

**Young Artist Academy™ Awards
Nominee Written Interview – Miguel Martines**

Project: The Son of a Thousand Men

Directed by: Daniel Rezende

Trailer Link:

Netflix Brasil

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7F-uj7oWFw>

Netflix

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3gFPO65At9Q>

Website/Social Media Handles:

Netflix

<https://www.netflix.com/title/81739139>

Behind-the-Scenes

<https://about.netflix.com/en/news/the-son-of-a-thousand-men-featurette>

1 How would you describe the plot of this project?

First, I'd like you to know the official presentation of the project.

The first adaptation of a best-selling novel by writer Valter Hugo Mãe, the film follows Crisóstomo (Rodrigo Santoro), a lone fisherman who dreams of one day having a son. His life changes when he meets Camilo (Miguel Martines), an orphan boy whom he decides to foster. Meanwhile, as she tries to escape her own pain, Isaura (Rebeca Jamir) encounters the two of them, along with Antonino (Johnny Massaro), a misunderstood young man. Together, the four of them learn about the meaning of family and the purpose of sharing life with others. Believing that "when you dream big enough, reality follows," the narrative explores the beauty and complexity of human relationships, addressing themes such as acceptance and the formation of new familial bonds.

This is a beautiful story about five people who are set apart from society and carry deep emotional wounds.

Their lives come together to show that love can heal and that it's possible to build a new life and find happiness.

Crisóstomo (Rodrigo Santoro) meets Camilo, my character, an orphan boy raised by a strict grandfather. Along the way, they meet Isaura and Antonino, who also face judgment and struggles. Together, they evolve and become a new kind of family based on love, acceptance, and respect.

2 What was your fondest memory from working on the project?

I was welcomed with so much love by the entire cast, and we had a lot of fun together on set. When Rodrigo Santoro left the set, it was so heart-breaking because we spent so much time together and we created a real bond. And when I had to leave after three months, it was even harder. I even told my mom I didn't want to go back to "real world." It was my first film, and I will never forget that experience.

3 Were there any cool locations or sets that were fun/different/strange?

The shooting was in incredible locations.

In Búzios, Rio de Janeiro, we shot on beautiful beaches where the blue house was built. It was a magical place.

We also had some scenes in the ocean on a small boat — there were fish everywhere, the smell was awful, and the sea was very rough!

Another special place was Igatu, in Chapada Diamantina, Bahia — a stone village. One of the houses was inside a cave, and everything was made of stone, even the bathroom. It was a very unique experience.

4 Do you recall any particular memories with castmates or crew that were impactful?

One of the most impactful moments for me was shooting the most difficult scene. It was when Camilo shows prejudice towards Antonino. That scene was very emotional and challenging because I had to express anger that didn't feel natural for me. When we filmed it, I put myself on the character's shoes, and it was intense. But I had the support of everyone on set, who helped me a lot. Another unforgettable moment was the premiere. I watched the film holding hands with my director, Daniel Rezende, and I cried during the entire movie.

5 Did the project inspire you to see the world differently? Or did you learn anything new about the production process?

Yes, absolutely. The story taught me how important it is to hear, not to judge, and respect people for whom they are. I also learned a lot about the production process and how every step matters — from casting to filming and post-production. There were so many people involved, and each one played an important role.

6 What stands out to you from working on this project?

What stands out the most was how this project was a turning point in my life. I've never imagined either being on Netflix or being part of an international award. This is a very sensitive and a beautiful film about love, acceptance, and new beginnings, and I feel very grateful to taking part of it. I'd like to thank my director Daniel Rezende, the production companies, Netflix, the writer Valter Hugo Mãe, and the entire cast and crew. I learned so much, and I met incredible and talented people. That was the most special part for me.

7 If you were to produce a sequel or a continuation of this project, what would that be like?

I imagine Crisóstomo and Isaura having a baby, and Antonino getting married on the beach and finally being accepted by his mother. Camilo would learn more about his past and make new friendships, spreading their love and learnings about life.

8 What do you love most about the Entertainment Industry? What do you wish could be better?

I love how everything can be created — the special effects, the costume design. It feels magical. I also love how stories can connect people and inspire them. I have so much to learn and so many things to achieve, so I don't know what I'd change yet. I just want to keep growing and performing more.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to be nominated for this award. I feel truly honored to represent my film, *The Son of a Thousand Men*, and my country, Brazil. I couldn't be here without the help and people who trusted and believed in me. From the bottom of my heart, I thank the entire cast of the film. I'll never forget this moment I'll keep it forever.