



Pietà Filmes
proudly presents:

NipoBrasileiros

NIPOBRASILEIROS.COM

Year of Production: 2019
Duration: 9 episodes, 10' each
Genre: Documentary
Production: Pietà Filmes

Realização:



Apoiadores:



Objective

The series proposes to rethink the concept of the professional “success” of Japanese-Brazilians in our society based on oral reports of pioneers in various fields of work, where Asian representativity remained negative for a long time and is considered minimal even today.

Interviewees

Edmundo Sussumu Fujita, Maria Ligaya Abeleda Fujita, Enio Fujita, Ronaldo Sardenberg, Beatriz Sano, Eduardo Fukushima, Yoshi Suzuki, Beatriz Diaféria, Rogério Nagai, Janaína Tokitaka, Oscar Nakasato, Mayura Okura, Gustavo Tanaka, Celso Kinjo, Leonardo Sakamoto, Cecília Ishitani, Silvia Morimoto, Yukie Watanabe, Emi Murano, Masato Ninomya, Monica Okamoto



Team

A project of: Maria Ligaya Abeleda Fujita e Mônica Okamoto
Conceived by: Edmundo Fujita

Creation and Direction: Alexandre Nakahara, Diego da Costa, Pedro Tinen
Executive production: Diego da Costa e Rodrigo da Costa
Production: Giovanni Franchischelli

Cinematography: Giovanna Pezzo
Camera Assistant: Guilherme Ghussn
Sound Mixer: Diego da Costa e Giovanni Franchischelli

Film Editing: Alexandre Nakahara e Diego da Costa
Sound Editor/Mixing: RBS

Motion and Titles: João R.
Design: Heitor Yida
Web designer: André Turtelli

Press Office: Mariana Sanches Rubini



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On Japanese immigration in Brazil

Despite the anti-Japanese movements in our country, the first wave of Japanese immigrants arrived on the 18th of June 1908 aboard the ship Kasato Maru in Santos. 165 families (781 Japanese citizens) were distributed throughout the many coffee farms in São Paulo's countryside.

With the end of Second World War, the Japanese immigrants begin the process of integration into the Brazilian society and seek social and economic mobility through education in prestigious fields such as Medicine, Engineering and Law.

The majority of Brazilians tend to think of Japanese-Brazilians as "successful". However, this idea of Asians as a model minority treats other ethnic minorities unfairly, simply because it implies that a "correct culture" is necessary to obtain success.

According to the North-American sociologists Lee & Zhou (2015), the model minority theory neglects the concept of heterogeneity, placing the Asians against other minorities, especially Afro-descendants, and creating mistaken deductions that Asians can achieve success even if they did not have the ethnic-racial status of white people, suggesting that the racial aspect is not relevant.

In fact, it is common to hear, both in Brazil and in the United States, a generalized discourse on the positive image of Japanese descendants as an ethnic group that "worked", ignoring the diversity of this segment.



Jovem nissei quebra barreira do Itamarati

"O Brasil é o maior exemplo de um país multirracial, onde todas as raças se integram, por isso não vejo nada de excepcional no fato de um nissei ser aprovado nas provas do Itamarati", declarou Edmundo Sussumu Fujita, um dos dois candidatos paulistas, aprovados na primeira fase do concurso para a carreira diplomática.

O jovem nissei, que se mostrou surpreso com os resultados obtidos na primeira fase das provas, tem 24 anos, de idade e é bacharel em Direito pela Faculdade de São Francisco. Formado em 1972, Edmundo já ganhou 2 bolsas de estudos. A primeira, concedida quando ainda cursava a faculdade, levou-o até o "Institute of World Affairs", onde, durante dois meses, manteve contato com estudantes do mundo inteiro, em debates mundiais contemporâneos, o que, segundo ele, veio aprimorar sua experiência em línguas, principalmente o inglês. No ano passado, concorreu a uma segunda bolsa, desta vez concedida pelo governo japonês, que o levou a fazer um curso de Política Internacional durante 1 ano na Universidade de Haia, Holanda, cursando Direito Internacional.

