DIGITAL PRODUCTION CHALLENGE II

Lisbon, 30 November – 3 December 2016



CARTAS DA GUERRA

Workflow, cinematography, color grading and photos

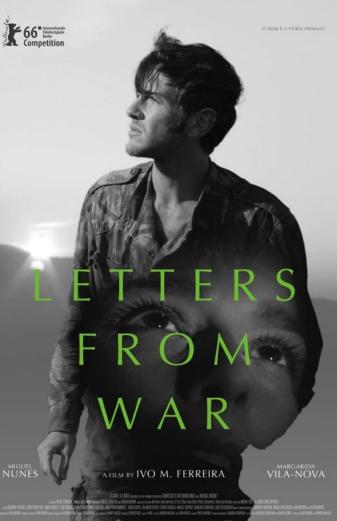






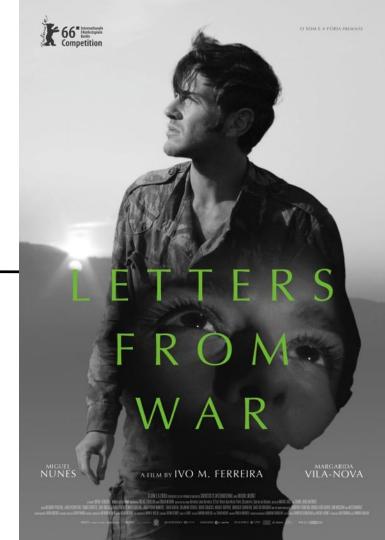
FOCAL resource

- Production: O Som e a Fúria
- Main Producer(s): Luis Urbano Sandro Aguilar
- Co-producers: Michel Merkt Georges Schoucair
- Director: Ivo M. Ferreira
- Production manager: Joaquim Carvalho



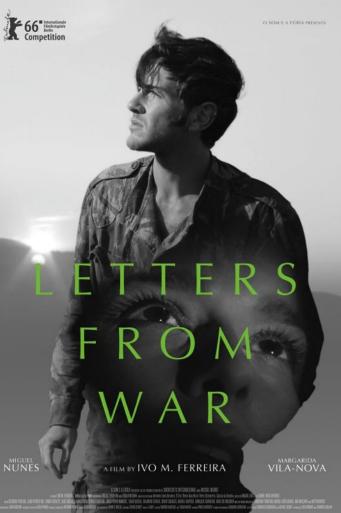
FOCAL resource

- Cinematographer: João Ribeiro (AIP)
- First AC: Ricardo Simões
- Editor: Sandro Aguilar
- Set Designer: Nuno Mello
- Colorist: Paulo Americo da Silva
- VFX Supervisor: Eugenio Marques
- Post-production adviser: Paulo Americo da Silva



FOCAL resource

- Shooting locations/countries: Angola Portugal
- Estimated length of the film/run time: 105 mn
- Country of origin: Portugal



Presentation by

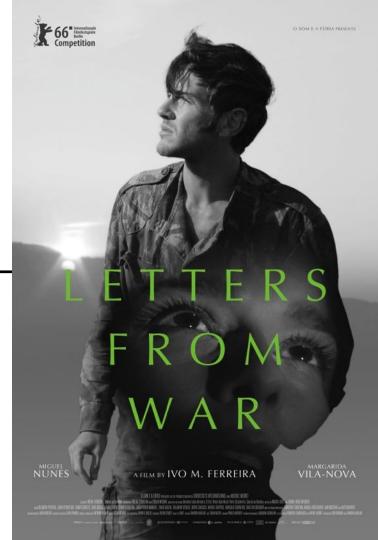
Joaquim Carvalho - Production manager:

Paulo Americo da Silva - Colorist/Post-production adviser

With the help of:

João Ribeiro - Cinematographer

Ricardo Simões - First AC



3 Parts

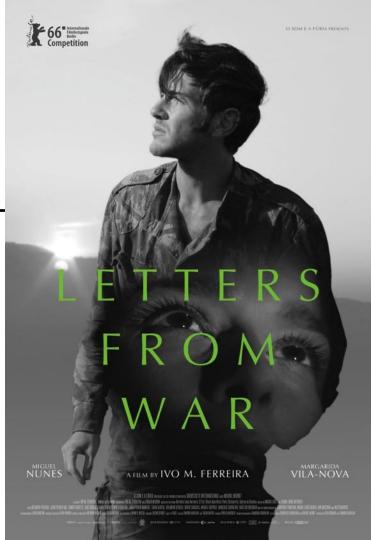
Part 1: Sandro Aguilar A pre-conceived workflow

Part 2: João Ribeiro

The cinematography of Cartas da Guerra

Part 3: Paulo Americo - Exract from his presentation The point of view & tricks of a colorist

Part 4: Joaquim Carvalho presentation Photos from the shooting



Part 1: Sandro Aguilar A pre-conceived workflow



Cost effective workflow tested on short films before using it on Cartas da Guerra.

