

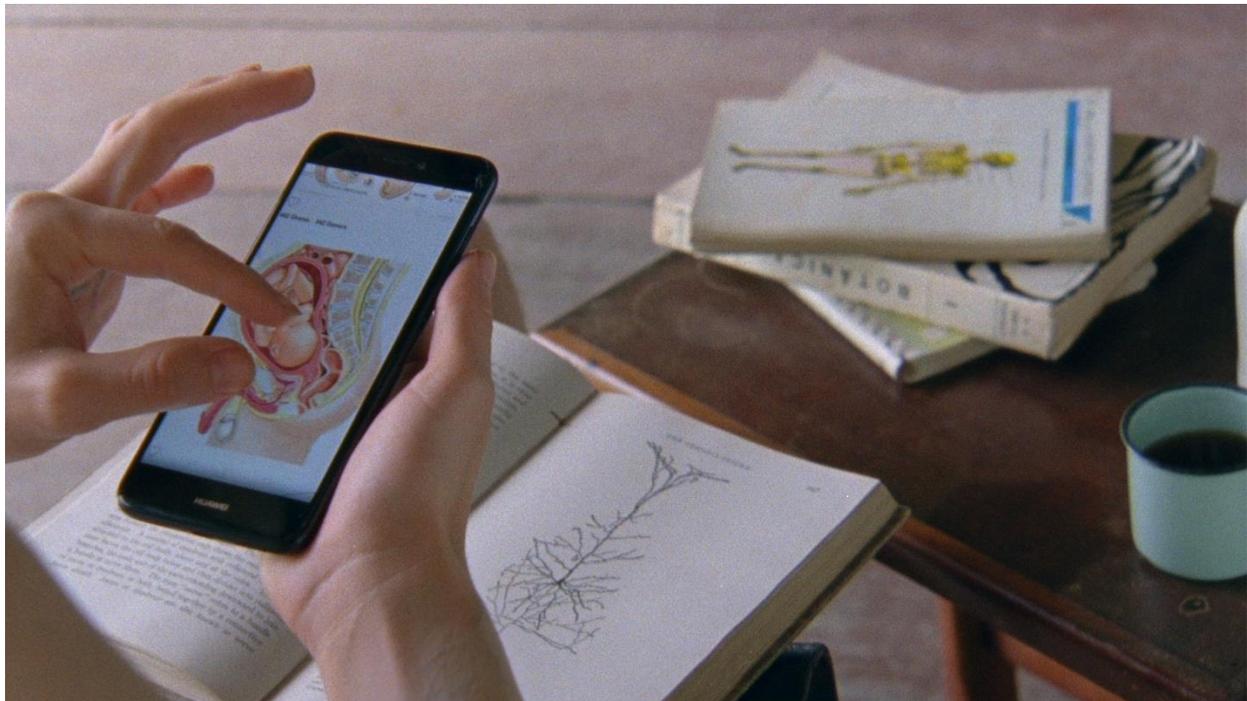
THE BITE

Original Title: *A Mordida*

World Premiere

WAVELENGTHS, TIFF - TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

September 5 - 15, 2019



Between a house in the Atlantic forest and a genetically-modified mosquito factory near São Paulo, a polyamorous, non-binary relationship struggles to survive an epidemic spreading across Brazil. While in the factory millions of mosquitos are born daily inside test tubes, the power dynamics between Helmut, Calixto, and Tao only intensifies. The Bite is a film found somewhere between horror, science fiction and a queer drama.

Fiction

2019, Portugal/Brazil, 26'

