

CASSIO TOLPOLAR

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Cassio Tolpolar was born and raised in the south of Brazil and lived in Los Angeles and San Francisco for 11 years. Coming from a visual arts background, Cassio is an awarded Filmmaker with experience in both fiction and documentary storytelling. As an Assistant Director, Cassio worked on various feature and short films, commercials, and corporate videos. He holds an MFA degree in Film from the San Francisco Art Institute.

1. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Current Position: Director - Mamaliga Films -US/Brazil**

Film production and classes; script doctoring and localization English-Portuguese.

- **Director - *The Day the City Stopped***

Mamaliga Films - Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2020

Short film about coronavirus and lockdown, financed by the Brazilian government.

- **Film Instructor - Schools, museums and universities**

Ling Museum, Fluxo, PUC, ESPM, Casamundi - Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2014-2020

Taught different subjects such as film language, how to make your own films and scripts, how to make your own travel videos and the life and work of Stanley Kubrick. Also served as a mentor for film projects.

- **Director - *Mathematics***

Mamaliga Films - Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2019

Music video for Los Angeles-based artist Ben Gown.

- **Assistant Director - *Dragons***

GusGus Cinema and Lança Filmes - Porto Alegre, Brazil (post-production)

Production and shooting coordination of the fiction feature film.

- **Assistant Director - *Changes***

Prana Filmes and Rainer Cine - Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2020

Production and shooting coordination of the fiction feature film.

- **Director and Editor - *buitenlanders/foreigners***

Mamaliga Films - Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2018

Short film about a Dutch woman in Brazil.

- **Assistant Director - *Ants***

GusGus Cinema and Grande Plano Geral - Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2017

Production and shooting coordination of the TV series.

- **Director and Editor - *A Trip to Philippon***

Mamaliga Films - USA/Brazil, 2016

Short film documentary about the Jewish immigration to Southern Brazil. Financed by Asylum Arts.

- **Social Media Moderator**

Data Words - France/Brazil, 2015

Social Media Moderator for luxury brands accounts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Pinterest.

- **Producer and Director - *Mamaliga Blues* - Brazil/USA/Moldova, documentary, 55 min, 2014**
 Documentary filmed in Moldova, USA and Brazil about the trip made by a Brazilian family to find its roots in Moldova. Responsible for the Portuguese and English versions, worked with subtitles, graphics and audios in both languages.
- **Producer and Camera**
 Sony Entertainment Network - San Francisco, USA and Brazil, 2014
 Producer, Camera, Editor and Translator for PlayStation social media commercials during the 2014 World Cup and Brazil Game Show.
- **Film Instructor - Cinema-School project**
 Cine Santander/Prana Filmes - Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2014
 Taught film language to high school students in Porto Alegre.
- **Director and Editor - *Objectified/Subjectified***
 El Segundo Museum of Art, El Segundo, CA, USA, 2013
 Commissioned to create two short films based on Trina Merry (artist) body painting installations.
- **Quality Control Consultant**
 De Luxe Digital Studios - Burbank, CA, 2006 - 2013
 Project Lead, quality analyst and tester for Blu-Ray image, audio, and subtitles in multiple languages.
- **Screenwriter - *Surviving Timor* (fiction feature length)**
 Los Angeles, CA, 2010
 Screenwriter of this fiction project about East Timor.
- **Consultant and Interpreter**
 Sundance Institute - Los Angeles, CA, 2003 - 2009
 Responsible for script and film reviews, database organization, filmmakers/producers outreach for the Sundance/NHK Award. Interpreter English-Portuguese for the Sundance Film Festival.
- **Translator and Subtitling - *Waste Land* (documentary)**
 Los Angeles, CA, 2009
 Translation Portuguese-English and Portuguese subtitling for this film directed by Lucy Walker, nominated for Best Documentary at the 2011 Oscars Ceremony.
- **Director/Screenwriter - *Echo Tek***
 FJ Productions - Los Angeles, CA, 2008
 TV pilot about the impact of new technologies in the environment.
- **Translator and Subtitling - *March of the Living* (documentary)**
 Los Angeles, CA, 2008
 Translation and dialogue editor; Portuguese subtitling.
- **Director/Editor/Cinematographer - *Of Movable Things in the Air (Letters of the Underground II - Da Vinci segment)***
 Silverlake Film Festival - Los Angeles, 2007
 Short film commissioned by the Silverlake Film Festival.
- **Director - *Shop the World* (monthly TV show)**
 FJ Productions - Los Angeles, CA, 2006
 Director for the Vancouver, Seattle, and Santa Fe episodes.

- **Producer/Screenwriter/Director - *Martial Arts 360°* (TV pilot)**
FJ Productions - Los Angeles, CA, 2006
 Pre-production, shooting and Post-production coordinator and researcher. Pilot winner of the 2007 Accolade TV Awards.
- **Print Traffic Coordinator - Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival**
Los Angeles, CA, 2005
 Managed the receipt and shipment of 150 film prints. Responsible for the communications between filmmakers and distributors from Latin America, Europe, and the US.
- **Post-Production Assistant - *The New World* (fiction feature film)**
Los Angeles, CA, 2005
 Assistant to Post-Production Supervisor Heidi Vogel in this film directed by Terrence Malick, nominated for Best Cinematography at the 2006 Oscars Ceremony.
- **Development Assistant**
Cecchi Gori Pictures - Los Angeles, CA, 2004 - 2005
 Main liaison between producers in Brazil and Argentina. Production coordinator for trailers of feature projects. Translation of documents in Spanish and Portuguese. Reviewed films and scripts, organized database, and performed research.
- **Development Assistant/Assistant Editor**
Kontent Films - San Francisco, CA, 2003 - 2004
 Reviewed TV pilot scripts. Responsible for organizing and pre-editing commercials and institutional videos.
- **Director - Vortex Produções (*Palavra de Gaúcho*)**
Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2002
 Director of 24 weekly TV episodes "*Palavra de Gaúcho*", showing the accomplishments of the government administration of the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.
- **Director and Writer - *Venus* - Brazil, 21 min, fiction, 2001**
 Short film screened in international film festivals and winner of many awards, including Best Director and Cinematography.
- **Assistant Director - RBS TV**
Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2001
 Coordinated and planned two TV series, "*Mundo Grande do Sul*" and "*Sangue do Dragão*".
- **Assistant Director - Zeppelin Filmes**
Porto Alegre, Brazil, 1996 - 2000
 Assistant Director for commercials shot in video, 16mm and 35mm.
- **Assistant Director - Casa de Cinema de Porto Alegre**
Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2000
 Assistant Director for political TV campaigns.
- **Script Supervisor - *Club* (short film)**
Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2000
 35mm short film.
- **Script Supervisor - *Dois Filmes Em Uma Noite* (short film)**
Porto Alegre, Brazil, 1999
 16mm short film.

