

# anba dlo

Drama, 18', 2025, Brazil / Haiti / Cuba

written and directed by Luiza Calagian and Rosa Caldeira



75<sup>th</sup> Internationale  
Filmfestspiele  
Berlin

Berlinale Shorts



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Drama | 18'

Brazil, Cuba, Haiti | 2025

Screenplay and Direction by Luiza Calagian and Rosa Caldeira

Presenting Berline Charles and Feguenson Hermogène

Production Matheus Moura and Well Amorim

Coproduction Berline Charles, Luiza Calagian and Rosa Caldeira

Cinematography and Color Well Amorim

Sound Direction Taíssa Monteiro

Editing Luiza Garcia

Art Direction Verónica Abdo García

Production Maloka Films, Ursana Films, Mata Fechada Films, Kinolakay

CoProduction EICTV Cuba



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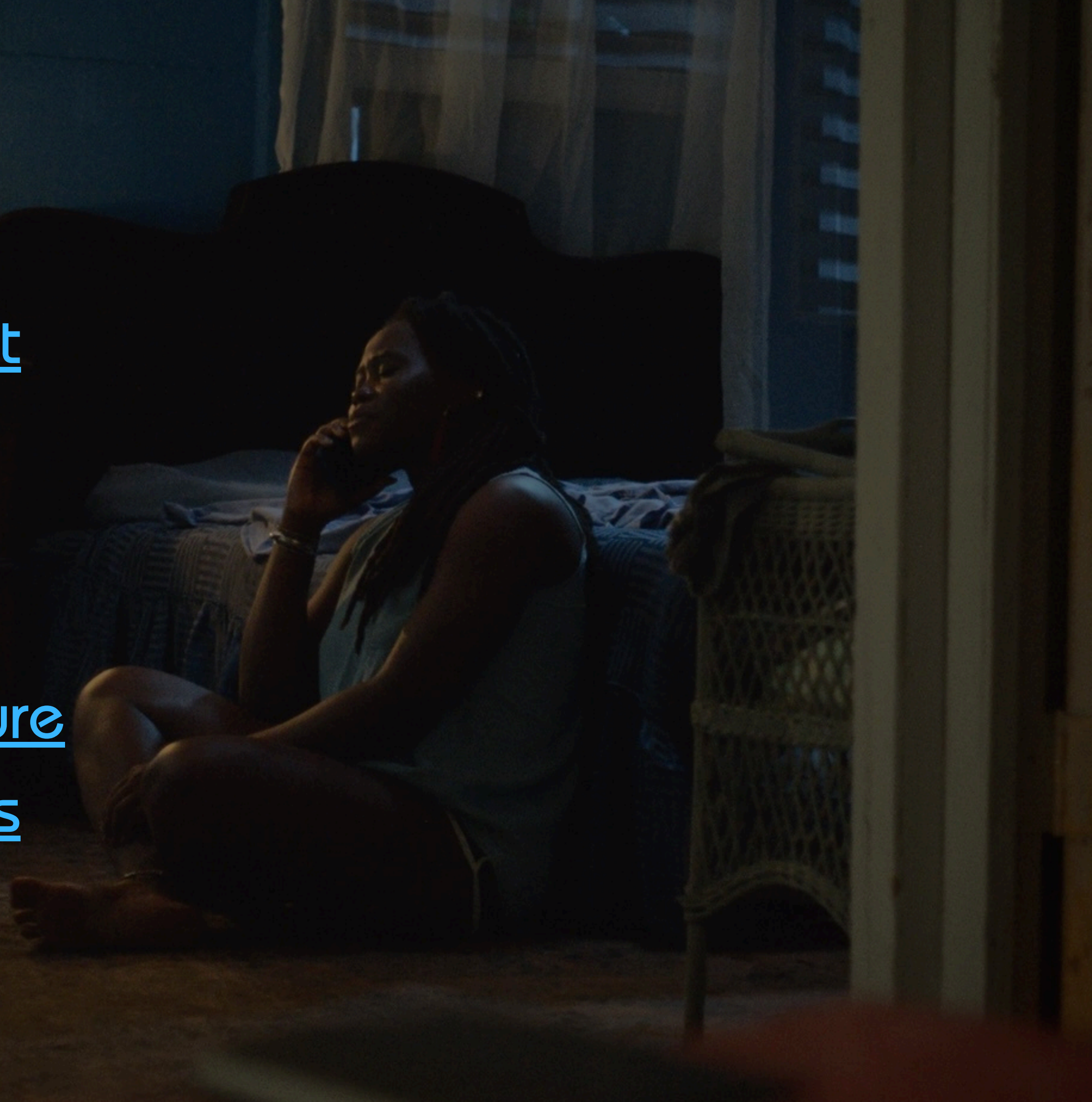
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## SHORT SINOPSIS