Written and Directed: Pedro Neves Marques

Director of Photography: Marta Simões

Sound: Tales Manfrinato

Art Direction: Diogo Hayashi

Original Soundtrack: HAUT

Editing: Pedro Neves Marques

VFX: João Cáceres Costa

Post-Production Studio: Kino Sound Studio

Color Correction: Rita Lamas

Sound Design and Mix: Pedro Góis

Producers: Catarina de Sousa and Pedro Neves Marques

Cast: Alina Dörzbacher, Ana Flávia Cavalcanti, Kelner Macedo

Supporting Cast: Luiz Felipe Lucas, Diogo Hayashi

With support of: Pérez Art Museum of Miami, USA

Distribution and Sales: Portugal Film - Portuguese Film Agency

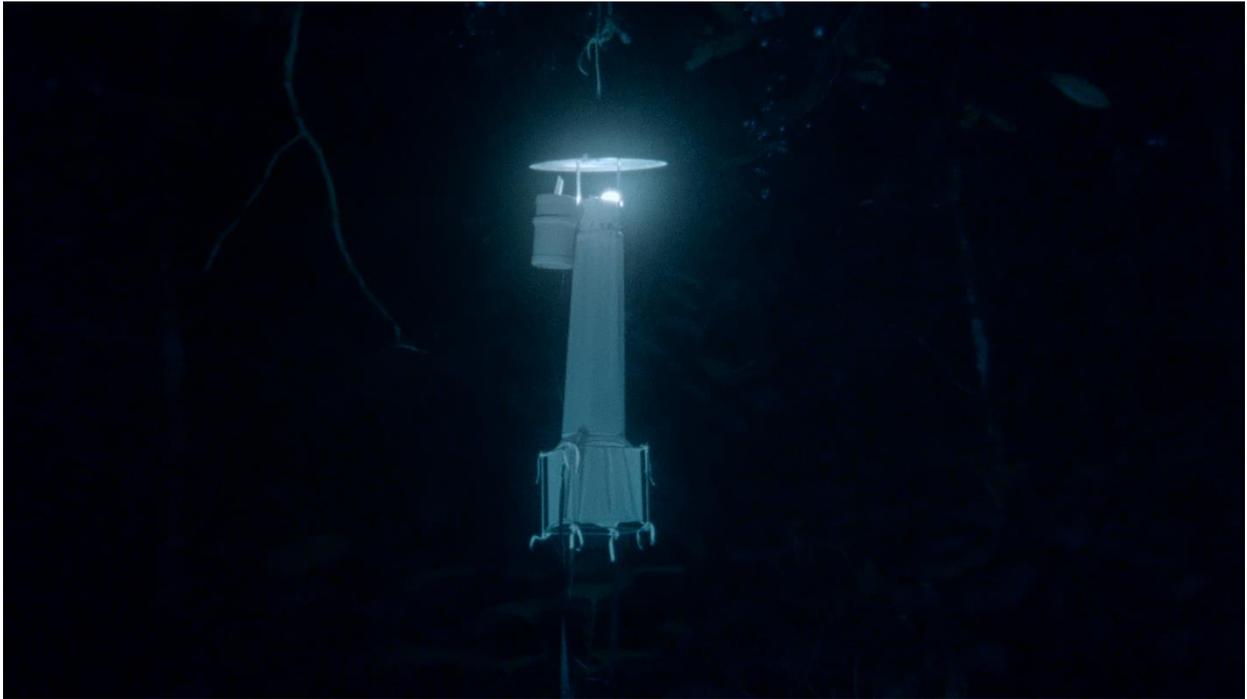
Trailer:

<https://vimeo.com/349134759>

pass: thebite

FILM STILLS





ON THE FILM

The Bite (original title: *A Mordida*) fictionalizes research completed at a genetically modified mosquito factory in São Paulo, Brazil, and veers between the present and an imagined future. The biological epidemic of a virus, loosely recalling Zika, being combatted partly through the use of the mutated mosquitoes, becomes an analogue to the rise of reactionary conservatism in Brazilian politics. We follow the protagonists—a man, a woman, and a transgender woman—through these intertwined crises, drawing lines between psychological and bodily horrors, political and medical breakdowns, the sterile heteronormativity of the lab and the assault on reproductive autonomy. While all these tensions express themselves in personal relations—as a retreat or a refuge from the crisis—the film nonetheless points to intimacy and care as possible futures beyond the constraints of a binary mentality, with the role of the male corrupted by the fluidity, both natural and artificial, that utterly surrounds him.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Pedro Neves Marques is a film director, visual artist, and writer. With a background in contemporary art, he has since 2017 steadily veered towards cinema. He has exhibited or screened his films at art institutions and museums such as Tate Modern, Serpentine Galleries, and Gasworks in London; Jeu de Paume in Paris; at the Pérez Art Museum of Miami and at Anthology Film Archives, New Museum, SculptureCenter and e-flux in New York; at V-A-C Foundation in Venice; Fundación Botín in Madrid; as well as at the Times Guangdong Museum in China, among others. Forthcoming solo shows and screenings include Castello di Rivoli in Turin, NTU CCA Singapore, at the Highline in New York and at CA2M in Madrid, as well as a new film commission for the 2020 Liverpool Biennial. His films have been exhibited at film festivals such as DocLisbon International Film Festival and Indie Lisboa Film Festival. Born in Lisbon, Portugal, he lives in New York.