Intensive use all the specificities of the DSLR camera and of the choice to turn to B & W.



POST-PRODUCTION		
CHEMICAL		
DIGITAL		
	SD Standard Definition	
Telecine		
	HD High Definition	
2K Scan	2K DI	
4K Scan		
	4K DI	
6K Scan		

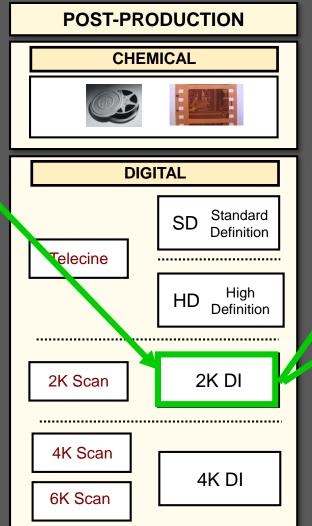
SCREENING		
35 mm - 70 mm		
Film Projection		
SD - HD - 2K - 4K		
Digital Projection		
SD - HD - UHD - 8K		
Broadcast TV DVD - Blu-Ray		
INTERNET PROTOCOL		
Internet - VOD Mobile		
OTHER SCREENINGS		
360° - Hologram 3D - AR/VR (Virtual Reality)		

Workflow: Cartas da Guerra

What is the final destination





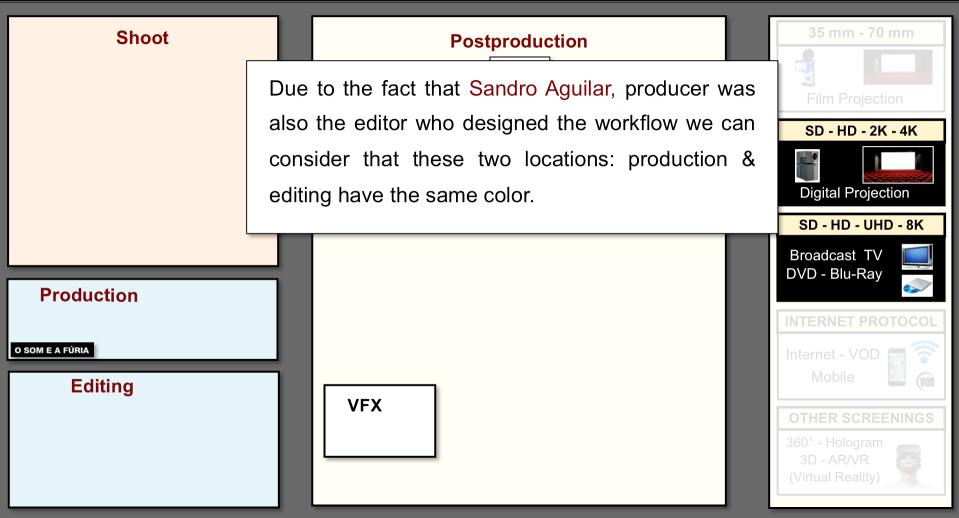




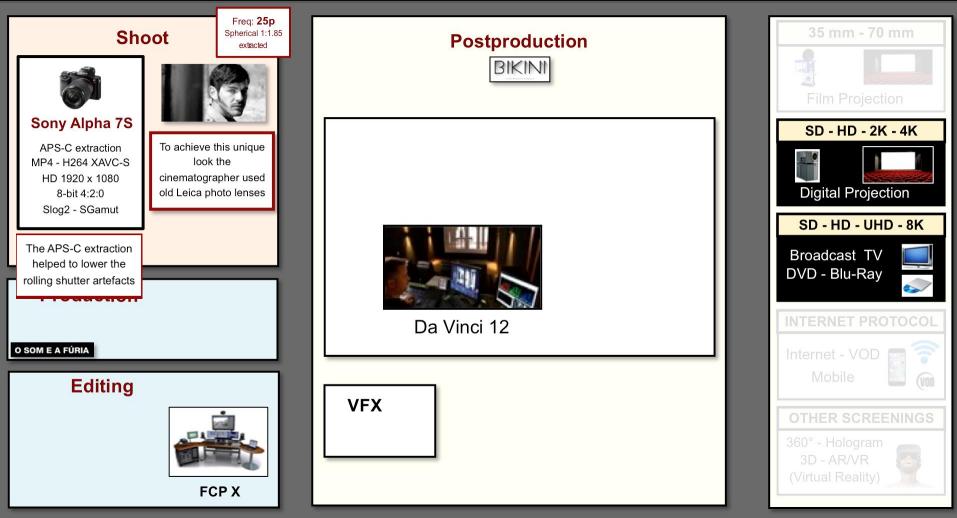
Workflow: Cartas da Guerra

Shoot	Postproduction	35 mm - 70 mm Film Projection
AngolaPortugal4 weeks4 weeks	Portugal 7 weeks	SD - HD - 2K - 4K
Production Image: Construction Image: Construction	When the head of department are occupying different locations (some on-set, some off-set - in several countries at the same time, shown in the presentation by different colors) it lead to different strategies of workflows	SD - HD - UHD - 8K Broadcast TV DVD - Blu-Ray
Editing	VFX Distances between shooting lo Portugal Distances between shooting lo and editing room are changing design a workflow	S

