BRAZIL INITIATIVE
2020 NEWSLETTER
In six years, the Brazil Initiative at Brown has accomplished a great deal. Five of those years coincided with the administration of the Secretariat of the Brazilian Studies Association, also at Brown University. BRASA’s Secretariat will now move to Tulane University. The amount of Brazil-related activities at the Initiative, the diversity of speakers and guests, the variety of films at CineBrasil each fall and for the film series each spring have been formidable. In these uncertain times of a global pandemic, both the United States and Brazil are at tremendous risk. We need conversations about politics, race, and Brazilian culture now more than ever in solidarity with the difficult times Brazil is facing with COVID-19.

I want to thank our Administrative Manager, Ramon Stern, who is leaving the Brazil Initiative this summer for his steadfast, unwavering commitment to making the Brazil Initiative at Brown exceptional. His vision in achieving our programming has aligned well with mine and we made a great team for six years of many successes and accolades. Above all, I feel we have fostered a broad Brazil-oriented community at Brown that builds on what already exists in departments such as Portuguese and Brazilian Studies and Africana Studies, complementing their work in a spirit of collegial collaboration. He also faithfully executed the administrative duties of the Brazilian Studies Association in its five years at Brown. Without his hard work, none of this would have been possible.

We again focused heavily on Black Brazil and social justice this academic year with a series of speakers on Blackness in Brazil and a film series dedicated to films about Afro-descendants, many of them by Black directors. The academic year 2020-2021, with this new context of a pandemic, will unfold with a number of adaptations and adjustments no doubt. Yet we are committed to continue to advance our mission to make Brown a standout university as concerns education and community around Brazil’s culture, politics and race relations. As always, I am extremely grateful for those who attend our events; we try every academic year to devise new ways to challenge discussions surrounding Brazil and take them to the next level. On a last note, I have the pleasure of welcoming Professor Jeremy Lehnen as Interim Director of the Brazil Initiative for 2020-2021 while I am on sabbatical. I am certain that he will carry on the reputation of the Brazil Initiative with a fresh vision and creative ideas. We are very happy to be able to have his leadership at the Initiative.

Um abraço,

JAMES N. GREEN
Director, Brown University

Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, Professor of Latin American History
MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

In 2019-2020, the Brazil Initiative continued to highlight Brazil’s Black majority with talks by scholars such as Kia Caldwell, Erica Williams, Raquel Luciana de Souza, Jaime Amparo Alves and Tanya Saunders. The Spring Film Series also was centered on Black Brazil and was co-curated by Renato Amado Barreto, Karyn Mota and film scholar and screenwriter Viviane Pistache. Scholars such as Estevão Fernandes, Charles Bicalho, William Fisher and indigenous activist leader Sônia Guajajara centered indigenous issues as well.

Thank you to the students who worked hard to make the Brazil Initiative and BRASA tick: Oriana van Praag, Zina Dolan, Bianca Schwam Auriemo, Marina Fernando Vitule Figueiredo and our poster designer Laura Jaramillo. Thank you also to Renato Amado Barreto, Karyn Mota and Viviane Pistache for curating the film festival and spring film series and all of those who participate in the activities of the Brazil Initiative!

Though I will not be returning to either the Brazil Initiative or BRASA as of June 2020, I am extremely grateful for the experience of learning constantly about Brazil, meeting and welcoming interesting guests, and interacting with students and visiting scholars over these six years. I thank all of the Brazil Initiative’s supporters, faculty, students and staff I have collaborated with over the years who are too many to count. Finally, I must deeply and emotionally thank both of my supervisors: Ann Noyes, Director of Operations at the Watson Institute, and especially James N. Green, the Director of Brown’s Brazil Initiative, a mentor I have learned from and who I respect for his tireless work on behalf of Brazil. A warm welcome to Professor Jeremy Lehnen, Interim Director of the Brazil Initiative for 2020-2021. We are delighted to have you at the Initiative.

