



# the CERA PROJECT

Join us for an evening  
of Filipa César's film works

## PERFORMING GUINEA-BISSAU'S CINEMA ARCHIVE

12 MAY 2016  
8:00 PM

A free screening



Filipa César: The Embassy, 2011. Image courtesy of the artist.

### Film Program

*Transmission from the Liberated Zones* / 2015 / 30'

*Mined Soil* / 2012-2014 / 32'

*Conakry* / 2013 / 10'

*Cuba* / 2012 / 10'

*The Embassy* / 2011 / 27'

The Cera Project's Performance Program is developed in  
collaboration with the curator Frances Zuma Cooper.

RSVP until 11th of May  
theceraproject@gmail.com

### EVENT INFO

12 MAY | 8pm

RSVP Until 11 MAY

theceraproject@gmail.com

### PRESS

The press kit and high res images are available upon request (English) Please contact: press.tcp@gmail.com

### INTERVIEWS

Appointments to be made via  
press.tcp@gmail.com

**THE CERA PROJECT** is an itinerant and independent art platform, that departs from the premise that 'if the world is flat, as the prophets of globalization proclaim, then what happens on the underside?', and is envisaged as an itinerant platform for the promotion and exhibition of arts on an international level, that aims to focused on and about Global South's narratives.

### LOCATION (UK)

Hanbury Street, East London

www.ceraproject.com

T: +447 587028845

Opening Times: by appointment only

### CLOSEST STATIONS

Shoreditch high St,

Liverpool St.

Whitechapel

www.ceraproject.com  
London, United Kingdom

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

### TRANSMISSION FROM THE LIBERATED ZONES / 2015

HD, colour, sound, 30'

Fugitive and presenter: Gi Dias; Swedish protagonists: Lennart Malmer, Birgitta Dahl, Ingela Romare, Folke Löfgren; Smuggler and director: Filipa César; Written by Filipa César and Gi Dias; Cinematography: Matthias Biber, Filipa César and Dídio Pestana; Sound and music: Dídio Pestana; Research and production: Emily Fahlén; Assistant director and set photography: Barbara Marcel; Script advisers: Diana McCarty and Mark Waschke; Portuguese or black devil: Rosa Waschke; Location: low fidelity feedback channel, Potsdamer Str. Berlin; Material sources: Nordic African Institute, Uppsala; photographs by Knut Andreasson (1970); private archives Folke Löfgren and Birgitta Dahl; film Poetry of Anger (1978) by Lennart Malmer; footage by Sana na N'Hada (1973-1976); Arsenal - Institute for Film and Video Art, Berlin; Commissioned by Tensta konsthall as part of The Eros Effect: Art, Solidarity Movements and the Struggle for Social Justice; Thanks to Ulrika Flink, Cristina Guerra Contemporary Art, Asrin Haidari, Louis Henderson, Maria Lind, Olivier Marboeuf and Erik Spiekermann. Support: Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon; a Spectre Productions

Transmission from the Liberated Zones is an experiment which brings together Swedish statements and documents accessed and presented by a boy through a low-fidelity feedback channel – an optical dimension created to move through time and between tepid and tropic encounters. This laboratory departs from the concept of “Liberated Zones”, a designation used to describe areas freed from colonial domination, organized and managed by the guerrilla militants of the PAIGC in Guinea during the 11-year liberation war between 1963-74. The Swedish protagonists are the diplomat Folke Löfgren, filmmaker Lennart Malmer, filmmaker and psychologist Ingela Romare and politician Birgitta Dahl, all of whom shared experiences in the Liberated Zones that they visited in the early 1970s. The boy states that recalling instances of liberation prepares the ground for further recurrences.

### MINED SOIL / 2012-2014

16 mm film transferred to HD, colour, sound, 32 min and installation

Written and directed by Filipa César; Script consultants: Mónica Lima, Olivier Marboeuf, Anna Canby Monk, Diana McCarty; Research and development: Filipa César; Natxo Checa; Photography Matthias Biber and Jenny Lou Ziegel; Sound: Nuno da Luz and Ricardo Ganhão; Soil casting: Bruno Cidra; Director's assistant: Marta Leite; Assistant of photography: Samuel Tavares Production and coordination: Joana Botelho, Pedro Rogado; Produced by Galeria Zé dos Bois, Lisbon and Kihasma, Paris; Support: Hordaland Art Center, Bergen, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Cristina Guerra Contemporary Art, Lisbon, Hordaland Art Center, Bergen

The film-essay mined soil revisits the work of the Guinean agronomist Amílcar Cabral, studying in the 50's the erosion of soil in the Portuguese Alentejo region through to his engagement as one of the leaders of the African Liberation Movement. This line of thoughts intertwines a documentation on an experimental gold mining site, operated today by a Canadian company and located in the same Portuguese area once studied by Cabral. The voice over explores the space, surfaces and textures of the images, proposing past and present definitions of soil as a repository of memory, trace, exploitation, crisis, arsenal, treasure and palimpsest.

### CONAKRY / 2013

16 mm film transferred to HD, colour, sound, 10' 26"

Directed by Filipa César; texts and performance by Grada Kilomba and Diana MacCarty; photography by Matthias Biber; sound by Dídio Pestana and Nuno da Luz; produced by Johanna Höhemann and Marta Leite; Assistant Director: Marta Leite; Gaffer: Norio Takasugi; set photography by Diana Artus

Staged at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, *Conakry* (2012) is a sequence shot on 16 mm film that travels through time, space and media to revisit one film reel from the Guinean archive. This particular reel documents an exhibition curated by Amílcar Cabral at the “Palais du Peuple” in 1972 in Conakry, reporting on the state of the war against Portuguese rule. César invited the Portuguese writer Grada Kilomba and the American radio activist Diana McCarty to reflect on these images and their history.