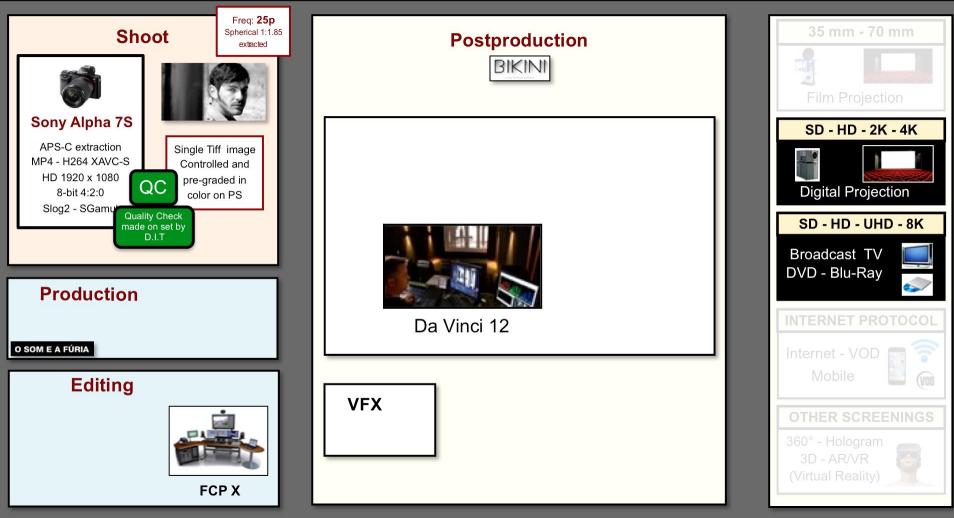
Workflow: Cartas da Guerra



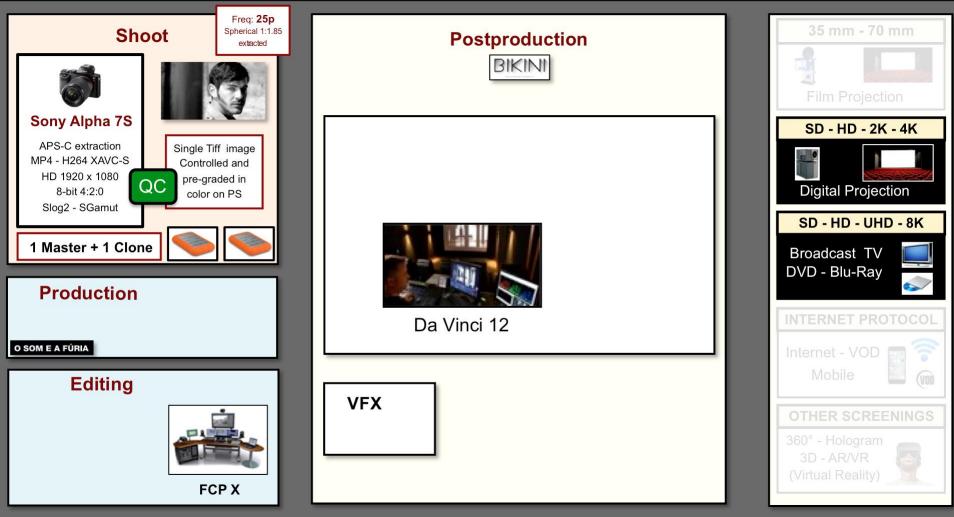
Workflow: Cartas da Guerra



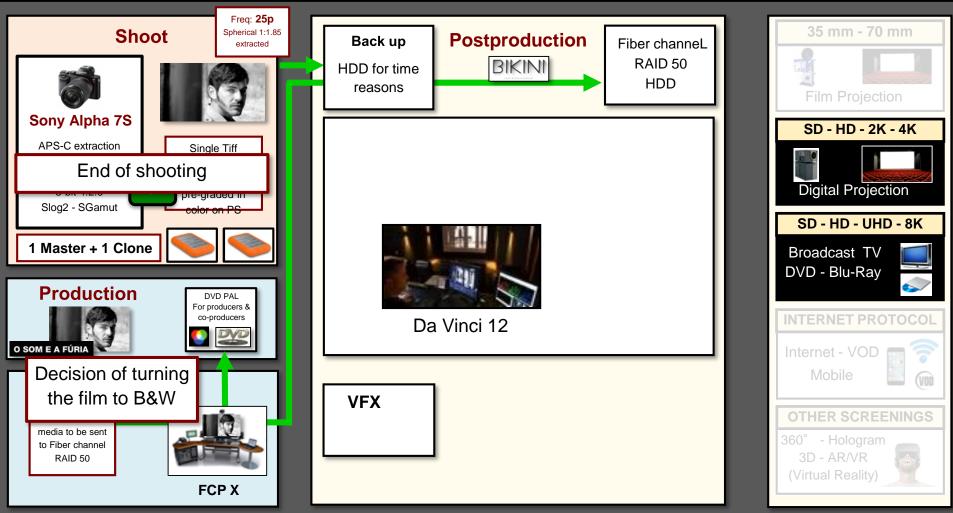
Workflow: Cartas da Guerra



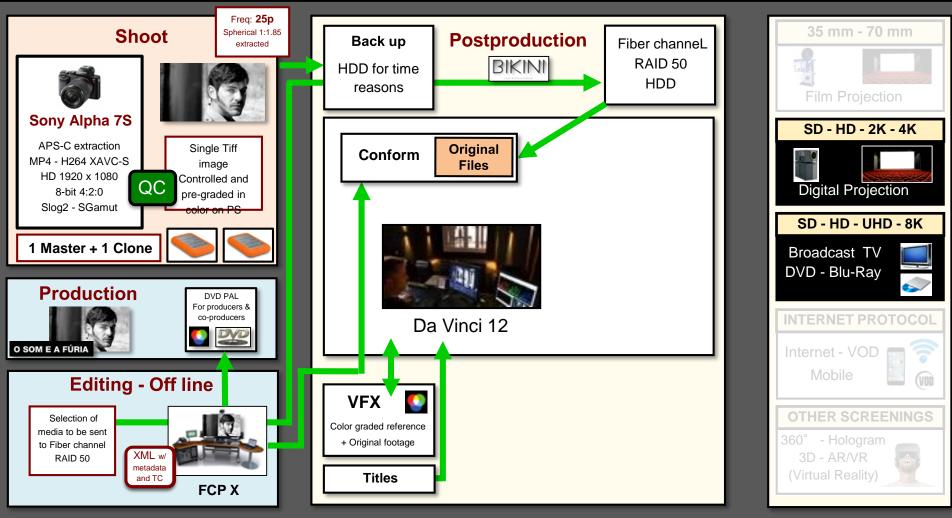
Workflow: Cartas da Guerra



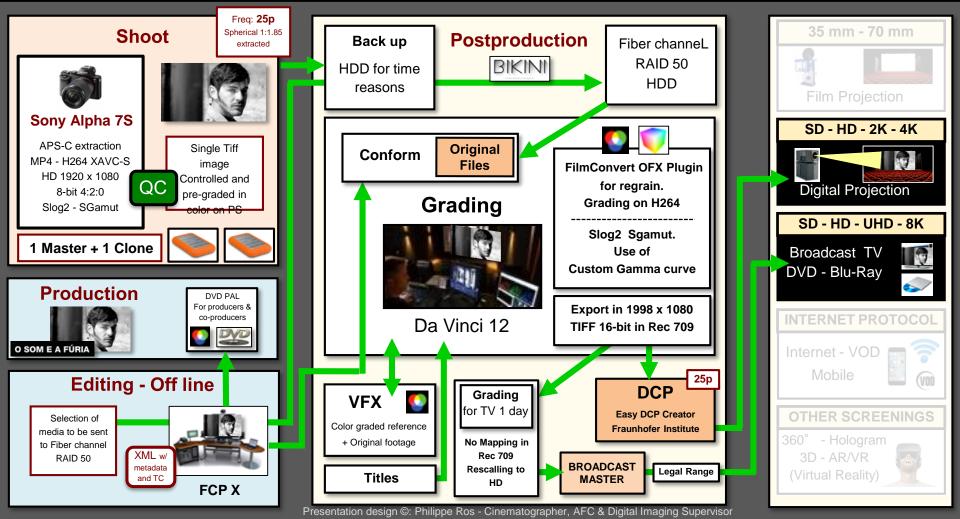
Workflow: Cartas da Guerra



Workflow: Cartas da Guerra



Workflow: Cartas da Guerra



Part 2: João Ribeiro (AIP)

The cinematography of Cartas da Guerra





"This painting is really important When I film in Africa I like to see sea paintings.

How the space is represented is quitesimilarforIn this one we have a b&w sky, and acoloursea.

It s a little bit "the process of our film"....fade colours to b&w..."



"After reading the script, and after a first approach to the director head, I build an album of visual influences (paintings, photographs, film stills). In Cartas da Guerra the album had:

PAINTINGS:

Romantic painting from the IXX, Francis Bacon, Goya, Constable..."





