

SOCRATES

FROM EXECUTIVE PRODUCER FERNANDO MEIRELLES

WINNER SOMEONE TO WATCH AWARD, DIRECTOR ALEXANDRE MORATTO

**FILM INDEPENDENT
SPIRIT AWARDS**

2 NOMINATIONS BEST MALE LEAD, CHRISTIAN MALHEIROS
JOHN CASSAVETES AWARD



WINNER SPECIAL JURY AWARD
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE



WINNER HONORABLE MENTION



WINNER HERALD AWARD
WINNER SPECIAL MENTION
INTERNATIONAL JURY



OFFICIAL SELECTION



WINNER HONORABLE MENTION
INTERNATIONAL JURY



OFFICIAL SELECTION



WINNER FÉLIX AWARD



OFFICIAL SELECTION



WINNER ULTRA INDE AWARD



OFFICIAL SELECTION



WINNER BEST FILM
WINNER BEST DIRECTOR
WINNER BEST ACTOR



OFFICIAL SELECTION

SOCRATES

SYNOPSIS

After his mother's sudden death, Socrates, a 15-year-old living on the margins of São Paulo's coast, must survive on his own. As he faces isolation because of his sexuality, his search for a decent, worthy life reaches a breaking point. Produced by Ramin Bahrani (99 HOMES), SOCRATES is the debut feature film from 29-year-old Brazilian-American filmmaker Alexandre Moratto. It is the first feature produced by the Querô Institute in Brazil where it was co-written, produced, and acted by at-risk teenagers from local low-income communities, with the support of UNICEF.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

In 2009, I volunteered at the Querô Institute in Brazil – a UNICEF-supported non-profit that provides social inclusion to teenagers from low-income communities through the transformative power of filmmaking. The dedication of these young people to make a better life for themselves despite their unequal social status astounded me and inspired me to make films about people from underrepresented cultures and communities. SOCRATES is a film that revisits the people and places that helped shape me into the filmmaker I am today. The film is also very personal in its depiction of the death of Socrates's mother, his struggle with grief, and his efforts to find acceptance as a gay teenager. The result is a film that is embedded in a unique time and place in Brazil but that also tells a universal story about the strength to live despite insurmountable hardship.

DIRECTOR, CO-WRITER, PRODUCER, & EDITOR BIO

Alexandre Moratto is a Brazilian-American filmmaker. His award-winning short films “Nowhere to be Found,” “The Parting,” and “The Other Side” have screened at international film festivals. He was a Film Independent Directing Lab Fellow and an NC Arts Council Artist Fellow and had a project in the Sundance Creative Producing Labs. He received his BFA from the UNC School of the Arts where he was a Kenan Excellence full scholarship recipient and winner of the DGA Student Film Jury Award for his thesis. He resides in California and São Paulo.

PRODUCERS' BIOS

Ramin Bahrani is an Iranian-American writer, director and producer whose films have premiered at the Venice, Cannes, Sundance, Telluride and Toronto Film Festivals. In 2010, legendary film critic Roger Ebert proclaimed Bahrani as “the director of the decade.” Bahrani has won numerous awards, including a Guggenheim Fellowship and a “Someone to Watch” Independent Spirit Award. He has been the subject of retrospectives in venues such as the Museum of Modern Art (the permanent home of all his work), Harvard University and the Thessaloniki Film Festival.

Tammy Weiss founded the Instituto Querô in partnership with Gullane Filmes and UNICEF — a non-profit organization focussed on training young people for cinema in Santos, São Paulo, which she has managed since its founding. In 2007, she started the Santos Film Commission, where she worked in the development of public policies to support the production of over 40 feature films per year, making Santos one of the leading cinematographic cities in Brazil, resulting in the city being named a UNESCO Creative City. Most recently she was the head of the São Paulo Film Commission for two years.

Bios Continued
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PRODUCERS' BIOS CONTINUED

Jefferson Paulino is a founder and a partner of the social impact production company Querô Filmes, the production arm of the Querô Institute. He has produced diverse audiovisual content shown in Brazil's top TV networks including Canal Futura, TV Cultura, and Cine Brasil TV. His work has won over 18 awards in film festivals with projects related to themes of Human Rights, such as the series CATAVENTO, which exposes the issue of child labor in Brazil, and the series DIZ AÍ which exposes the genocide of young black lives in low-income communities across Brazil.

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

João Gabriel de Queiroz is a Brazilian director of photography. His first feature "Beira-Mar" premiered at the 2015 Berlinale Forum and was nominated for Best Feature Film at the Guadalajara International Film Festival. It won the Best Jury Prize and Best Film (New Trends) at Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival. His second feature "Socrates" premiered in the World Fiction Competition of the 2018 LA Film Festival. His first TV series, "Culturando" premiered in 2018 on TV Brasil. He lives in São Paulo.

CO-WRITER'S BIO

Thayná Mantesso is a 20-year-old Brazilian screenwriter and a graduate of the Querô Institute. In 2016, her writing caught the attention of director Alexandre Moratto, who invited her to co-write SOCRATES. In addition to her work as a screenwriter, Mantesso works as a sound technician and script supervisor.

LEAD CAST BIOS

Christian Malheiros is a Brazilian actor. He is a graduate of the EAC, Escola de Artes Cênicas, in Santos, São Paulo, where he studied theater acting. While a student, he was chosen out of hundreds of candidates to play the lead role in Socrates, his feature film debut. In 2018, Malheiros had his theater debut in São Paulo in Jean Racine's FEDRA, directed by Roberto Alvim, where he was praised for his performance by top critics, including Dirceu Alves Jr. from Veja São Paulo who called his performance "a revelation."

Tales Ordakji is a Brazilian actor. He is a theater graduate of the SENAC Santos and EAC, Escola de Artes Cênicas. He is a member of TEP, the oldest theater group in Santos, São Paulo, which focusses on experimental theater. His theater performances have been selected to compete at numerous Brazilian festivals, garnering multiple awards and nominations. SOCRATES is his debut feature film.

Crew
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KEY CREDITS

Production Company	Instituto Querô Querô Filmes
Director	Alexandre Moratto (as "Alex Moratto")
Writers	Thayná Mantesso Alexandre Moratto (as "Alex Moratto")
Producers	Tammy Weiss Ramin Bahrani Alexandre Moratto (as "Alex Moratto") Jefferson Paulino
Executive Producers	Thais Badim Marques Priscilla Santana
Line Producers	Thalita Afonso Sampaio Ana Cláudia Rodrigues
Casting	Mayara Batista
Cast	Christian Malheiros Tales Ordakji Rosane Paulo Caio Martinez Pacheco Jayme Rodrigues
Director of Photography	João Gabriel de Queiroz
Art Directors	Thaianne Spinassi Juh Guedes
Wardrobe	Juh Guedes
Original Score	Felipe Puperi & Tiago Abrahão
DI & Laboratory	O2 Pós
Sound Design & Mix	Effects Filmes
Running Time	71 Minutes

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Format	DCP
Image	2K
Sound	5.1
Country of Production	Brazil

Contacts
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CONTACT

QUERÔ FILMES

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SOCRATES