## **CUBA / 2012**

16 mm film transferred to HD, colour, sound, 10' 24”

Directed by Filipa César; written by Suleimane Biai and Filipa César; performed by Joana Barrios, Suleimane Biai and Carlos Vaz; photography by Tobias von dem Borne; sound by Didio Pestana and Nuno da Luz; produced by Marta Leite and Johanna Höhmann; Assistant Director: Marta Leite; Set: Norio Takasugi; script proofreading by Anna Canby Monk; set photography by Diana Artus

In *Cuba* (2012) a sole tracking shot unfolds during an approximately 10 minutes lecture presented by the Guinean filmmaker and régulo, Suleimane Biai, the Portuguese-Spanish performer Joana Barrios and the Guinean actor and director of Bissau’s Film Institute (INCA), Carlos Vaz. The film proposes a path from Amílcar Cabral’s experience as an agronomist researching the soil around the Portuguese village, Cuba, through his engagement as the leader of the Guinean liberation movement and encourager of the birth of Guinean militant filmmaking, influenced and supported by the Cuban Revolution.

## **THE EMBASSY / 2011**

HD, colour, sound, 27'

Directed, produced, photography and editing by Filipa César; written by Armando Lona and Filipa César; performed and narrated by Armando Lona; sound by Nuno da Luz; Director’s Assistants: Jorge Biague and Philip Metz; supported by Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon and Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin

*The Embassy* deals with the codes of representation used by the former Portuguese colonial power over the West African country Guinea-Bissau and with modes of memory production. It shows a photo album depicting the perspective of the Portuguese colonist, who photographed with documentary diligence landscapes, people, architecture and monuments in Guinea-Bissau in the 1940s and 1950s. At the same time, this photo display – grabbed, flipped through and re-framed by the hands of the Guinean archivist Armando Lona – is the departure point for a multi-layered narration on the history of these two countries.

## **ABOUT THE ARTIST**

Filipa César is an artist and filmmaker interested in the porous boundaries between the moving image and its reception, the fictional dimensions of the documentary and the economies, politics and poetics inherent to cinema praxis. Great part of César’s experimental films have been focussed on the spectres of resistance in Portugal’s geo-political past, questioning mechanisms of history production and proposing spaces for performing subjective knowledge. Since 2011, César has been researching the origins of cinema in Guinea-Bissau, its imaginaries and potencies, developing that research into the collective project *Luta ca caba inda* (the struggle is not over yet). She was a participant of the research projects *Living Archive* (2011-13) and *Visionary Archive* (2013-15) both organised by the Arsenal - Institute for Film and Video Art, Berlin. Selected Film Festivals include *Kurzfilmtage Oberhausen*, 2013; *Curtas Vila do Conde*, 2012-2015; *Forum Expanded - Berlinale*, 2013 and 2016; *IFFR*, Rotterdam, 2010, 2013 and 2015; *Indie Lisboa*, 2010; *DocLisboa*, 2011. Selected exhibitions and screenings include: *8th Istanbul Biennial*, 2003; *Serralves Museum*, Porto, 2005; *Tate Modern*, London, 2007; *SFMOMA*, 2009; *29th São Paulo Biennial*, 2010; *Manifesta 8*, Cartagena, 2010, *Haus der Kulturen der Welt*, Berlin, 2011-2015; *Jeu de Paume*, Paris, 2012; *Kunstwerke*, Berlin, 2013; *Festival Meeting Points 7*, 2013-14; *NBK*, Berlin, 2014; *Hordaland 2014-15*, Futura, Prague 2015; *Khiasma*, Paris 2011, 2013 and 2015; *Tensta konsthall*, 2015.

## PRESS IMAGES



Filipa César, Transmission from the liberated zones, 2015. Image courtesy of the artist

Filipa César  
Transmission from the Liberated Zones  
HD, colour, sound, 2015  
30'



Filipa César, Mined Soil, 2012-2014. Image courtesy of the artist

Filipa César  
Mined Soil  
16 mm film transferred to HD, colour, sound and installation,  
2012-2014  
32'



Filipa César, CONAKRY, 2013. Image courtesy of the artist

Filipa César  
Conakry  
16 mm film transferred to HD, colour, sound, 2013  
10' 26''



Filipa César, The Embassy, 2011. Image courtesy of the artist

Filipa César  
The Embassy  
HD, colour, sound, 2011  
27'

**PERFORMANCE FACTS**  
**THE CERA PROJECT**

Title: Performing Guinea- Bissau's Cinema Archive / An evening of Filipa César's film works

Artist: Filipa César

Collaboration with the curator: Frances Zuma Cooper

Date: 12 May 2016

Free screening

Location: Hanbury Street, East London

T: +447 587028845

RSVP | by May 11th | Email: [theceraproject@gmail.com](mailto:theceraproject@gmail.com)

PRESS | Email: [press.tcp@gmail.com](mailto:press.tcp@gmail.com)

Film program

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View Press Kit for hires artwork images and press releases in English. For more information please contact [press.tcp@gmail.com](mailto:press.tcp@gmail.com)  
or +447 5870 28845