Para o jovem, a vocação para a carreira diplomática, surgiu durante o 4º ano da Faculdade, quando manteve contato com Direito Internacional Público. Achou essa matéria bastante interessante e bonita. As opções para seguir a mais a fundo eram o magistério e a diplomacia, entretanto, vendo que a segunda era a mais movimentada e fascinante, não teve dúvida em prestar o concurso. Desde então começou a seguir de perto os concursos anuais do Itamarati, vendo todos os programas, o número de vagas e os candidatos aprovados, até que em setembro, quando regressou da Europa, resolveu fazer sua inscrição.

AS PROVAS

Um dos fatores que auxiliaram o candidato na hora das provas, foi o local onde se realizaram os exames: a própria Faculdade São Francisco, onde Edmundo passou 5 anos de sua vida. Ele confessa que ficou assustado com o número de candidatos presentes na primeira fase, aproximadamente 29, pois só há 30 vagas para a carreira.

Segundo Edmundo, "esse elevado número de inscritos assusta qualquer um, pois o candidato que se propõe a



Edmundo Sussumu Fujita venceu o primeiro barreira para chegar ao Itamarati

nos dias 27, 28 e 29 de novembro, no período da manhã, e versaram sobre vários temas da atualidade. A de Português, que geralmente elimina a maioria dos candidatos, teve como tema a "Urbanização e Convivência na Sociedade Contemporânea", além de um texto (discurso do ministro do Exterior, Azeredo da Silveira), para interpretar e resumir.

As provas de Francês e Inglês continham passagens de Literatura, versão e dissertação. O tema da primeira foi "Técnicas Modernas de Comunicação como Fator de Difusão Cultural". Nessa prova o jovem alcançou a média mínima (5). A de Inglês teve como tema a "história como Fator para Moldar o Futuro", e nela Edmundo fez

"Tanto faz Tóquio, Arábia Saudita ou Nações Unidas, que realmente importa é a utilidade de um embaixador e o espírito de servir a sua nação", disse ele.

Referindo-se a segunda fase das provas, a da entrevista física, Edmundo limitou-se a dizer "seja o que Deus quiser"

Synopsis

NipoBrasileiros is a documentary web series of 9 episodes, directed by Diego da Costa, Alexandre Nakahara and Pedro Tinen. This project was initially conceived by Ambassador Edmundo Sussumu Fujita, and was executed under the coordination of Ambassador Maria Ligaya Abeleda Fujita, Professor Mônica Setuyo Okamoto of the Federal University of Paraná and Prof. Masato Ninomiya of the University of São Paulo (USP).

The web series proposes to rethink our notion of the professional "success" of Japanese-Brazilians within our society. Rethink, because attention has always been given to the positive image of Japanese immigrants and their descendants who have achieved social mobility through efforts, discipline, and above all, through education. High rates of approval of Japanese Brazilians in prestigious traditional areas like Medicine, Engineering and Law in major public Brazilian universities from the 1950s support this reputation of nikkeis. On the other hand, this ethnic racial group continues to be under represented in certain professional areas such as dance, literature, journalism, theater arts, among others.

This project aims, therefore, to explore this other side of the story of nikkeis by presenting oral testimonies of pioneers in professional areas, where the presence of Asian descendants remained negative for a long time and is considered minimal even today. The idea is to show how these professionals found solutions-sometimes creative- to overcome stereotypes and ethnic barriers in a country where, according to some studies, the racial issue continues to predominate over the social.

We will show three generations of nikkeis, who initiated their careers in the 1970s, in the 1990s and today, giving more emphasis to younger generations.

Instagram

[@pietafilmes](#)

Poster

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1LsRfU7krLcR5myEZ0mpZCe7ferdAekz9>

Stills

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=10qU2M04cER67mOatmC-k0mCFC4TEr9ud>

Trailer

<https://youtu.be/5MorynF78gA>

Screener Link

EP01

<https://youtu.be/xJRtJCbNcds>

EP02

<https://youtu.be/oaOeAX5x1so>

EP03

<https://youtu.be/6kwIzR78TK0>

Directors

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1r9FNkftc5Mw63o8zwVzeb5reShPwxsh4>

Clips for publicity

[Trecho EP01](#)

[Trecho EP02](#)

[Trecho EP03](#)

Directors

Diego da Costa is a sound technician, cinema and TV director and film editor. Since his graduation in Medialogy from the University of Campinas (UNICAMP) in 2008, he has worked with direct sound in dozens of movies and series such as “Lili, a Ex” (Luis Pinheiro, O2), “Estamos Juntos” (Toni Venturi, Aurora), “Alice” (Karim Ainouz, Gullane), “Pedro e Bianca” (Cao Hamburger, Coração da Selva) and “SuperPai” (Pedro Amorim, Querosene Filmes), for which he received the Best Sound Capture Award in the 9th Conservatory Cinemusic Festival. He also received the Best Sound Award in the Santos Short Film Festival in 2014 with the short film “Entulho” (Mabel Lopes).

