

# É Tudo Verdade It's All True

FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE DOCUMENTÁRIOS  
INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL



cinemateca brasileira



sociedade amigos da cinemateca  
organização social

## The 30th It's All True Festival and Cinemateca Brasileira present the 22nd International Documentary Conference

Marking the 30th edition of It's All True, the 22nd International Documentary Conference will take place on April 8-9 at the Cinemateca Brasileira. The program will examine documentary cinema's evolution over the past three decades, assess the festival's own cultural impact, and—as always—explore nonfiction film history.

A co-production of It's All True – International Documentary Festival and Cinemateca Brasileira/Sociedade Amigos da Cinemateca, the Conference offers free admission with accessible programming including Brazilian Sign Language (Libras) interpretation. Tickets are distributed one hour prior to events, and attendees must participate in at least 75% of activities to receive a certificate.

For its 2025 edition, the Conference is honored to welcome back Professor **Bill Nichols**—a global authority on documentary theory—for the opening panel. His keynote lecture, *Documentary as the Eye/I of Truth*, will explore new directions for documentary cinema in the age of AI, addressing subjectivity, ethics, and social impact.

Joining remotely via the Internet, American scholar **Catherine L. Benamou** returns to the event for the Brazilian launch of her now-classic study “It's All True: Orson Welles's Pan-American Odyssey” (Editora Unesp). The discussion about Welles' unfinished film—primarily shot in Brazil in 1942—will be led by writer, professor, and filmmaker **Carlos Augusto Calil**.

Honored in this year's Brazilian retrospective, the work of **Vladimir Carvalho** (1935-2024) will be examined in a panel featuring academic researchers **Aline Carrijo** and **André Manfrim**.

The Conference will conclude with a discussion about the festival's own history, led by researchers **Juliana Muylaert Mager** and **Kamyla Faria Maia** – authors of groundbreaking studies on It's All True.

### Program:

#### April 8 - Tuesday

É Tudo Verdade - Festival Internacional de Documentários  
Rua General Jardim, 770 - Cj 8 A CEP 01223-011 São Paulo-SP  
[www.etudoverdade.com.br](http://www.etudoverdade.com.br)

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## **10am – Documentary as the Eye/I of Truth with Bill Nichols**

How do documentaries begin? What common tactics do they use, and what do these reveal? Where a documentary goes after its start mirrors the broader question: where is documentary cinema headed? What new directions are emerging? How do they connect to AI, narrative, subjectivity, knowledge, indexicality, verifiability, distortion, social impact, ethics, and wisdom, among other issues? Bill Nichols will examine some of these concepts to explore how contemporary documentary cinema moves forward with bold vision and a vital mission in a world where values and beliefs constantly collide.

Bill Nichols is an expert in documentary theory. He taught at the University of San Francisco, where he directed the graduate Film Studies program, and served as a visiting professor at several institutions. As a consultant and juror, he has contributed to major international festivals.

## **2:30pm – It's All True: A Classic Study Carlos Augusto Machado Calil and Catherine L. Benamou**

A reflection on the legacy of Orson Welles' unfinished film "It's All True" (1942), featuring an online discussion between Catherine L. Benamou—the world's leading authority on Welles' film and current director of its digital preservation efforts—and Carlos Augusto Calil—President of the Sociedade Amigos da Cinemateca and former director of the institution.

The session will conclude with a screening of the documentary "It's All True: Based on an Unfinished Film by Orson Welles" (1993, dir. Bill Krohn, Myron Meisel & Richard Wilson). Catherine L. Benamou's book will be available for purchase.

Carlos Augusto Machado Calil is a professor at ECA-USP. A filmmaker, essayist, and editor of over 30 books on film, photography, theater, history, and literature, he has led Embrafilme, the São Paulo Cultural Center, and served as Secretary of Culture for the capital.

Catherine L. Benamou is a tenured professor in the Department of Film and Media Studies at the University of California, Irvine. She is the author of "Transnational Television and Latinx Diasporic Audiences: Abrazos Electrónicos in Four Global Cities" (2022).

## **April 9 – Wednesday**

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## **10am – Vladimir Carvalho: New Perspectives on His Work Aline Carrijo and André Manfrim**

Passing away last November, just before his 90th birthday, Vladimir Carvalho was Brazil's most significant filmmaker exclusively dedicated to documentary cinema. A panel will discuss his legacy, drawing on the academic research of historian Aline Carrijo, who focuses on Brazilian modernization in his work, and filmmaker André Manfrim, who examines Brasília as portrayed in Vladimir's films.

Aline Carrijo is a PhD candidate in Social History at USP, focusing on the relationship between history and cinema. A journalist and historian, she is the author of the thesis "Before Catastrophe: Brazilian Modernization in Vladimir Carvalho's Films between 1974 and 1991" (2024).

André Manfrim is a director, producer, researcher, and professor. With degrees in Cinema and History from USP, he holds a master's and is pursuing a PhD in Audiovisual Media, focusing on cinema-city intersections in documentary history. He is the author of the thesis "The Brasília phase of Vladimir Carvalho's cinema: a project of popular history and memory for Brasília" (2023).

## **2:30pm - It's All True: 30 Juliana Muylaert Mager and Kamyla Faria Maia**

Researchers Juliana Muylaert Mager and Kamyla Faria Maia revisit and expand on their pioneering academic work about the creation and history of It's All True—International Documentary Film Festival, in light of its 30th edition.

Juliana Muylaert Mager is a postdoctoral researcher at UFF's Laboratory of Oral History and Image, focusing on Brazilian film and documentary festivals. She wrote the thesis "It's All True? Cinema, memory and public uses of history".

Kamyla Faria Maia holds a PhD in Communication from UFG. She is the author of the thesis "Festival as Feast and Device: The Visibility of Post-Retomada Brazilian Documentary Cinema—A Case Study of It's All True (1996–2010)".

## **SERVICE**

### **22nd International Documentary Conference**

Production: It's All True and Cinemateca Brasileira/ Sociedade Amigos da Cinemateca

April 8-9, 2025, from 10am to 4:30pm

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Cinemateca Brasileira

Largo Senador Raul Cardoso, 207, telefone: 55 (11) 5906-8100.

Near the Hospital São Paulo subway station—no parking is available on-site.

The program features accessibility resources in Brazilian Sign Language.

Admission is free and tickets are distributed one hour prior to the event. Seating is subject to capacity.

To receive the participation certificate, it's necessary to attend at least 75% of all of the conference's activities.

## **Information to the Press:**

Patrícia Rabello Assessoria

[patirabello@uol.com.br](mailto:patirabello@uol.com.br)

55(11) 98196-9290

Maria Fernanda Menezes

[mafemenezes@gmail.com](mailto:mafemenezes@gmail.com)

Isidoro Guggiana

[isidoro.guggiana@gmail.com](mailto:isidoro.guggiana@gmail.com)