

ABRA  
DIDO DE LA PAZ  
LOONIE

Official Website: <https://www.respetomovie.com/>  
Official Facebook: <https://facebook.com/respetomovie/>  
Official Hashtags: #RespetoMovie

Link to Official Trailer:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DOr0uU7mckA&t=6s>

# RESPETO

a film by ALBERTO MONTERAS II

DOGZILLA AND ARKEOFILMS WITH THE SUPPORT OF CINEMALAYA CMB FILM SERVICES AND THIS SIDE UP PRESENT AN ARKEOFILMS PRODUCTION "RESPETO"  
STARRING ABRA DIDO DE LA PAZ LOONIE KATE ALEJANDRINO CHAI FONACIER YBES BAGADIONG BRIAN ARDA THEA YRASTORZA  
NOR DOMINGO MUSIC BY JAY OLIVER DURIAS COSTUME DESIGNER CORINNE DE SAN JOSE EDITOR LAWRENCE S. ANG PRODUCTION DESIGNER POPO DIAZ DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY IKE AVELLANA  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TIMMY HARN PRODUCED BY KRISTINE KINTANA PRODUCED BY THENIELLE MONTERAS ALBERTO MONTERAS II JET & MAE CORNEJO WRITTEN BY NIJEL DE MESA  
ALBERTO MONTERAS II CONCEIVED BY ALBERTO MONTERAS II PRODUCED BY MONSTER JIMENEZ DIRECTED BY ALBERTO MONTERAS II



[www.respetomovie.com](http://www.respetomovie.com)



## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Respeto is a full-length feature film directed by Alberto Monteras II, written by Alberto Monteras II and Njel de Mesa and produced by Monster Jimenez.

Country of Production: Philippines

Production Company: Arkeofilms | Dogzilla | This Side Up

Rated R13, Estimated running time: 96 minutes

Genre: hip hop, drama

Shooting Format : 2K Pro-res, Alexa

Available Screening Format : DCP in 2K

Language: Tagalog

International Premiere : International Film Festival Rotterdam 2018

Produced with initial grants from DGPI Financing Forum prize and the Cinemalaya Film Festival.

## STORYLINE

Hendrix dreams of hip-hop greatness, but he's spiraling down a rabbit-hole of crime and poverty until he meets Doc, an old poet still haunted by his martial law past. Can they turn each other's lives around before they're swallowed by their circumstance?

The film celebrates the power of verses. This movie is charged with music, rap and poetry expressing the era of violence in the Philippines today.

## ABOUT THE FILM

RESPETO is going to bring two of the biggest rap stars in the hiphop community: Abra and Loonie. It also features hip hop's biggest MC battle rappers: Mike Kosa, Negatibo, MZhayt, Apekz, J-Skeelz and Abbadon.

There's a lot of excitement surrounding the film even before production, which even bagged the Best Pitch Prize in the 2016 Director's Guild Financing Forum.

This is also going to be the first film of veteran director Treb Monteras, who has directed hundreds of music videos for the biggest musicians in the country.

Respeto is a hip-hop movie that will be made by a hip-hop fan. And many of the rap and poetry that went into the film are original contributions by esteemed writers Bienvenido Lumbera, Virgilio Almario, Frank Rivera and rapper Negatibo.

The film swept 7 awards in the Cinemalaya Film Festival: Best Picture, NETPAC Prize, Best Editing, Best Cinematography, Best Sound Design, Best Supporting Actor and Audience Choice.

For the international premiere, it will compete at the International Film Festival Rotterdam in January 2018.

It is also considered by local critics as one of the best if not the best film to come out in 2017.