"PHOTOGRAPHS:

Lorca Di Corcia, Gregory Crewdson, Edward Steichen (world war II photos), etc etc.. " "FILM STILLS from:

Metropolis (Fritz Lang), Letter never send (Kalatozov), The cranes are flying (Kalatozov) Spiritual voices: (Sokurov), Bigger than life: (Nicholas Ray) Black narcisus (**Jack Cardiff**) The night of the hunter (**Stanley Cortez**)

Ivan's childhood (Tarkovsky) Lord of the flies (Peter Brook) How green was my valley (John Ford) Bully (Larry Clarck)"



"And: Murnau, Strohein, Griffith, Jean Epstein, Bresson (they are my influence).....

And:

Russell Metty in Douglas Sirk films, and

Timo Salminen in Kaurismaki films (this dop's in **bold** are in a way my heroes),

Also

Henri Alekan, specially on La belle et la bête"





"I always imagine that this film could be understood with your eyes close, just listening to the sound, or with your ears close, just looking at the image



Miguel Nunes - Main actor

















"The concept for my crew was:

I never say: let's make a shot

I always say: let's create a shot"

Cartas da Guerra

Notes from João Ribeiro, Cinematographer - Nov 14, 2016:

...AND THE BLACK & WHITE

When we did the tiffs everyday we were colour correcting to monochromatic tones, sometimes we did black & white too, but it was not a shooting decision.

Also with the Sony you can t do black and white in the camera.

In the editing they try with all the material and it worked perfect. If I would do something different if I knew it would be like that at the end? My answer is no, I would do exactly the same light and framing. I always "see in black and white", even the view finder is always set like that. The reason is I do light with contrast, so it was not a problem.

Here the black & white helps to take away some African clichés like warm light, green, etc... etc..., obvious if you do colour in Africa you do not need always to do warm light, but filming Africa in colours you are always doing something that goes with the imaginary of the audience, how they imagine Africa...it s a continent full of clichés in peoples minds, so if you get away from that clichés you would feel to much aesthetic , maybe with no reason at all....maybe just to do different from other films, and that is a very stupid and irresponsible decision

The black & white gives you a distance, you are again in the field of representation and not filming "reality" it self, it brings some poetry to the images and a certain nostalgic thing, it works better with voice over too.

If we experience to put a good photograph colour film, and see it in black and white it s still good cinematography, it s obvious that colour must be worked in a dramatic way, but in black & white you are more depurated and you achieve what you want quicker....it s always how much black and white you want. In a pure black or in a pure white we are blind, you have to decide where you want to start to make people to see...in the blacks and in the whites...

Most of the films I see today, I notice that dop's light the space and put the actors inside, they have all freedom of movements. As I told before I think in a reverse way, first actors, then the space, maybe that's why people like the image of Cartas da Guerra, some say it looks like a classic, some say they are able to see colours, but for me the more important is that people feel the emotion and get touched by the film, the film it self, all the film, and not just the cinematography of it.

Notes from João Ribeiro, Cinematographer - Nov 14, 2016:

"The strong spirit from "Cartas da Guerra" filmt is a spirit that is "kind of lost" and I try always to recover when I work in featuresrespect for cinema and for each member of the crew

But in this case it was really specially!"

SONY ALPHA 7S customized by João Ribeiro - Cinematographer & Ricardo Simões - First AC







João Ribeiro:

"Camera: Sony A7s, (imposed by the production) it was the first time I film with a "photo camera".

I was really scare, so what I pass to my crew was:

"we have to do a film where nobody can say we use this type camera"

"The fact that is not heavy, you have to be very educated with that, and tend not to put it everywhere, but just in the correct place for each shot"

WHAT WAS GOOD

- The latitude
- The sensibility (3200 iso)



WHAT WAS BAD

- Ergonomics
- We took 2 weeks and a half to build the correct model to use... it's like a technical lego
- The fact that its not heavy, you have to be very educated with that, and try not to put it everywhere, but just in the correct place for each shot



POST-PRODUCTION

"To post-production I share the references with Paulo Americo, (the colorist) what I see in the shooting with my crew, he will see in the post, he's part of the crew also.

We share the references to have a starting point, then it's his moment, he understand the texture we're after, and propose, in an artistic way, because I'm not very technical guy....so references help me to communicate with him.



We work together before several times, he knows my mind and style very well, his work is not only to improve the image but also to propose things, if they work in a dramatic way concerning the film we r doing, he has 100% freedom to do it

"The Chinese say that painting draws on three things: the eye, the heart, and the hand" David Hokney in True to Life p 190

That's what filmmaking is for me after all...."

