

KELLY

a film by Felipe Frozza and Uli Decker (Germany, 2017, 59')



SYNOPSIS

"Kelly" is a film about a person who lives in a foreign country and in a foreign body.

Kelly is a Brazilian transsexual who found refuge in a mediterranean holiday village in Italy. She lives on prostitution and desperately looks for the love of her life. Carrying the scars of a harsh past, she keeps pursuing her childhood dream of being a singer and actress.

One day she sees a man in the street and falls in love with the unknown stranger. Too shy to approach him, she seeks guidance in rituals of the Afro-Brazilian religion Candomblé and transforms her desires into imaginative performances. Her close friends accompany her, but often disagree with her romantic ideals.

The film is a psychological portrait of a complex and contradictory person who reflects human hopes and dreams in an often excessive way and continues her search for love and fulfilment against all odds.

SINOSSI ITALIANO:

“Kelly” è un film su una persona che vive in un paese e in un corpo che non sono i suoi. È una transessuale brasiliana che ha trovato rifugio in Italia in un piccolo villaggio turistico del Mediterraneo. Si guadagna da vivere prostituendosi e cerca disperatamente l'amore della sua vita. Conservando tutte le cicatrici di un passato traumatico, Kelly insegue sin dall'infanzia il sogno di diventare attrice e cantante. Un giorno vede un uomo per strada e si innamora dello sconosciuto. Troppo timida per avvicinarlo, cerca un aiuto nei rituali della religione afro-brasiliana candomblé e trasforma i propri desideri in performances creative. Le sue amiche più vicine, pur restandole vicino, spesso non sono d'accordo con i suoi ideali romantici. Il film tratteggia il ritratto psicologico di una persona complessa e contraddittoria che rispecchia, in modo a volte eccessivo e a dispetto di ogni ostacolo, l'incessante ricerca di desideri e sogni umani.

ONLINE SCREENER (English Subtitles): <https://vimeo.com/200955680>

PASSWORD: lido

TRAILER: <https://vimeo.com/188736573>

ARTISTIC and TECHNICAL STAFF

with

Kelly Christine
Sabrina da Silva
Beatriz Braz Alvez
Pedro Oliveira
July Lopez
Irene Alari
Marco Sfrisi
Fernando Hernandez Bocolondo
Eldrys Limonta Montoya
Don Silvio Ferrante
Don Francesco Palomba
Antonio Furi
Claudio Franchini

Directed by

Felipe Frozza and Uli Decker

Producers

Felipe Frozza and Uli Decker

Cinematography

Uli Decker and Felipe Frozza

Editing

Felipe Frozza and Uli Decker

Direct Sound

Felipe Frozza

Sound Design

Ricarda Holztrattner
at Basis Berlin

Color Correction

Uli Decker

Production Company

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DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Felipe Frozza and Uli Decker

When living in Italy, Felipe Frozza heard about the stories of many Brazilian transsexuals who had come to Italy since the 80s in search for better life conditions. The similar language, catholic moral and sexual habits and a huge demand for transsexual prostitution among Italian men made it possible for them to create a life and earn a living at the margins of Italian society.

When we - Felipe and Uli - went to Lido di Classe - "il paese delle trans", we discovered an interesting microcosm that reflected many characteristics of Italian society and the Brazilian trans community in just one tiny place. Following our original plan to draw a political portrait of this complex society, we came across Kelly and her friends. Due to the often illegal situation they are forced into as immigrants and sex workers, many topics could not be addressed directly, but we had to find ways that made them tangible. Listening to their stories we realized that the common topic that moved all of them was "love" and that through "love" we could access deeper areas of the protagonists' lives.

Choosing Kelly as the main character for the film was not an easy task. Her unpredictable personality sometimes almost drove us crazy. However she has a unique intensity that is not easily found. We learned a lot with her and with all our protagonists and the people we met through the film.