## CAST

Abra as Hendrix  
Dido de la Paz as Doc  
Loonie as Breezy G  
Chai Fonacier as Betchai  
Sylvester as Payaso  
Nor Domingo as Fuentes  
Kate Alejandrino as Candy  
Brian Arda as Mando  
Thea Ystaroza as Connie

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Directed by Alberto Monteras II  
Written by Njel de Mesa, Alberto Monteras II  
Produced by Monster Jimenez  
Line Producer Kints Kintana  
Cinematography Ike Avellana  
Editor Lawrence S. Ang  
Production Design Popo Diaz  
Sound Design Corinne De San Jose  
Music Jay Durias

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I've always wanted to make a film about the hiphop culture in the Philippines. That was the dream. When I started this project I thought I will be making a film about the lives of the underground battle rappers, their music, their struggles and how their lives are parallel to the lives of old poets during the Martial Law era - but it became more than that.

Last June 2016, our country elected a new leader, President Rodrigo Duterte. The moment he took office, he launched a war on drugs that has resulted in the extrajudicial deaths of thousands of alleged drug dealers and users across our country.

On the first day of our filming, real undercover police agents entered our set, and walked in front of our cameras. They were pursuing a suspected drug dealer and would have been gunned down had he not concealed himself behind an elderly woman. Community members told us that they are used to these kinds of situations and has become part of their daily lives. Everyday, people are being arrested or gunned down and left to die in the streets. We don't know what happened to the police's target afterwards.

In November, Duterte stunned the nation by allowing the body of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos to be buried in the National Heroes' Cemetery amid intense protests that his abuses and corruption exempted him from such an honor.

With these things that were happening in our country, I knew that this film cannot be just about the Philippine Hiphop Culture. We felt that we really needed to say something.

With the help of my team, we revised the structure, rewrote the script and redeveloped the characters. And *Respeto* became one the first films to truly tackle the Philippine's war on drugs and the endless cycle of violence in our communities.



# FILMMAKERS' PROFILES

Director and Co-Writer

## **TREB MONTERAS**

Since 2004, Treb has been directing top-rating TV shows, commercials, live concerts and over 300 music videos to his name. He has done album cover shoots for some of the country's best artists as well.

His award winning TV shows include Party Pilipinas, Myx Ambushed, Myx Live, Kusina Master and Sarap Diva.

Treb has been consistently recognized by various award-giving bodies for his work. In 2011, he won in Nokia Europe's N8 Producers International Film Competition. Not surprising for someone whose love for film and the arts was nurtured at home and in school at an early age. He was already doing animation at the tender age of 6, using coins and his father's video camera.

During his childhood, he attended summer courses on painting at the Metropolitan Museum. A consistent dean's lister, art director of the school publication, and student leader, this BFA-Advertising Arts Graduate from the UST College of FineArts and Design, is also a recipient of the Quezon Leadership Award. He continued to hone his skills at the Mowelfund Film Institute and the International Institute for Film and the Arts.

Recently, he attended the American Cinematographer's Masterclass in Los Angeles, California. Respeto is his first feature film.

Writer

## **NJEL DE MESA**

Critically acclaimed and awarded in the performing arts, Njel de Mesa is a professional theater performer and teacher, multi-Palanca award-winning writer, a published author, an award-winning songwriter, arranger, record producer and musician, a member of the NCCA Committee on Dramatic Arts, FILSCAP, Katha and the founder of Koiné Theater Foundation, a voice and speech coach, a professional graphic designer for Anvil and DLSU Press, a professional production designer for Trumpets and other theater companies, an acclaimed dance teacher of all techniques and choreographer trained by Swiss Chamber Ballet, Powerdance, PBT, DanceArts.

Producer

## **MONSTER JIMENEZ**

Monster Jimenez is an award-winning writer and filmmaker who has worked in newspapers, magazines, television and film. In 2003, she joined Arkeofilms; an independent film production company where she is the Managing Director.

Monster has been deeply involved in every major production of Arkeofilms. In 2005, she wrote and produced the full-length feature film "Big Time" which won awards at the 1st Cinemalaya Independent Film Festival. As director, she was supported by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, the Goteborg Film Fund of Sweden and the Asian Cinema Fund of the Pusan International Film Festival for her full-length documentary "Kano" which won for the First Appearance at the 2010 International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA). In 2011, she was part of IDFA's jury for First Appearance.