João Ribeiro (AIP) nov 14th, 2016

Part 3: Extract of Paulo Americo presentation The point of view & art of a colorist

- S-Log2: Gamma curve for [S-Log2]. This setting is based on the assumption that the picture will be processed after shooting.
- S-Gamut: Setting based on the assumption that the pictures will be processed after shooting. Used when [Gamma] is set to [S-Log2].
- When using S-Log2 gamma, the noise becomes more noticeable compared to when using other gammas. If the noise still is significant even after processing pictures, it may be improved by shooting with a brighter setting. However, the dynamic range becomes narrower accordingly when you shoot with a brighter setting. We recommend checking the picture in advance by test shooting when using S-log2.
- S-Gamut is a color space unique to Sony that provides a wide color space equivalent to film cameras. However, S-Gamut setting of this camera does not support the whole color space of S-Gamut; it is a setting to realize a color reproduction equivalent to S-Gamut.

DI ON DA VINCI RESOLVE 12

- 105 minutes film`
- Conform from Final Cut X generated XML
- 641 clips
- 400 GB of original camera media (1920x1080 H264 mov files)
- 28 VFX clips as DPX image sequences
- Mastering to image sequence TIFF 16 bits 1998x1080 (1.85:1)

DI ON DA VINCI RESOLVE 12

- The work spanned 7 weeks
- 18 working days
- 98 hours of work
- 6h conform
- 72h colour grading
- 15h mastering
- 5h QC

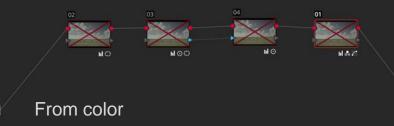


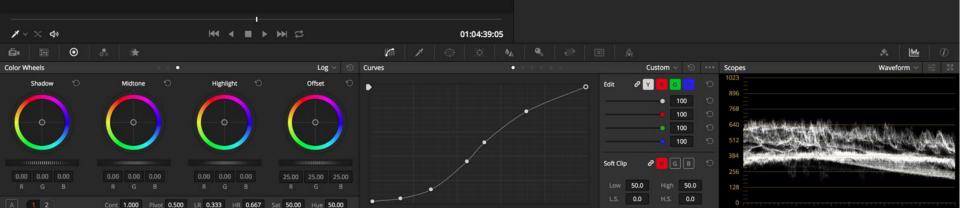
Methodology

From color to black & white

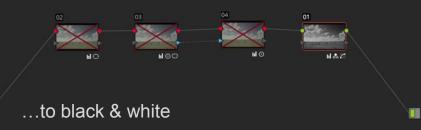




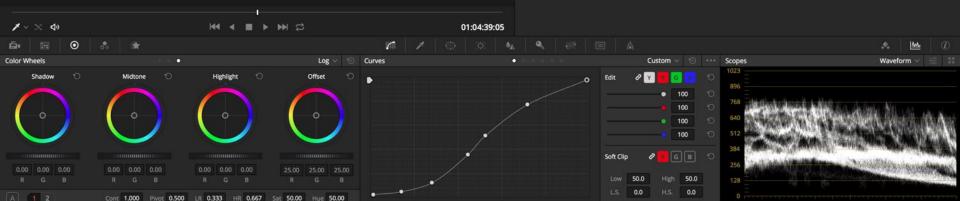




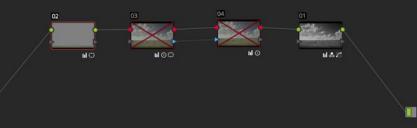




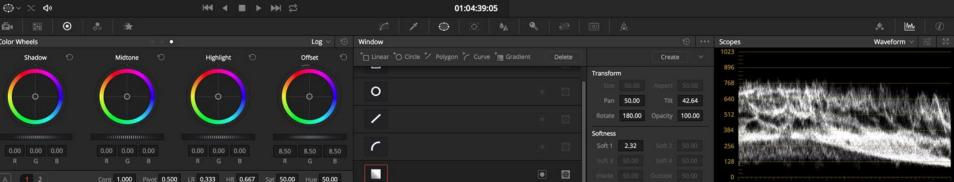
João, the cinematographer, used diagonally a neutral filter on the top right side of the image. Paulo, the colorist, enhanced the effect







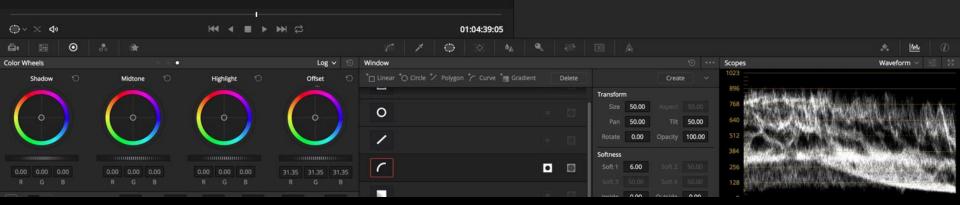
Paulo used "power windows" to help the audience to focus on the convoy







