

JOÃO MOREIRA SALLES

CV

Brazilian documentary filmmaker João Moreira Salles began his career in 1985 writing the screenplay and text for the series of five 5 programs "**Japan, a Journey in Time**". The series was broadcast by the Manchete Network.

That same year Salles founded the VideoFilmes video and documentary production company, which went on to make Central Station (1998), News from a Personal War (1999), Behind the Sun (2002), City of God (2002), Madam Sata (2002), and Nelson Freire (2003).

In 1987 he directed "**China, the Empire of the Center**", winner of the Special Prize from the São Paulo Art Critics Association and Best Television News Story from the Brazilian Association of Literary Critics. The program was broadcast by the Manchete Network.

In 1987 he also wrote the screenplay and text for "**Krajcberg, Poet of Remains**", which brought him the awards for Best Research Documentary at the Festival dei Popoli (Florença, Italy), Best Documentary at the International Festival of New Latin American Cinema (Havana, Cuba), and the Golden Toucan for Best TV Program in Rio de Janeiro at the 5th Fest-Rio (Brazil).

In 1989 he directed the documentary "**America**", a series of five programs on American culture filmed in the United States and broadcast on the Manchete TV Network in Brazil. The series got the awards for Best Journalistic Program of the Year from APCA - the São Paulo Art Critics Association. Considered by critics as one of the best Brazilian television productions of all time. Co-produced with Manchete Network.

In 1989 Salles also directed the documentary "**Poetry is just one or two lines and behind it a huge landscape**" (**Poesia é uma ou duas linhas e por trás uma imensa paisagem**), on poet Ana Cristina César, Grand Prize at the Fotóptica International Festival.

In 1990 Salles directed a TV documentary on Black American music, "**Blues**", winner of the Special Jury Prize at the Festival International du Film D'Art - Georges Pompidou Center (Beaubourg), Paris, France. Co-produced and broadcast by the Manchete Network.

In 1991, he taught Documentary Filmmaking at the All African Conference of Churches, AACC, in Nairobi, Kenya.

In 1995 he directed "**Jorge Amado**", a one-hour documentary on race issues in Brazil, based on the work of writer Jorge Amado. Co-produced with Cameras Continentales (France) and shown on the "France 3" channel and GNT (Globosat/Brazil).

In 1998 he released the documentary series "**Football (Futebol)**", co-directed with Arthur Fontes. This project was filmed over the course of two years, all across Brazil. The series provides a portrait of Brazilian soccer, telling the life stories of athletes at different stages in their careers: from unknown rookies to stardom to the anonymity of retired players. "Football" was shown on the Globosat GNT channel in May 1998. The series of three programs was nominated as finalist for the Emmy Awards in 1998 in the international documentary category, in addition to having been selected for the short list of the IDFA, the International Documentary Festival of Amsterdam. "Football" also participated in the New York Film Festival, where it was one of the finalists for Latin America.

In 1999, João Salles and Kátia Lund co-directed **News from a Personal War (Notícias de uma guerra particular)**, a documentary on the state of urban violence in Brazil. The scene is Rio de Janeiro and the characters are the police, drug traffickers, and slum-dwellers enmeshed in a war that no one ever wins. The film won the award for Best Documentary at the "It's All True" Festival in 2000 in São Paulo, and in 1999 it was a finalist at both the Emmy Awards and the New York Film Festival.

In 2000 Videofilmes launched the documentary series “**Six Brazilian Stories**”, broadcast in August 2000 by the GNT channel. João Moreira Salles and Marcos Sá Corrêa co-directed the episodes “**The Valley**” (on the devastation of the Atlantic Rainforest in the Paraíba River Valley) and “**Santa Cruz: the Holy Cross**” (on the birth of an Evangelical church in a destitute neighborhood of Rio de Janeiro).

In 2003, João Salles launched the feature-length documentary “**Nelson Freire**”, on the career of this internationally acclaimed Brazilian pianist. Winner of Best Film Documentary of the year – APCA (the São Paulo Art Critics Association).

In 2004, Salles launched the feature-length documentary “**Intermissions**”, a behind-the-scenes look at the election of Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, Brazilian President. In never-before-seen footage, this documentary reveals Lula’s private life in the brink of a historic moment in Brazilian politics.

In 2007, Salles releases **SANTIAGO**, a documentary about a former butler of his family. The film won the award for Best Documentary at the Festival Du Réel in Paris and also at the Alba Film Festival in Italy.

João Moreira Salles graduated in Economics from the Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-RJ).