Sincerely,

RAMON STERN
Administrative Manager, Brazil Initiative and Brazilian Studies Association
Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, Brown University
CURATORS RENATO BARRETO AMADO AND KARYN MOTA

chose a stellar list of films in the fall for CineBrasil 2019; we have both Renato and Viviane Pistache to thank for the spring film series of 2020 that focused on Black Brazil and Black film directors. The tradition of thoughtful discussions with participation both by scholars and the audience followed each film.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24 THROUGH SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2019,
MARTINOS AUDITORIUM, GRANOFF CENTER

Thursday, October 24, Opening Night, Martinos Auditorium, Granoff Center
6:00pm: Deslembro (Unremember, 2018), dir. Flávia Castro, 96 mins.
9:00-10:00pm, Opening Reception

Friday, October 25, Second Night, Martinos Auditorium, Granoff Center
5:00pm: Correndo Atrás (Running After, 2018), dir. Jeferson De, 90 mins.
8:00pm: Benzinho (Loveling, 2018), dir. Gustavo Pizzi, 95 mins.

Saturday, October 26, Closing Night, Martinos Auditorium, Granoff Center
12:00pm: Torre das Donzelas (The Maidens’ Tower, 2018), dir. Susanna Lira, 97 mins.
3:00pm: Rasga Coração (Rend Your Heart, 2018), dir. Jorge Furtado, 105 mins.
CINEBRASIL 2019

GRANOFF CENTER, MARTINOS AUDITORIUM, 154 ANGELL STREET
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW THURSDAY’S FEATURE 8:30-10PM

THURSDAY OCTOBER 24

6 PM | Martinsos Auditorium, Granoff Center
DESLEMBRO (UNREMEMBER)
2018 dir. Flávia Castro

8:30-10:00pm
OPENING RECEPTION

FRIDAY OCTOBER 25

5 PM | Martinsos Auditorium, Granoff Center
CORRENDO ATRÁS (RUNNING AFTER)
2018, dir. Jeferson De

8 PM | Martinsos Auditorium, Granoff Center
BENZINHO (LOVELING)
2018, dir. Gustavo Pizzi

SATURDAY OCTOBER 26

12 PM | Martinsos Auditorium, Granoff Center
TORRE DAS DONZELAS (THE MAIDENS’ TOWER)
2018, dir. Susanna Lira

3 PM | Martinsos Auditorium, Granoff Center
RASGA CORAÇÃO (REND YOUR HEART)
2018, dir. Jorge Furtado

BRAZIL INITIATIVE

Co-sponsored by Portuguese and Brazilian Studies
ESTEVÃO FERNANDES
"THE ‘CHAINSAW CAPTAIN’ AND THE BRAZILIAN AMAZON: WHY OUR RAINFOREST IS BURNING,"
Teach-In Friday, September 13, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

ESTEVÃO FERNANDES
"QUEER INDÍGENA E ANTIAUTORITARISMO: O CASO BRASILEIRO (QUEER, INDIGENOUS AND ANTI-AUTHORITARIAN: THE CASE OF BRAZIL),"
Anthropology, Federal University of Rondônia, Visiting Professor, Brown University
Tuesday, September 17, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

FERNANDA SPOSITO
"THE ROLE OF INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF AMERICAN COLONIZATION BETWEEN THE 16TH AND 17TH CENTURIES,"
History, Federal University of São Paulo, Visiting Fellow, John Carter Brown Library
Wednesday, September 25, 2019, 12:00pm Joukowsky Forum

MARLISE MATOS
"VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN POLITICS (VAWIP): THE CASE OF DILMA ROUSSEFF,"
Political Science, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Visiting Professor, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Wednesday, October 2, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

LUIS INÁCIO ADAMS
"CHALLENGES TO THE BRAZILIAN CONSTITUTION: IS OUR DEMOCRACY IN JEOPARDY?,"
Private Attorney in Brazil
Wednesday, October 9, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

SEM DESCANSO (RESTLESS, 2018).
WITH BERNARD ATTAL AND GEL SANTANA.
Screening, Thursday, October 10, 2019, 7:00pm, Joukowsky Forum
KIA CALDWELL
“#MARIELLEPRESENTE: REFLECTIONS ON BLACK FEMINISM, POLITICAL POWER, AND VIOLENCE IN BRAZIL,”
*African, African American, and Diaspora Studies*, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Wednesday, October 16, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

JEAN WYLLES
“FAKE NEWS AND THE VIOLATION OF RIGHTS IN BOLSONARO’S BRAZIL,”
*Visiting Scholar*, Afro-Latin American Research Institute, Hutchins Center, Harvard University
Thursday, October 17, 2019, 12:00pm, George Monteiro Conference Room, 159 George Street.

