

Project Brief: Quinta do Mocho Film

Project Overview

We are producing a short, documentary-style film that amplifies the voices of the Quinta do Mocho community. An exhibition of the work on the film to date will be shown at Rare Effect Festival (Lisbon, Nov 7–9, 2025) and later debut at Parallel Society (Lisbon, March 6-7 2026).

This film is a collective document of life in Mocho, and a tool for advocacy. It captures resilience, the work of local creatives, and the ongoing struggle for sovereignty, opportunity, and breaking negative cycles.

Why This Story Matters

The cultures and people of Quinta do Mocho are too often reduced to stigma and stereotypes from the outside. In reality, Mocho is a vibrant hub of artists, activists, and everyday resilience — yet its stories remain largely unseen. By amplifying the community's own voice, we aim to:

- Challenge the marginalisation of Lisbon's Black diaspora communities.
 - Highlight the housing crisis in Lisbon.
 - Showcase talent and cultural contributions born in Mocho.
 - Highlight the potential for parallel institutions in communities let down by local governance.
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Narratives & Themes

The film will organically weave together everyday lives, struggles, and hopes. Key threads include:

- **Struggles:** housing insecurity, systemic exclusion, youth lacking dedicated spaces, parents working without child support leaving young children alone.
- **Strengths:** artistic expression (rap, poetry, DJing, visual arts), community resilience, collective action.
- **Change-making:** educational initiatives, financial literacy, reclaiming community spaces, pressuring local government for accountability, building parallel institutions.

Style & Approach

- **Form:** raw, hand-held, editorial mini doc, short film feel.
- **Voices:** real conversations and voiceovers, no staged sit-down interviews.
- **Tone:** urgent yet hopeful, grounded in authenticity.
- **Goal:** centre lived experience and keep the lens focused on community life.

Key Messages / Audience Takeaways

- Resilience and creativity thrive in Mocho despite systemic obstacles.
- Culture is a force for dignity, pride, and transformation.
- Bottom-up solutions can break generational cycles and reshape futures by bringing new opportunities.
- Honest stories that connect with the audience and break down misconceptions

Team (Roles TBD)

- Vania
- Bangura
- Amelia
- Batu
- Lou
- Martim

(Roles to be assigned: Directing/Story, Camera/Visuals, Sound/Music, Production/Coordination.)