Her latest movie which she produced and co-written, "Apocalypse Child," has won three times for Best Picture in the QCinema International Film Festival, Five Flavours Film Festival and Toronto Reel Asian Film Festival.

Monster has been Mario's long-time collaborator, prompting several works under the "Mario & Monster Show." Most notable movies of which are "Apocalypse Child," "Big Time" and "Kano: An American and His Harem."

## COMPANY PROFILE

**Arkeofilms** pursues its work in feature films, the latest of which is *Respeto* (Alberto Monteras, 2017) which is slated for an international premiere in International Film Festival Rotterdam. *Respeto* premiered in the 2017 Cinemalaya Film Festival and swept 7 awards including Best Picture and NETPAC Prize.

Before that was *Apocalypse Child* (Mario Cornejo, 2015), considered one of the best local films in 2015. It ran away with major awards at the QCinema Film Festival including Best Picture and Best Director. It has won Best Picture both in Five Flavours Film Festival and Toronto Reel Asian Film Festival. Due to its critical success, the film was also released commercially in the Philippines in October 2016.

Their works have been screened in hundreds of film festivals and have won awards and recognition from the local industry, critics and the press. These films are now available in VOD and DVD in the Philippines. This includes *BIG TIME* directed by Mario Cornejo (2005), *THE MANSION* by Joel Ruiz (2005), *PUTOT* by Jeck Cogama (2007), *BABY ANGELO* by Joel Ruiz (2008) and *KANO: AN AMERICAN AND HIS HAREM* by Monster Jimenez (2010). Their projects in development have been funded by national agencies and selected for special programs abroad. Today, the company is pursuing international co-production for its upcoming full-length features and the development of original content for television and new media.

They are currently developing 3 new narrative feature films and one documentary feature:

- *RETURN OF THE OWL* directed by Martika Escobar, produced by Monster Jimenez is in development and currently looking for funding and co-production
- *SEEING* directed by Joel Ruiz and produced by Darlene Malimas is in development, set for production by 2018
- *ALABANG BOY* (documentary) directed by Monster Jimenez and produced by Mario Cornejo is in pre-production and is a recipient of the Bertha Fund from IDFA

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Media Write-ups / PR:

<https://news.abs-cbn.com/life/08/12/17/rebyu-respeto-para-sa-respeto>

<http://www.interaksyon.com/respeto-reaps-respect-at-cinemataya-awards-rites/>

<http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/showbiz/chikamminute/623919/cinemataya-best-film-winner-respeto-gets-nationwide-release/story/>

<http://www.philstar.com/entertainment/2017/08/15/1729133/respeto-wins-big-cinemataya-2017>

<http://www.pep.ph/guide/movies/26565/review-why-emrespetoem-deserves-best-film-award-in-cinemataya-2017>

<https://noink.abs-cbn.com/respeto-unexpectedly-hits-you-in-the-gut/>

BLOGGERS:

1. <http://geoffreview.com/movies/respeto-cinemataya-review>
2. [http://said-fred.blogspot.com/2017/08/cinemataya-2017-review-of-respeto\\_11.html](http://said-fred.blogspot.com/2017/08/cinemataya-2017-review-of-respeto_11.html)
3. <http://mymovieworld-coolman0304.blogspot.com/2017/08/movie-review-respeto.html>
4. <http://www.showbiz-portal.com/2017/08/respeto-movie-review-very-dark-story-of.html>
5. <http://swordshines10.blogspot.com/2017/07/impressions-on-movie-respeto-cinemataya.html>
6. <http://conceptnewscentral.com/index.php/2017/08/12/cinemataya-review-respeto-prose-pain/>
7. <http://moviesformillennials.blogspot.com/2017/08/cinemataya-13-respeto-2017-movie-review.html>
8. <https://www.msn.com/en-ph/entertainment/celebrity/abra%E2%80%99s-%E2%80%9Crespeto%E2%80%9D-gains-praises-from-cinemataya-audience/ar-AApIQVT?li=BBr8Mkn>

## Contact Details

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