

CATHERINE MURPHY and IRIS DE OLIVEIRA present

Reading the World



~ Official Selection ~

COMPETITIVE SECTION FOR FEATURE-LENGTH DOCUMENTARIES
BEST FILM at the 53rd Gramado Film Festival

SYNOPSIS

Told through the collective memories of farmers, students and educators that participated in the "Culture Circles," learning to read and write in 40 hours, the film contains rare archival footage of mid-twentieth century Brazil that was recently recovered after being buried for decades. Their innovative method used critical and creative thinking instead of memorization and repetition. By contextualizing and personalizing the lessons, educators used their surroundings to teach vocabulary and construct meaning. Thousands of Brazilians became literate and were allowed to vote as a consequence, strengthening the blossoming democracy and social movement that was disrupting the colonial structures. After a shocking coup d'état, the farmer's notebooks were set on fire, and Freire was eventually forced into exile for 16 years, spreading his pedagogy around the globe and impacting democracy and education until today. Today Freire is considered one of the most influential philosophers of education in the twentieth century and revered by educators across the world.

DIRECTED BY Catherine Murphy & Iris de Oliveira

RUN TIME/FORMAT/RATING/RELEASE DATE 70 min – DCP/Blu-ray – 1.777 (16:9)– Portuguese w/English or Spanish subtitles - Not rated

August 21, 2024 (Gramado, Palace of Festivals)

SALES Catherine Murphy, Maestra Productions / theliteracyproject@gmail.com, +1 (212) 203-8185

PRESS CONTACT: Erika Hoffgen, Viva Projetos / erikahoffgen@gmail.com / +55 (11) 99327-7680

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