The driving force of the convoy was selected







And this part of the image was brightened

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Methodology

How to deal with a low cost recording format

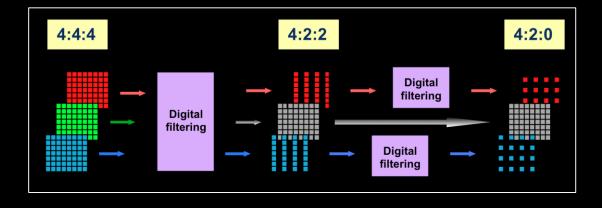


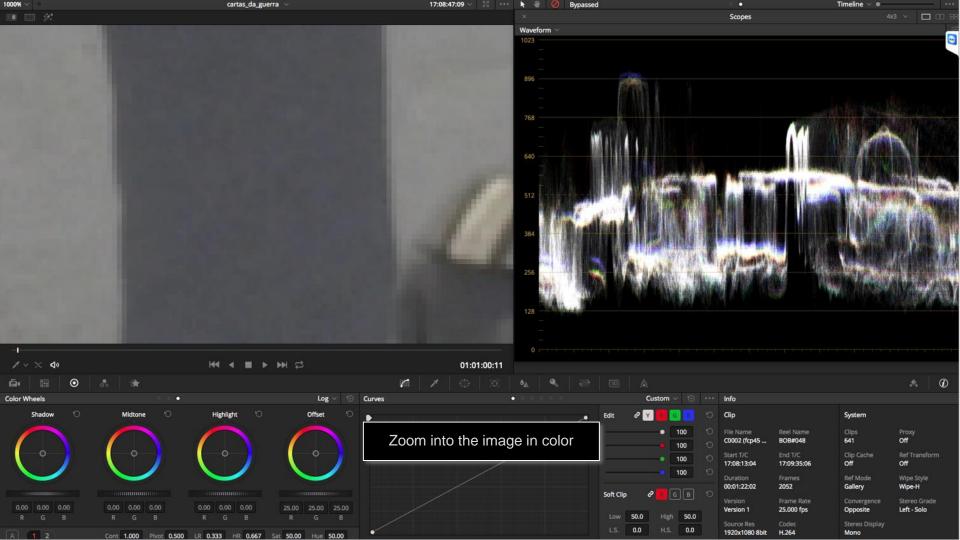




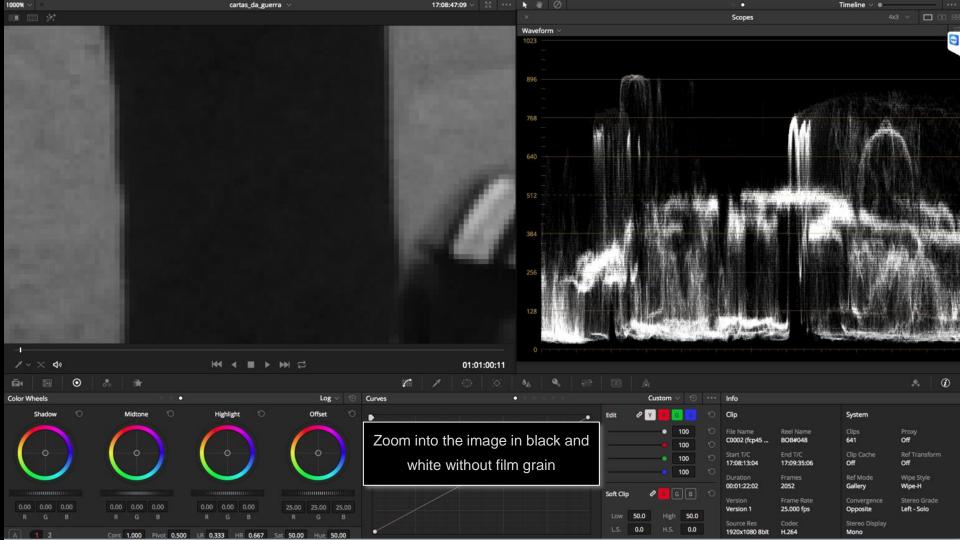
The 8-bit 4:2:0 h264 recording format is certainly not the best format to deal with the highest aesthetic demands

However Paulo Americo used the lack of color information as an asset for this black and white film.