We want to give the audience a glimpse into Kelly's life and the lives of Brazilian transsexuals who made Italy their home. That's why we put this film out into the world.

BIOGRAPHY OF THE DIRECTORS

Felipe Frozza is a Brazilian filmmaker based in Berlin. He creates documentary and fictional works for film and stage productions. Working in the border between documentary and fiction he draws from reality as a starting point and pushes the narratives to a point of surreality and absurdity. Currently he studies camera for film in Berlin and he is graduated in International Relations in Sao Paulo. He showed his works at Festivals in Europe, South America and in the Middle East.

Uli Decker was born in the Mountains of South Bavaria in Germany. She had a great interest in story telling from a very young age and a love for theatre, performance and photography. After having spent a year living with farmers in the Amazon forest of Brazil, she studied Spanish & Portuguese Literature and Theatre & Film Studies at King's College London, Humboldt-Universität Berlin and Universidad Complutense Madrid.

She travelled extensively to different countries and that way learned most Roman languages. Accompanying her studies she worked as a freelance journalist, actress, assistant director in theatres and film productions and started to make her own films. In order to specialize on documentary filmmaking she got her Masters Degree in Creative Documentary from Universidad Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona and her specialization as a Camera Woman from Film Arche Berlin.

FILMOGRAPHY FELIPE FROZZA

- **"Kelly"** (Documentary, 60 min, Germany/Italy/Brazil 2017) Producer, Director, Camera and Editor. Selected for „StoryDoc“ Project Development Workshops in Athens and Leipzig;
- **“Open Eyes”** (Documentary, 40 min., Germany/Israel 2016), **"Exodus Reloaded"** (Documentary, 30 min., Israel/Germany 2012), Director, Camera and Editor. Funded by the Foundation „Erinnerung – Verantwortung – Zukunft“;
- **“No Room Left”** (Experimental Narrative, 15 min., Germany) Director, DOP and Editor. Nominated for the “Best Experimental Short” and “Best Berlin Short” at Shortcutz Berlin 2014;
- **"I Laugh, I Scream, I Live"** (Documentary, 40 min., Germany 2011) Director, Camera and Editor. Funded by „Gustav-Heinemann-Friedensgesellschaft Siegen e.V.“;
- **"Mimesis"** (Dance Film, 10 min., Germany 2009) Director, Camera, Editor and Special Effects. Shown at „Souvenirs From Earth“ Cable TV (FR/DE), „Inshadow“ Festival (PT), “Spazio Concept” (IT) and “WIR Gallery Berlin” (DE);
- "Flaneur Berlin"** (Experimental Live Cinema, 30 min., Germany 2008) Director, Camera, Editor and Livemix/VJing. Selected for the opening night of “Mirror Stage Videoart Exhibition 2008, Cyprus”.

FILMOGRAPHY ULI DECKER

- **My Father Claudia** - (Animadoc, 90 min. Germany, in preproduction) - director, author, funded by BKM Germany, FFF Bavaria, ZDF Kleines Fernsehspiel.
- **Kelly** – (Documentary, 60 min., Italy) - camera and director together with Felipe Frozza, project supported by EsoDoc Athens and Leipzig 2012;
- **Ensaio de um Ensaio – Tempestades** – essay documentary, 30 min., Portugal screened at “InShadow - Festival Internacional de Video, Performance e Tecnologias, Lisbon, Portugal 2015”;
- **TransFormation** (foto and sound installation) - exhibited at "Einsprüche - Artists for a Different World" (June 2015);
- **Die Mitschläferin** (Short Film, 8 min., Berlin) - concept, camera, acting, directing
- **Protest In The Amazon - The Fight For The Forest** (TV report, 30 min., Brazil, broadcasted in **German TV WDR, 3sat, Phoenix** 2009) - co-author, camera, sound.
- Timeless** (short film, 7 min., Barcelona, 2007/2010) - author, director, camera, editor;

CONTACT

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