Nadia is a Haitian biologist living in Cuba, researching local fauna and animals. Until she receives a visit from deep waters, and the Cuban forest begins to speak in other languages. On that day, Haiti never felt so far away from Nadia.

A woman with dark hair is lying in bed, looking upwards and to the right with a thoughtful expression. The scene is dimly lit with a blue tint. The text 'SINOPSIS' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

## SINOPSIS

Nadia is a Haitian biologist who had to leave her culture, homeland, and the people she loves most to dedicate herself to her studies. She moved to Cuba, where she studies the local flora and fauna, so similar to those of her home country. Despite the similarities provided by the Caribbean context, the cultural differences between the two countries run deep, starting with language and religion. Accustomed to Haitian Creole, derived from French, and to Vodou, the Afro-Haitian religion, Nadia had to learn Spanish to communicate in Cuba and adapt to the traditions of the Afro-Cuban religion, Santería.

Years later, now accustomed to her Cuban routine, her life takes an unexpected turn when a mysterious presence emerges from the depths of the waters, and the forest begins to whisper in unknown languages. This enigmatic visitor is Yvon, her former love from Haiti. Yvon's appearance forces Nadia to confront a past she tried to leave behind and forget but can no longer escape. As she struggles to understand the meaning of her resurfacing feelings, Yvon's presence makes Haiti feel more distant than ever for Nadia.

# Director's statement

Anba Dlo is a film that was born from the encounter of two friends in a common situation of mourning. Luiza and Rosa studied film together at school in Cuba, and for three years they shared an experience of intense and profound transformation. During this period, both were shaken by the loss of a loved one in their home country, Brazil, and were challenged by the need to live and process these losses from a reality and territory completely removed from their home. This shared journey ended up uniting them in the search for healing through creation, and led to the encounter with Berline Charles, the protagonist of the film, who had also gone through the same situation. Together, Luiza, Rosa and Berline found in Anba Dlo the welcome and the tools to navigate the deep waters of mourning, paying tribute to those who had passed, delving into their pain and also into their spirituality, and coming out the other side transformed.

## DIRECTOR'S BIOS

Luiza Calagian is a director and DOP from São Paulo, Brazil. Graduated in Cinematography at the International Film School of Cuba, EICTV, where she also took the Masters in Creative Documentary. Her work as a director and DOP has been screened and awarded at some of the most important festivals in the world. Her first feature as a writer, director and DOP, *Arrow for a Stone Heart*, is currently in post-production process. Is the founder of the independent production company *Mata Fechada Films*. Believes in the craft of cinema as a spell, capable of transmuting reality and enchanting the world.

Rosa Caldeira is a trans filmmaker from the favela of São Paulo, Brazil. They hold a degree in sociology and specialized at the International School of Cinema and Television (EICTV) in Cuba. They are a member of the Brazilian network *Talentos Paradiso* and one of the founders of the Association of Trans Professionals in Audiovisual in Brazil. Their films have been shown at various festivals around the world, including *Berlinale*, *Havana*, *Tiradentes*, and others. They are also the co-founder of the community and favela audiovisual production company *Maloka Filmes*.





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featuring **Berline Charles** and **Fegunson Hermogène** screenplay and direction **Luiza Calagian** and **Rosa Caldeira**  
production **Matheus Moura** and **Well Amorim** direction of photography **Well Amorim** sound direction **Taissa Monteiro**  
editing **Luiza Garcia** art direction **Verónica Abdo Garcia** poster **Luiza Calagian** and **Fernanda Calagian**



ursana

MA  
LO  
KA



KINOLAKAY

f nCl



A person wearing a red long-sleeved shirt and dark shorts is running away from the camera on a dirt path through a dense, green forest. The path is narrow and surrounded by thick vegetation and trees. The lighting is soft, suggesting an overcast day or a shaded forest environment.

## CONTACT

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