bohn, Fernando Siqueira, Utkarsh

Writer & Director: Leonardo Pirondi

Producers: Paulo Carneiro (Bam Bam Cinema) and Leonardo Pirondi, in association with Zazie Ray-Trapido & Ryan Betschart

Executive Producers: Nevo Shinaar & Ivo Müller

Cinematographer, Editor, Sound Designer, Colorist, Animator, VFX,

Music: Leonardo Pirondi

Sound Mixing: Craig Smith

Art Direction: Rachel Nakawatase & Zazie Ray-Trapido

Assistant Editor: Rachel Nakawatase

Additional Cinematography: Martina Mattar, Ryan Bradford & Zazie Ray-Trapido

Music (as Shrine Maiden): Rachel Nakawatase & Ryan Betschart

Location Sound: Devin Jie Allen, Ryan Betschart

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Projectionist - Andrew Child

Assistant Projectionist/Lighting - Jerrel Milan

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