

THE PIRATE CODE

written by Kristel Hemmer

GENRE: Mockumentary

SINOPSIS:

"The Pirate Code" is a short film, mockumentary style, based on tales, legends and real stories of pirates from the coast of Santa Catarina, mixing fiction and reality with a good dose of humor. Captain Rock Brasiliano and his crew terrorized the Brazilian coast with their primitive weapons, totalitarian code, cruel attacks, sarcasm and lots of Rum. Or at least, that's what historians says. Captain Rock wants to prove that's not true... Except about the Rum.

CHARACTERS (8)

CAPTAIN ROCK BRASILIANO: inspired by Roche Basiliano, a pirate and privateer, born in the Netherlands and raised in Pernambuco, who terrorized the Brazilian coast for 2 decades. Drunk and dissolute, Brasiliano threatens to shoot anyone who doesn't accept an invitation to drink with him. He hates it when pirates are talked down to and despite being violent and cruel, he is also an intelligent man and fair with his crew. He respects the pirate code above all else.

HISTORIAN AFONSO DOS SANTOS: graduated in History by a private university, it took 8 years for him to get the diploma due to sheer incompetence. He loves to explain about subjects he doesn't have knowledge about, such as the history of piracy. Married to Larissa and father of Dudu. Hypocritical, he talks about justice and ethics, but doesn't apply them.

BARBOSA: Pirate, Captain Rock's right arm. Extremely faithful, he would give his life for the Captain.

MARIA KENT: Captain Rock's crew member. The brain of the crew. Tough, she learned the hard way to impose herself on men.

CORKSCREW BART: Captain Rock's crew member. Has a lot of strength and little brain. The strongest among pirates in both fighting and drinking.

CLAU: Captain Rock's crew member. His family was in debt and he needed money urgently, so he infiltrated Rock's crew in order to kill him and recover the bounty price for capturing the pirate captain. He was discovered by Barbosa.

LARISSA: Afonso's wife.

LETÍCIA: daughter of Afonso and Larissa.

OPENING

IMAGES OF THE PIRATE BOAT SAILING

NARRATOR: During the period of the Great Navigations, the Brazilian coast received visits from several vessels, among them, the feared Corsairs and Pirates.

LETTERS: 1600's

NARRATOR: Records prove his passage through the Desterro region, where today we call Florianópolis, leaving a trail of death, hidden treasures and empty rum bottles.

MOTION: map of Florianópolis and the North coast

NARRATOR: Over time, the boundaries between historical and fictional facts were lost, pirates became characters and the stories of treasures became legends.

NARRATOR: But to find the tracks of these so-called outlaws, one must first understand their code of honor...

- THE PIRATE CODE

MOTION - PIRATE CODE

1 EXT. BEACH

LETTERS: Santa Catarina, 2022.

Clear and sunny skies. AFONSO, his wife LARISSA (30+) and their daughter LETÍCIA (7-10) walk along the sands of Praia da Sepultura. Letícia pulls Larissa by the arm, excited to be at the beach. Afonso carries two beach chairs and a parasol.

AFONSO: Have I already told you the legend of the treasure on this beach?

LARISSA: Yes Afonso... several times.

(sound of the ice cream man's whistle)

LETÍCIA: Mommy, ice cream!

LARISSA: You brought change for the popsicle, right?

AFONSO: Uhum. It's my favorite legend... A coffin buried with a pirate captain along with his treasure, right here, on this beach! Can you believe it?

LARISSA: Uhum...

AFONSO: And the biggest mystery of all is that neither the treasure nor the captain called ROCK BRASILIANO were ever found...

2 EXT. PIRATE SHIP

A pirate ship crosses the horizon, opening space between the waves that crash against its hull.

LETTERS: Santa Catarina.

3 INT. SHIP'S CABIN

CAPTAIN ROCK (30+) and two pirates, CORKSCREW BART and MARIA KENT are sitting at the main table drinking rum and talking loudly. The Captain's face is in the dark, his feet are on the table.

BARBOSA enters the cabin with a sign in one hand and holding CLAU by the neck. He pushes CLAU and the pirate falls at the foot of the main table. The conversation at the table immediately silences and everyone stares at CLAU.

Barbosa places the poster he was holding on the table.

CLOSE UP- Poster:

"WANTED BY THE BRAZILIAN NAVY, DEAD OR ALIVE, Rock Brasiliano"

BARBOSA

I caught this guy here with this poster in his pocket. What do we do, Captain Rock?

Captain Rock cracks his neck. He leans forward and his face comes into the light.

Captain Rock stabs the knife into the paper.

CAPTAIN ROCK, MARIA KENT, and CORKSCREW BART are sitting at the table, with the captain's knife over the wanted sign. Barbosa is standing up.

CAPTAIN ROCK
Here is the plan. First, (referring
to Claus)
Throw this guy off the boat.

BARBOSA
Yes, captain.

