

FILM AT REDCAT PRESENTS

Mon Feb 15 | 8:00 PM |

ONLINE

Jack H. Skirball Series

\$10 [members \$8]

For tickets, please visit: [Fernanda Pessoa](#)

Fernanda Pessoa: *Stories That Our Cinema Did (Not) Tell* ***[Histórias que nosso cinema (não) contava]***

Award-winning filmmaker Fernanda Pessoa presents a notable revision of 1970s Brazil, a period of deep social transformations that saw the country open up to international investment, rapid urban modernization and increased tensions resulting from the sexual revolution, all happening as a military dictatorship ruled in power for over 21 years. During this period emerged a widely popular and vastly produced film genre: the *pornoanchadas*. Mostly a mix of urban comedy and erotic cinema, these low-budget films oscillate between voyeuristic exploration and raw visual exploitation. Made through a formidable montage from a selection of the *pornoanchada* films, Pessoa's experimental documentary renders a most pleasurable audiovisual essay of urgent political and cultural implications.

In person via Zoom: Fernanda Pessoa

"A brilliant editing work." – Quentin Papapietro, *Cahiers du cinéma*

"One of the most significant artistic events of this year."

– Inácio Araújo, *Folha de Sao Paulo*

“What Pessoa managed to exhume reflects a breakthrough into collective but forgotten memory, shedding light on female exploitation and human inequalities during that period.”

– Georgia Korossi, International Documentary Association

“What is most impressive about the film is its exercise in contrasts [...] there is a willingness to approach a largely disavowed archive of conservative genre films in order to discover something – a scene, a look, a gesture, a line – that is worth redeeming.” – Stefan Solomon, *Senses of Cinema*

The Program

The film makes a re-reading of 1970s Brazil through the very same images and sounds popularized at the time in the *pornochanchadas*, the most viewed and produced genre of the period.

Eloquently weaving the source materials into a renewed sense of historical representation, Pessoa’s passionate cinephile instinct unveils quite an unexpected, playful, and clever cultural critique. Media archeology at its best, *Histórias que nosso cinema (não) contava / Stories That Our Cinema Did (Not) Tell (2017)* is a cinematic experience not to be missed.

The Filmmaker

Fernanda Pessoa is a Brazilian filmmaker and visual artist, working primarily on documentary and experimental cinema along with video-installation. She holds an MA in Film Studies from the Sorbonne Nouvelle, under the direction of Philippe Dubois. In 2017, Pessoa released her first feature documentary film *Stories Our Cinema Did (Not) Tell*, which participated in over 25 film festivals around the globe. She has directed several short films, music videos, and has participated in solo and group exhibitions internationally. In 2019, her second feature documentary film *Arid Zone* received an Honorable Mention at DOK Leipzig. She’s currently working on a new video-art piece called *Order prevails*, which has already been selected for competition in the Videoarte Award of Fundação Joaquim Nabuco.

Selected Filmography:

- *Femmes de ménage* (2013), 10 min
- *Berlin 1989* (2015), 3 min
- *Histórias que nosso cinema (não) contava* (2017), 80 min
- *Zona Árida* (2019), 76 min
- *Same/Different/Both/Neither* (2020), 19 min

For more information, visit <https://pessoafernanda.com/>

The Jack H. Skirball Series is organized by Bérénice Reynaud and Eduardo Thomas and funded in part by the Ostrovsky Family Fund, with special support provided by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.