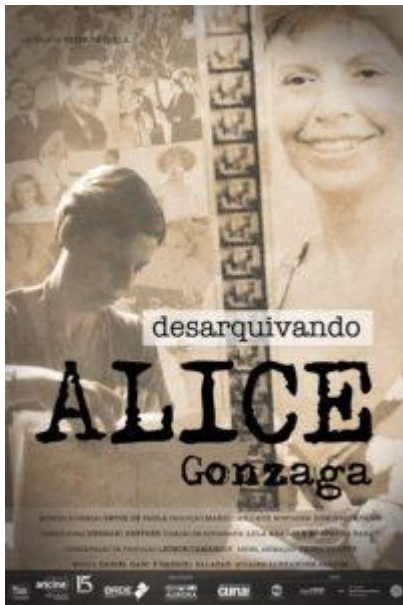


Dearchiving Alice Gonzaga



Synopsis

The documentary “Dearchiving Alice Gonzaga” reviews a significant era of Brazilian cinema through the life of Alice Gonzaga, daughter of Adhemar Gonzaga, a visionary film maker who founded the first film studio in Brazil, Cinedia, in 1930. In this documentary, Alice herself reveals Cinedia’s precious archive, and shares stories of the Gonzaga family and their vivid contribution to the story of cinema.

Dearchiving Alice Gonzaga (2017 – 82 minutes)

Betse de Paula’s latest documentary looks into the life and work of a significant personality of Brazilian cinema, Alice Gonzaga. Exhibited at the Brazilian film festivals of Gramado and Ouro Preto, the documentary reveals hidden aspects of this pioneering woman who worked as director and archivist at the film studio Cinedia, founded in 1930 by her father Adhemar Gonzaga.

The film explores Alice’s personal memories, as well as Brazilian cinema’s historical moments she experienced in Cinedia. It shows her solitary and meticulous task of archiving the history of cinema, in the form of photos, posters, newspaper articles and various other records which constitute the comprehensive Cinedia Archive, an extensive collection established in 1914, and still updated nowadays. Part of this great treasure is revealed here, accompanied by Alice’s humorous, witty and uncut comments.

The thorough preservation and restoration of Cinedia (and the Gonzaga family) films unearth precious gems, including photos of the baby Alice shot by the legendary Brazilian director of photography Edgar Brasil, as well as rare and exclusive backstage recordings from Cinedia studios. Among these pearls are clips from classic films as Hello, Hello Carnival! with Carmen Miranda, lunch parties with cinema celebrities in the 70s, and dramatic moments when historical records were threatened by fire and floodings in the 80s.

Far beyond a cinebiography, *Dearchiving Alice Gonzaga* is a self portrait composed by its main character, the honest examination of a behind the camera icon contributing to the journey of Brazilian cinema.

Support from Ancine, FSA and BRDE.

The documentary will be screened at the circuit of festivals, promoting the cause of audiovisual preservation.

After the festivals, the documentary will be exhibited on the television channel Canal Curta.