ERICA WILLIAMS
“ANCESTRALIDADE E AQUILOMBAMENTO: BLACK FEMINIST ACTIVISTS OCCUPYING SPACES OF POWER IN BAHIA,”
*Sociology and Anthropology*, Spelman College
Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

WILLIAM FISHER
*Anthropology*, College of William and Mary
Wednesday, October 30, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

CHARLES BICALHO
“THE SUNG CINEMA OF THE MAXAKALI PEOPLE”
*State University of Minas Gerais and Pajé Filmes*, Brazil
Thursday, October 31, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

FERNANDA MARTINELLI
“TERRITORIES OF FLAVOR: PRODUCTION OF FOOD AND AFFECTION IN THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF BRAZILIAN TERROIR,”
*Communication*, University of Brasilia
Wednesday, November 6, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum
VIVIANE PISTACHE
“BLACKNESS ON SCREEN: BETWEEN ARCHETYPES, STEREOTYPES AND NEW IMAGINARIES OF RACE AND GENDER,”
Psychology and Cinema, University of São Paulo and Screenwriting and Directing, International Academy of Cinema, São Paulo
Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

ENTRE OS HOMENS DE BEM (AMONG RIGHTEOUS MEN, 2016)
102 MINS. WITH JEAN WYLLYS.
Screening, Thursday, November 14, 2019, 7:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

FELICIANO DE SÁ GUIMARÃES
“FAR-RIGHT POPULISM AND FOREIGN POLICY IDENTITY: EVIDENCE FROM BOLSONARO’S ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE FOREIGN POLICY IN BRAZIL,”
International Relations, University of São Paulo, Visiting Fellow, Political Science, Yale University
Wednesday, November 20, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

DANIEL MCDONALD
History, Brown University
Monday, December 9, 2019, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum
Spring Film Series 2020:
Black Brazilian Cinema,

THURSDAYS AT 7:00PM, JOUKOWSKY FORUM

BANDO, UM FILME DE.
February 20, 2020,
115 min.

PATTAKI,
MÃE NÃO CHORA,
NADA,
SEM ASAS, KBELA
February 27, 2020,
Shorts: 111 min.

DEMOCRACIA EM VERTIGEM
March 3, 2020,
(Tuesday at 7pm in True North Classroom, Stephen Robert '62 Hall)

NEGRUM3 (SHORT) + MENINO 23 (FEATURE)
April 9, 2020,
99 min

A FELICIDADE DELAS (SHORT) + MEU AMIGO FELA (FEATURE)
April 16, 2020,
108 min
RAQUEL LUCIANA DE SOUZA
“RACIAL DEMOCRACY AND BLACK DISPOSABILITY IN THE CITY OF SALVADOR, BAHIA,”
Africana Studies, Williams College
Wednesday, February 5, 2020, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

JAIME AMPARO ALVES
“WHITOPIA: BIOPOLITICS OF LETHAL DEMOCRACY IN THE MULTIRACIAL BRAZILIAN POLITY,”
Black Studies, University of California Santa Barbara
Wednesday, February 12, 2020, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

SONIA GUAJAJARA
“INDIGENOUS WOMEN ON THE FRONTLINES OF CLIMATE ACTIVISM: THE BATTLE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN THE AMAZON,”
Environmentalist and Political Activist
Thursday, February 13, 2020, 5:00pm, Smith College, Conference Center, Paradise Room

BERNARDO LEWGOY
“DE CHICO XAVIER À DIVALDO FRANCO: ESPIRITISMO E SOCIEDADE NO BRASIL,”
Anthropology, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul
Wednesday, February 19, 2020, 12pm, George Monteiro Conference Room, 159 George Street

IVO HERZOG
“THREATS TO BRAZILIAN DEMOCRACY AND THE AUTHORITARIAN AND VIOLENT LEGACY OF THE DICTATORSHIP”,
Vladimir Herzog Institute
Wednesday, February 26, 2020, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