CAPTAIN ROCK
Second, a British ship is
returning to Europe with riches
from Brazil. And we're going
to take it.

4 INT. CAPTAIN ROCK'S INTERVIEW

CAPTAIN ROCK is facing the camera, near a table with food and drinks, to be interviewed. Documentary style. Captain Rock is stealing food and putting it in his pockets and mouth.

LETTERS: Two weeks later

The interviewer never appears and Captain Rock responds directly to the camera.

LETTERING:

CAPTAIN ROCK BRASILIANO

INTERVIEWER:

Interview with Captain ROCK BRASILIANO, a pirate suspected of stealing a large amount of gold belonging to the Portuguese crown on July 16, 1644.

INTERVIEWER: Mr. ROCK Brasiliano, after all, what was the plan to hide the treasure?

Captain Rock stops with his food halfway to his mouth and turns to the camera.

PIRATE

Plan? Which plan?

5 INT. HISTORIAN ALFONSO'S INTERVIEW

AFONSO (30+) is facing the camera to be interviewed. Documentary style.

LETTERING:

"AFONSO DOS SANTOS - Historian and flat-earther"

AFONSO

The pirate code followed very strict rules. It was a dictatorship. Totalitarian... Tyrannical....

INSERT - CAPTAIN ROCK'S INTERVIEW

CAPTAIN ROCK

In fact, according to the code, pirates have the right to change their captain if they see fit.

BACK TO THE SCENE.

AFONSO

Totally hegemonic... Arbitrary... Cruel...

INSERT - CAPTAIN ROCK'S INTERVIEW

CAPTAIN ROCK

The division of earnings is very fair too, there is even retirement in case of serious injuries.

BACK TO THE SCENE.

Afonso is still lost in his daydreams.

AFONSO

That's what I say. They are criminals. Robbing innocent workers.

INSERT - CAPTAIN ROCK'S INTERVIEW

CAPTAIN ROCK

Plundering ships that came to raid foreign lands.

BACK TO THE SCENE.

AFONSO

They killed.

INSERT - CAPTAIN ROCK'S INTERVIEW

CAPTAIN ROCK

(ironically)

Ah, but of course, because the
Europeans never killed the natives.

BACK TO THE SCENE.

Afonso opens his mouth to answer, but closes it right
away, with no response.

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5 INT. SHIP'S CABIN

With a chest full of coins in the middle of the table, BART,
MARIA, BARBOSA and CAPTAIN ROCK make a circle around it, all
standing, facing the money.

CAPTAIN ROCK

Any ideas?

CORKSCREW BART

We can bury it.

BARBOSA

(mocking)

How original.

MARIA KENT

We can bury it... But instead
of a chest, we bury a coffin.

Captain Rock stares at Maria with a frown, and then he smiles.
Barbosa and Bart look at each other, totally lost.

CAPTAIN ROCK

(to Maria)

We can give the treasure a proper
burial. Even if someone is
suspicious, no one will open it in a
religious place like this...

MARIA KENT

The treasure will be protected.

CAPTAIN ROCK
Let's have a funeral then!
Look for a coffin.

Captain Rock gets up and Maria follows close behind towards the exit. Bart and Barbosa look at each other lost.

CORKSCREW BART
I don't get it, who died?

8 INT. CAPTAIN'S INTERVIEW

INTERVIEWER

So, you hid the gold coins inside a coffin..

Captain Rock makes the Rock'n Roll symbol with his hands.

INTERVIEWER (CONT'D)
And where did you bury the treasure, Captain ROCK?

Captain Rock does the zip-up lip motion.

INSERT - HISTORIAN AFONSO'S INTERVIEW

AFONSO
And that's how the legend of the treasure coffin on the Ilha da Sepultura, in Santa Catarina, was born.

BACK TO THE SCENE.

CAPTAIN ROCK
And nobody opened the coffin.

INSERT - HISTORIAN AFONSO'S INTERVIEW

AFONSO
But Captain Rock never got to retrieve his treasure. After all, all crimes must be punished.

AFONSO OFF: On that cold night, the infamous crew received the news that their captain, ROCK BRASILIANO, had disappeared forever.

9 INT. SHIP'S CABIN

BARBOSA enters the cabin with a sign in his hand. MARIA and BART are in the same position as in scene 2. However, in the shadows where the captain was, there is no one.

Barbosa puts the paper over the table

It says:

"CAPTAIN ROCK BRASILIANO

DISAPPEARED IN 1671"

13 Larissa points to a spot on the sand. Afonso and Larissa assemble the two beach chairs. Leticia runs to the sea. Larissa, worried, runs after the child.

Afonso, now alone, pushes the parasol into the sand to steady it. He pushes once, gets up and prepares to repeat the process. Afonso pushes the parasol down, on the sand, with more force. THERE IS A SOUND OF SCRATCHING OF METAL AGAINST WOOD.

Afonso freezes and widens his eyes. Afonso looks around to see if anyone was watching, looks at the floor and smiles.

FADE OUT.