In 2011, he directed the short film “Argentino” - winner of the best movie, best direction and popular jury awards in the IV Paulínia Cinema Festival. In 2016, he produced and directed the musical documentary “A Plebe é Rude”, a coproduction with Doctela and Canal Brasil.

Since 2012, Diego has been conducting audiovisual courses and workshops in places such as Sesc Campo Limpo, Sesc Ipiranga, Sesc Interlagos e Sesc Campinas, UneAfro, and Unicamp’s Art Institute.

His first fiction feature film, “Os Caubóis do Apocalipse”, 2017/2018, a totally independent production, has been exhibited and awarded in festivals, shown in commercial circuits and has been licensed by Telecine and Canal Brasil.

His current project, “Selvagem”, is a fiction feature film accepted in the 02/2016 SPCine edict, with Lucélia Santos, Rincon Sapiência e Vilma Mello as part of the cast and supported by Tintas Coral and Canon.

Clippings – Last access: 26/11/2018

- [Metrópolis – TV Cultura](#)
- [Cinema em Cena - EPTV](#)
- [RevistaE - SESC](#)
- [Socorro é cenário de Produção Cinematográfica](#)
- [Canal Brasil lança documentário “A Plebe É Rude” dia 20](#)
- [Plebe Rude revisita história em documentário sobre os 35 anos da banda](#)
- [Plebe Rude tem documentário exibido no Canal Brasil](#)
- [Pedradas - Arthur Dapieve](#)
- [Assista a um trecho do documentário da Plebe Rude, 'A Plebe É Rude'](#)
- [ANCINE anuncia selecionados para os Encontros com o Cinema Brasileiro com Sundance](#)
- [SPCine Linha 1: Vencedores do Edital](#)

MELHOR MONTAGEM
TPCINE
2018

MELHOR ATOR COADJUVANTE
TPCINE
2018

OFFICIAL SELECTION
EchoFilmFestivals
BRICS (EFF BRICS)
2017

MELHOR ATRIZ
7º FestCine
MARACANÁU
2017

MELHOR FOTOGRAFIA
7º FestCine
MARACANÁU
2017

MELHOR DIREÇÃO
7º FestCine
MARACANÁU
2017

Directors

Alexandre Nakahara is cinema and TV director and film editor. Since 2008, he has been working with documentaries and Films with journalistic content for TV and web. He directed and produced the short film documentary “Lugares e Medo e Ódio” financed by PROAC-SP of LGBTQ theme, which was exhibited in more than fifteen festivals worldwide and won an honorable mention in the Paulista Short Film Week and the Popular Jury Award in CINHOMO Festival in Valladolid, Spain.

Was co-director of two documentaries made for the Sala de Notícias program of TV Futura, including the movie “Sumô Brasileiro”. Also worked as assistant director directing in short films such as Rubens Passaro and Alan Oliveira’s “Di Melo - O Imorrível” and Lucas Ogawasara’s “A Despedida”. Amongst his other works, the creation of content, direction and editing of vídeos for clients such as SESC-SP, Folha de São Paulo e Vogue Brasil stand out.

Currently, Alexandre is pursuing a Master’s degree in Audiovisual Means and Processes at ECA-USP, with plans to defend his dissertation during the second semester of 2019. His current research deals with the representation of Brazilian characters in Japanese movies, with central focus on Brazilian immigrants in Japan.

- [LGBT out There](#)
- [Globo](#)

Pedro Tinen is a film-maker, screenwriter and programmer of audiovisuals and films. Coordinator of the Brazilian Programs of the International Short Film Festival of SP (Curta Kinoforum) and collaborator of the Mix de Diversidade and Ecofalante festivals.

Is director and screenwriter of the NipoBrasileiros (2019) series and producer of the Atadas (2016) series. Has a Master’s degree in Multimedia from UNICAMP, was collaborator of the Great Cinema Directors’ collection (Folha de São Paulo 2018) and is also specialist on Japanese and Asian cinema.