SCREENING OF “DEMOCRACIA EM VERTIGEM” (THE EDGE OF DEMOCRACY, 2019)
Tuesday, March 3, 2020, 7:00pm, True North Classroom, Stephen Robert ‘62 Hall
TANYA SAUNDERS,
“THE ARTIVIST WORLD MAKINGS OF BRAZILIAN BLACK ARTIVISM: OR SEVERAL MUSINGS ON DECOLONIZATION, RACE, AFFECT AND BLACK AESTHETICS,”
Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida
Wednesday, March 4, 2020, 12:00pm, Joukowsky Forum

PETRA COSTA,
“A CONVERSATION WITH PETRA COSTA,”
Moderated by James N. Green
Tuesday, March 10, 2020, 12:00pm, Leung Conference Room, 110, Stephen Robert ’62 Hall

“DEMOCRACY IN PERIL: THE INAUGURAL JOHN F. KENNEDY JR. FILM FORUM”
Tuesday, March 10, 2020, Martinos Auditorium, Granoff Center for the Creative Arts
Brazil is going through turbulent times. There’s never been a more important moment to understand Brazil’s politics, society, and culture. To go beyond the headlines, and to ask questions that aren’t easy to answer. ‘Brazil Unfiltered,’ a continuing podcast from Brown University and the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, does just that. This bi-weekly podcast is hosted by James Green, Professor of Brazilian History and Culture at Brown University and the Director of Brown’s Brazil Initiative. Each episode he’ll have on a new guest for a clear, clean, straightforward conversation about contemporary Brazil.

LOSS, LEGACY, AND DEMOCRACY IN BRAZIL (PART TWO WITH IVO HERZOG)
https://soundcloud.com/brazilunfiltered/loss-legacy-and-democracy-in-brazil

FIGHTING FOR DEMOCRACY AND MAKING MEANING FROM TRAGEDY (PART ONE WITH IVO HERZOG)
https://soundcloud.com/brazilunfiltered/fighting-for-democracy-and-making-meaning-from-tragedy

RETHINKING HOW WE STUDY BRAZIL
https://soundcloud.com/brazilunfiltered/rethinking-how-we-study-brazil

HOW BLACK FEMINISTS ACTIVISTS ARE RESISTING BRAZIL’S CONSERVATIVE TURN
https://soundcloud.com/brazilunfiltered/how-black-feminist-activists-are-resisting-brazils-conservative-turn

HOW TO JOIN THE FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY IN BRAZIL
https://soundcloud.com/brazilunfiltered/how-to-join-the-fight-for-democracy-in-brazil

IS BRAZIL’S DEMOCRACY IN JEOPARDY?
https://soundcloud.com/brazilunfiltered/is-brazils-democracy-in-jeopardy

LITERATURE, POLITICS, AND CITIZENSHIP IN BRAZIL
https://soundcloud.com/brazilunfiltered/literature-politics-and-citizenship-in-brazil

TRAUMA AND HEALING, ON A NATIONAL SCALE
https://soundcloud.com/brazilunfiltered/trauma-and-healing-on-a-national-scale
In 2019-20, Brown students completed the seventh year of the Opening the Archives Project, an international collaboration with the generous support from Bem-ti-Vi Diversidade of São Paulo Brazil. The project has digitized, indexed, and made available on Brown Digital Repository tens of thousands of U.S. government documents on Brazil from the 1960s, 70s, and 80s that are held at the National Archive II in College Park, Maryland, as well as in presidential libraries throughout the country. Over the years, more than a hundred Brown students have worked on the project as summer interns in Washington, D.C. or during the academic year on campus. Given the current restrictions on archival work in the nation’s capital due to Covid 19, this summer a team of ten students will index documents from the archive remotely. Especially valued by Brazilian researchers, the Opening the Archives project offers scholars worldwide easy access to important documents about Brazil’s recent complex history with the United States. To view the website, go to: https://library.brown.edu/create/openingthearchives/en/
Over five years, the profile of BRASA was enhanced and its reputation further bolstered in the field not only through the conferences, but also by its support of Brazilian academics through difficult times. As of July 2020, the Secretariat will move to Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. Brown University, and James N. Green and Ramon Stern, thank BRASA’s Executive Committee, the universities with which we have worked and all of those who made the five-year term of BRASA at Brown a great success.