

## Technical Information

**Working Title:** Fronteira  
**Director:** Nuno Baltazar  
**Screenplay:** Nuno Baltazar  
**Nationality:** Portugal  
**Genre:** Drama  
**Format:** 35 mm  
**Length:** 100 min  
**Shooting location:** Portugal, Cape Verde

**Production Company:** Stopline Films  
Rua Rodrigues Sampaio, 97 1º  
1150-279 Lisboa, Portugal  
**Tel:** +351 2 13 12 11 70 (Portugal)  
**Email:** mail@stopline.pt

## Director's Biography and Filmography

Nuno Baltazar was born in Lisbon, Portugal. He cultivated his passion for the visual arts from a very young age and worked as a graphic designer before starting his filmmaking career. He wrote, produced and directed his first short film, **Doce Lar**, shot on 16 mm and completed in 2014. The film has screened in many international festivals, won several awards and continues to travel throughout the festival circuit. Nuno is the first Portuguese filmmaker ever to be selected for the Cannes Cinéfondation La Résidence in Paris to develop his first feature screenplay.

# FRONTEIRA

A FILM BY NUNO BALTAZAR



cinéfondation  
LA RÉSIDENCE

## Nuno Baltazar

**E-mail:** nunobaltazar@me.com  
**Tel:** + 33 (0) 7 68 82 16 55 (France)  
**Tel:** + 351 9 16 04 82 07 (Portugal)

## Festival de Cannes

3, rue Amélie, F-75007 Paris  
Tel. 33 (0) 1 53 59 61 20  
Fax 33 (0) 1 53 59 61 24  
E-mail:  
residence@festival-cannes.fr  
www.festival-cannes.org

Since 2000, the Festival Residence has provided each year accommodation and support to twelve selected young directors in order to help them prepare their first or second feature film. A jury presided by a film director sits twice a year, selecting these young filmmakers on the basis of their short films, or

even first feature film, and the merits of their feature film project. During their 4-and-a-half-month stay in Paris, they work on the writing of their feature film project, have meetings with professionals and try, with the support of the Cannes Film Festival, to bring their project to co-production status.

With the support of HP. Printed on an HP Indigo Digital Press.



cinéfondation  
LA RÉSIDENCE

# FRONTEIRA

A FILM BY NUNO BALTAZAR

## Synopsis

---

Tino, an illegal immigrant from Cape Verde, travels to Portugal to escape poverty in his own country and to help the family he left behind. Adriano, an intolerant contractor, puts him to work in a construction site with several other clandestine laborers. During the day, the work is hard and the hours long. At night, they're all forced to share a small house with no conditions in a slum on the outskirts of Lisbon. One day, an accident occurs and one of the workers dies on the site. The construction has to stop and Adriano blames Tino for it. He forces him to manage the site until the embargo is lifted. Completely alone, Tino starts to live in the unfinished building. His existence becomes suspended in time and space as is the building's construction itself.

## Statement of Intent

---

Every year, hundreds of migrants die trying to reach the coasts of Italy, Spain or crossing the Eurotunnel from Calais to Britain. Although the images are hard to watch, we sometimes ignore what happens next, to the ones that do reach the shores of our countries. Episodes of modern day slavery and abused migrants are very common all over Europe, Portugal included. Fronteira tells one of these stories, in a very humane and unflinching way. It follows the main character, a man caught in a dreadful situation, confined to a place of darkness, where shadows abound. The search for brightness, for the light, becomes a metaphor for his search for a better life, for his own place in a foreign country. A film which is also a document of life, because for me to make films is to expose life, however hard to watch it may be.

## Synopsis

---

Tino, immigrant illégal du Cap Vert, se rend au Portugal pour fuir la pauvreté dans son pays et aider sa famille restée sur place. Adriano, un entrepreneur intolérant, lui trouve du travail dans un chantier de construction avec plusieurs autres travailleurs clandestins. Le jour, le travail est dur et les heures longues. La nuit, ils sont obligés de partager une petite maison sans confort dans un bidonville à la périphérie de Lisbonne. Un jour, suite à un accident, l'un des travailleurs meurt sur le site. La construction doit s'arrêter et Adriano rejette la responsabilité sur Tino. Il l'oblige à gérer le site jusqu'à la levée de l'embargo. Complètement seul, Tino commence à vivre dans le bâtiment inachevé. Son existence est suspendue dans le temps et l'espace comme la construction du bâtiment.

## Note d'intention

---

Chaque année, des centaines de migrants meurent en essayant d'atteindre les côtes de l'Italie, de l'Espagne ou en traversant l'Eurotunnel de Calais pour la Grande-Bretagne. Bien que les images soient difficiles à regarder, on ignore parfois ce qui arrive ensuite à ceux qui parviennent à la frontière de nos pays. Les récits aujourd'hui de l'esclavage et des mauvais traitements des migrants sont très courants dans toute l'Europe, Portugal inclus. Fronteira raconte une de ces histoires, avec humanité et détermination. Il suit le personnage principal, un homme pris dans une situation terrible, confiné dans un lieu de ténèbres, où les ombres abondent. La recherche de la clarté, de la lumière, devient une métaphore de sa recherche pour une vie meilleure, pour sa propre place dans un pays étranger. Un film qui est aussi un document de la vie, parce que pour moi faire des films c'est exposer la vie, aussi difficile à regarder soit-elle.