MELHOR
COADJU
TPCIN
2018

OFFICIAL SELECTION
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BRICS (EFF BRICS)
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MELHOR ATRIZ
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MELHOR FOTOGRAFIA
7º FestCine
MARACANAÚ
2017

MELHOR DIREÇÃO
7º FestCine
MARACANAÚ
2017

MELHOR FILME
8º CIVIFILMES
2017

Pietà Filmes

Pietà Filmes e Produções is a young company with great partnerships and projects, whose greatest value is the expertise of its associates in complementary areas of all stages in audiovisual production. Diego da Costa has ample experience in developing projects and coordinating excellent team work, while Von Gabriel is the strongest link in negotiations, search for financing and project dissemination. In its 6 years of existence, it has already produced 3 fiction feature films “Os Caubóis do Apocalipse” (made entirely independently), has received various awards, been exhibited in commercial circuits and film festivals, and licensed by Telecine and Canal Brasil, 2018), “São Ateu” (being finished) and “Selvagem” (being finished) that has Lucélia Santos, Rincon Sapiência and Vilma Melo as part of the cast. with support from Tintas Coral and Canon. Coproduced the television documentary “A Plebe é Rude” (Canal Brasil, 2016), produced the webseries “Atadas”, that will be released in november 2019, in addition to many short films and video-clips. Today, Pieta Films produces screenplays for the series “O Culto”, “As Meninas do CAO” and “Café Quebec”; and is developing fiction feature films such as “Trilhas da Noite”, “Deus, a Avó, a Macaca e um Fusca” and “Corte Geral”. It is currently producing the webseries “NipoBrasileiros” in partnership with the Federal University of Paraná and Japan Foundation.



Episode Synopsis:

Episode 1 – Edmundo Fujita

As the first Japanese Brazilian to be accepted into Itamaraty (the Brazilian Diplomatic Service) in 1975, he created precedence for younger generations of Nikkei diplomats as well as for other ethnic groups. Remembered by his family, colleagues and friends for his professionalism and erudition, Edmundo was not only a pioneer in this area but was also an example to be followed, fact inexistent until that moment.

Episode 2 – Beatriz Sano, Eduardo Fukushima e Yoshi Suzuki

Three Japanese Brazilian dancers, who have gained national and international recognition, talk about the paths they had to tread in order to grow professionally. Calling attention to the disadvantages of the Asian biotype in dance, they reveal the real challenges on stage for those who aspire to be dancers in Brazil.

Episode 3 – Beatriz Diaféria e Rogério Nagai

Beatriz Diaféria and Rogério Nagai, two Japanese Brazilian artists, share their professional trajectory in theatre arts, a world still dominated by whites. They tell how it is to be a Japanese -Brazilian actor/actress in Brazil and how they deal with the stereotypes of nikkeis in the Brazilian imagery.

Episode 4 – Janaína Tokitaka e Oscar Nakasato

Faced with the lack of representativity of Asian characters in Brazilian literature, two writers – Oscar Nakasato and Janaina Tokitaka – show how outstanding they are not only for their award- winning works but also for the desire to produce affective and multicultural narratives.

Episode 5 – Gustavo Tanaka e Mayura Okura

In the competitive world of entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial leadership, Gustavo Tanaka and Mayura Sakura got where they are today through diligence and self-knowledge. Both talk about the resilience necessary to be in this professional world.

Episode 6 – Celso Kinjo e Leonardo Sakamoto

Two important journalists from 2 different generations, Celso Kinjo and Leonardo Sakamoto analyze the current informational crisis as well as the adversities they have dealt with during their professional careers.

Episode 7 – Cecília Ishitani, Sílvia Morimoto e Yukie Watanabe

A gap of fifteen years marks Ambassador Edmundo Fujita's entrance into Itamaraty and the approval of first female Japanese Brazilian to join the institution. In this episode, we talk with three female Japanese Brazilians from different generations who followed their respective paths in the field of international relations.

Episode 8 – Emi Murano e Masato Ninomiya

In this episode, we wanted to create a counterpoint by presenting the story of the professional success of Emi Murano and Masato Ninomiya, who respectively followed careers considered traditional such as Medicine and Law. In spite of the high representativity of Japanese Brazilians in these 2 areas, we intend to show how both struggled to achieve fame and respect in areas where positive stereotypes could also hinder professional mobility.