- **Assistant Director - *Nocturnu* (short film)**

Porto Alegre, Brazil, 1998

Short film winner of many international awards, shot in 16mm.

2. AWARDS

- **Grant recipient** from Brazilian Government. Small grant to produce the short film *The Day the City Stopped* (2020)
- **Grant recipient** from the Asylum Arts. Small Grants to research about a local culture club established in 1920 in Southern Brazil (2020)
- **Grant recipient** from the Asylum Arts. Small Grants to produce the short documentary *A Trip to Philippson* (2015)
- **Grant recipient** from the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Foundation to expand the website of the documentary film *Mamaliga Blues* (2014)
- **Award of Merit / TV - The Accolade TV Awards, Martial Arts 360°**, USA (2007)
- **Grand Festival Award**, 10th Berkeley Video and Film Festival, Berkeley, USA (2003)
Venus - 16mm, 21 min, Brazil
- **Best Director**, 29^o Festival of Latin Cinema of Gramado, Brazil (2001)
Venus - 16mm, 21 min, Brazil
- **Best Cinematography**, 34^o Festival of Brazilian Cinema of Brasília, Brazil (2001)
Venus - 16mm, 21 min, Brazil
- **Best Film, Director, Cinematography, Editing and Art Direction**, 2^o Festival APTC of Films from Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil (2001)
Venus - 16mm, 21 min, Brazil
- **Recipient of CAPES scholarship** from the Brazilian Government to cover graduate studies expenses in the USA (2001)

3. SELECTED SCREENINGS

buitenlanders/foreigners - digital, 6 min, Brazil

- 47th Gramado Latin Film Festival, Gramado, Brazil, 2019
- FRESTA Audiovisual Showcase, Rio Grande, Brazil, 2019

A Trip to Philippson - digital, 5 min, USA/Brazil

- Contemporary Jewish Museum, San Francisco, USA, 2017

Mamaliga Blues - digital, 55 min, USA/Brazil/Moldova

- Montreal Genealogical Society, Canada, 2019
- Miami Jewish Film Festival, Miami, USA, 2015
- Fordham University, New York City, USA, 2015
- ARI, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2015
- CRONOGRAF International Documentary Film Festival, Moldova, 2015
- Jewish Center, Curitiba, Brazil, 2015
- Jewish Museum of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2015
- South East European Film Festival, Los Angeles, USA, 2014

- International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Salt Lake City, USA, 2014
- Festival de Cinema de Gramado, Gramado, Brazil, 2014
- Midrash Centro Cultural, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2014
- Breman Museum, Atlanta, USA, 2014

Venus - 16mm, 21 min, Brazil

- Center for Contemporary Art-[KSA: K], Chisinau, Moldova, 2008
- Seattle Erotic Arts Festival, Seattle, USA, 2004
- 8° Mediawave Festival, Hungary, 2003
- 6° Antimatter Festival of Underground Short Film & Video, Canada, 2003
- 8° Cinematexas International Short Film Festival, Texas, USA, 2003
- 11° Alter-Native International Short Film Festival, Romania, 2003
- 12° International Short Film Festival of São Paulo, Brazil, 2001

Of Movable Things in the Air - digital, 3 min, Brazil/USA

- 7° Silverlake Film Festival, Los Angeles, USA, 2007

4. LECTURES/EVENTS

- **Guest speaker** at the Zoom webinar conducted by the Miami Jewish Film Festival in the occasion of a special screening of *Mamaliga Blues* (2020)
- **Selected participant** at the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce for the Rio Creative Industries event (Lecture “Cultural Differences when working in the US and in Brazil, applied to film”), Georgia, USA, 2017
- **Selected artist** for the Asylum International Jewish Artist Retreat, New York, USA, 2013
- **Guest speaker** at SEDER Arts Micro-Grant, Los Angeles, USA, 2012
- **Guest speaker** at KSAK Center for the Arts, Chisinau, Moldova, 2008

5. EDUCATION

- **MFA in Film**, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA, USA, 2004.
- **BFA in Social Communications with emphasis in Advertising**, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS), Porto Alegre, Brazil, 1998.

6. LANGUAGES

- Native Portuguese speaker
- Fluent English (reading, writing, speaking)
- Advanced Spanish
- Basic German

7. OTHER SKILLS / REMOTE ACTIVITIES

- Created, developed and lead a successful international crowdfunding campaign
- Participated in classes, screenings, lectures, workshops and consulting internationally
- Co-created online art projects between Brazil and the US
- Co-hosted international artist meetings
- Panelist and invited filmmaker for production and film meetings
- Granted financing to produce short films
- Created social media identity and promotion activities