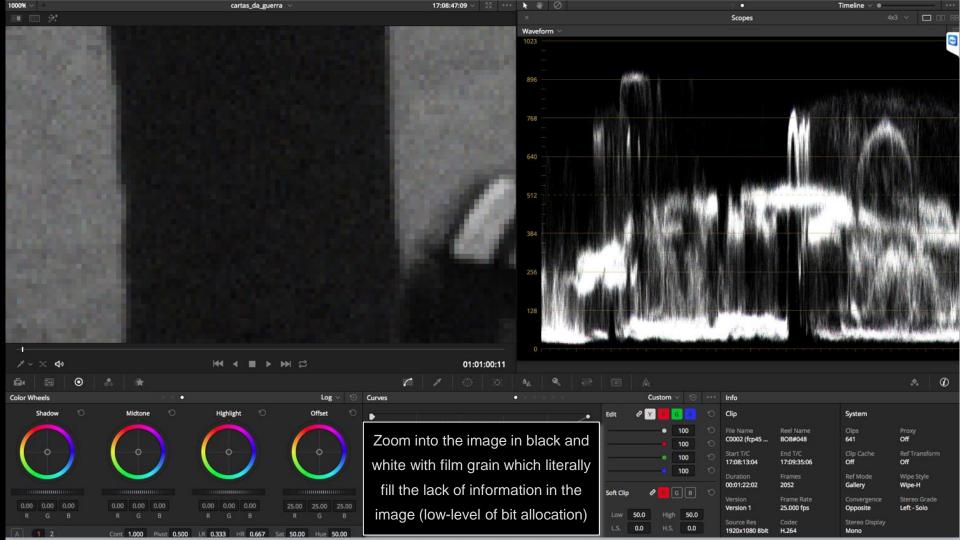










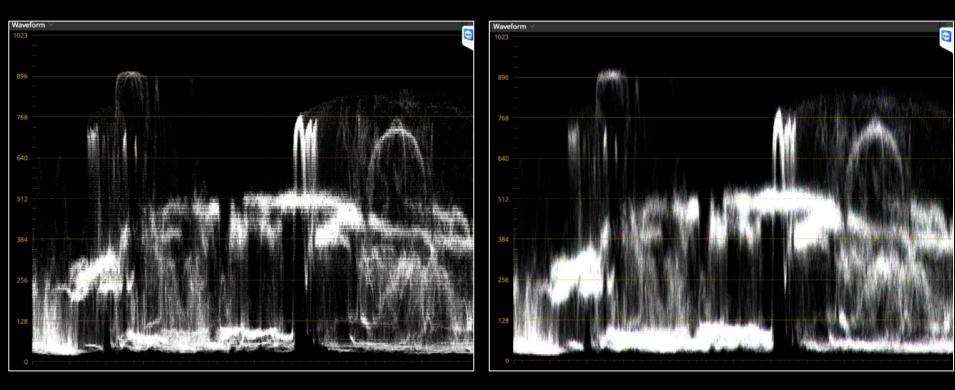












Without film grain

With film grain

Notes:

Production:



http://osomeafuria.com/

Post production:



http://www.bikini.co.pt/

Film grain emulation achieved with:

FilmConvert OFX Plugin

Fraunhofer Institute

Easy DCP

http://filmconvert.com/plugin/ofx

https://www.fraunhofer.de/en.html

https://www.easydcp.com/

Part 4: Joaquim Carvalho presentation Photos from the shooting

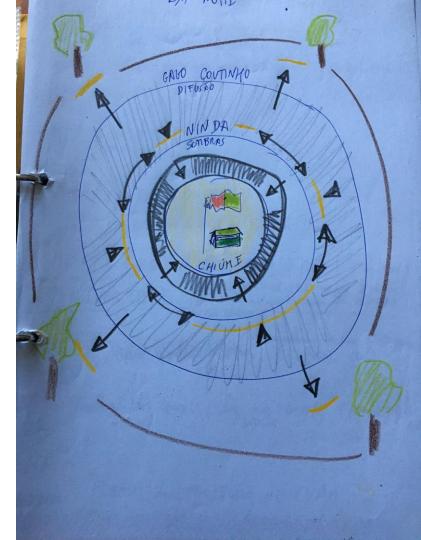
The novel from:

António Lobo Antunes

The military camp in Angola

The military camp in Angola was shot in fact in Angola and in Portugal

João's drawing





Ivo M Ferreira, the director in front of the future village location



The road to the village



Building the military camp



Building the military camp

The family





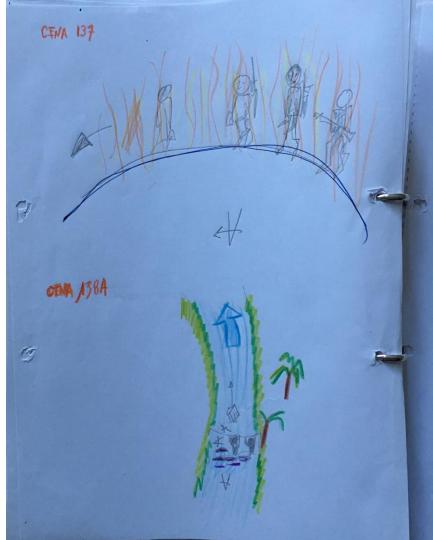




The Family & Joaquim Carvalho Production manager

The bridge

The bridge was destroyed during the civil war. The production decided to rebuild for the script allowing the village to renew the link with the country.





















Shooting