Episode 9 – Mônica Okamoto

In this episode, Professor Monica Okamoto of the Federal University of Paraná reflects on the social representativity of Asians in Brazil and the barriers created by ethnic stereotypes as well as the myth of the "minority model".

Maria Ligaya Tolentino Abeleda Fujita

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, University of the Philippines; Master of Arts in Diplomacy, Occidental College, Los Angeles (California, USA); PhD in International Studies, University of Denver (Colorado, USA).
Japan Foundation Research Fellow on Japanese Foreign Policy at the University of Tokyo; Studied Sociology of Development at the London School of Economics and Political Science in London.

Was Assistant Representative, United Nations Development Programme - UNDP, Brazil, and Special Assistant to Deputy-Director for Programme at the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) in New York; taught Political Science and International Politics at the University of the Philippines in Manila.

While accompanying Ambassador Edmundo Fujita on postings abroad, worked as consultant on project/programme formulation, monitoring and evaluation.

Mônica Okamoto

Master's degree in Letters, Júlio de Mesquita Filho Paulista State University - Assis (2001) and PhD in Letters (French Language and Literature Translation Studies), University of São Paulo (2011).

Taught at the Department of Modern Languages in Júlio de Mesquita Filho Paulista State University - Assis (1996-2011), and since 2011, is Assistant Professor at the Department of Foreign and Modern Languages (DELEM), Federal University of Paraná (UFPR).

Currently coordinates, together with Ambassador Maria Ligaya Fujita, the web-documentary NipoBrasileiros, directed by Diego Costa, Pedro Tinen and Alexandre Nakahara, of Pietá Filmes. This project is part of the UFPR's Extension Project "Arquivo de História Oral de Grupos Minoritários Étnicos", which is being executed together with students of the Course on Japanese Language and Literature of this institution.

Is part of the CNPq's research group TRANSFOPRESS (Study of foreign press in Brazil), Process 446392/2014-6, since 2014. Is a researcher of the National Research Foundation of Korea (NFR-NFR-2017S1A2A2041735) on Asian immigration since 2017.

Organised, together with Francisco Hashimoto and Janete Tanno, the work "Cem Anos da Imigração Japonesa: História, Memória e Arte" (Unest Press, 2008), translated the romance "Sôbo" (Ateliê, 2008) together with Takao Namekata and Maria Tomimatsu, and published the work "A Influência Francesa no Discurso Brasileiro Sobre o Japão" (Porto de Ideias Press, 2016).



The Producers' Vision

NipoBrasileiros is a production developed on the basis of ideas of collaboration, listening and plurality of thoughts. Originally conceived by Ambassador Edmundo Fujita and executed under the coordination of Ambassador Maria Ligaya Fujita and Professor Mônica Okamoto, the documentary emerged as an investigation on the insertion of Japanese descendants in different professional areas with emphasis on careers seen as “nontraditional” in Brazil.

From the start, we never aimed to present definitive answers on the theme; instead we wanted to point out the diversity of questions that can be raised. Based on this, we focused on listening, allowing each interviewee to feel free to share their experiences. By doing that, we could then propose a dialogue about the nikkei experiences in Brazil. We felt that the dialogue should start among ourselves and decided to choose a more collaborative direction: three directors, two of whom are of Asian ancestry.

The creation process, therefore, is part of the questioning and conversations shared by the entire team. It was necessary to rethink the pre-established images and molds in order to promote a dialogue about the notions of “ancestry”, “model minority”, “stereotypes” and about the Brazilian ethnic-racial configurations. However, although we aimed to discuss complex themes, our intent was always to contribute to this debate by listening to and comprehending each person’s discourse on their individual experiences. The result is an invitation to a debate, an invitation to the sharing of these life experiences and to listening to all of them.



Edmundo Fujita



Yoshi Suzuki



Beatriz Sano



Eduardo Fukushima



Janaína Tokitaka



Oscar Nakasato



Gustavo Tanaka



Mayura Okura



Cecília Ishitani



Sílvia Morimoto



Yukie Watanabe



Celso Kinjo



Leonardo Sakamoto



Beatriz Diaferia



Rogério Nagai



Emi Murano



Masato Ninomiya