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Imagining Curacao in the Work of Norman de Palm Caribbean Studies Association Conference

Angela Roe

African & African Diaspora Studies Program, Florida International University

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Imagining Curacao in the work of Norman de Palm

Angela E. Roe

Florida International University

May 2011





Family de Palm





“Finding magic in unexpected places is what drew me into the arts”



“Where two different cultures met at the dinner table”



Curacao Refinery, built in 1915



“Sampled Curacaoan”



“Hollywood;
stories that were
turned into films...”



“I am a fervent believer in elves, goblins, three wishes. You can shape your life. Nothing is impossible”

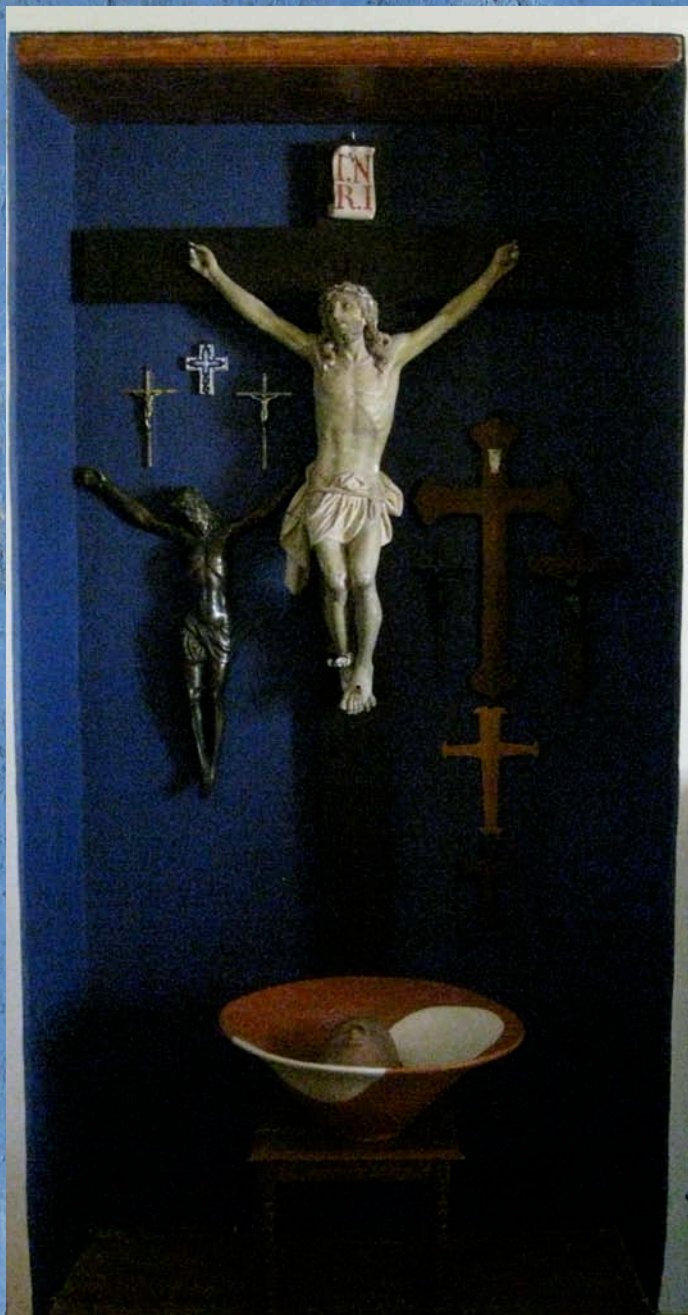


Norman's living room decorations



Under New bercherming!

“Under your protection”



The bedroom





the bathroom



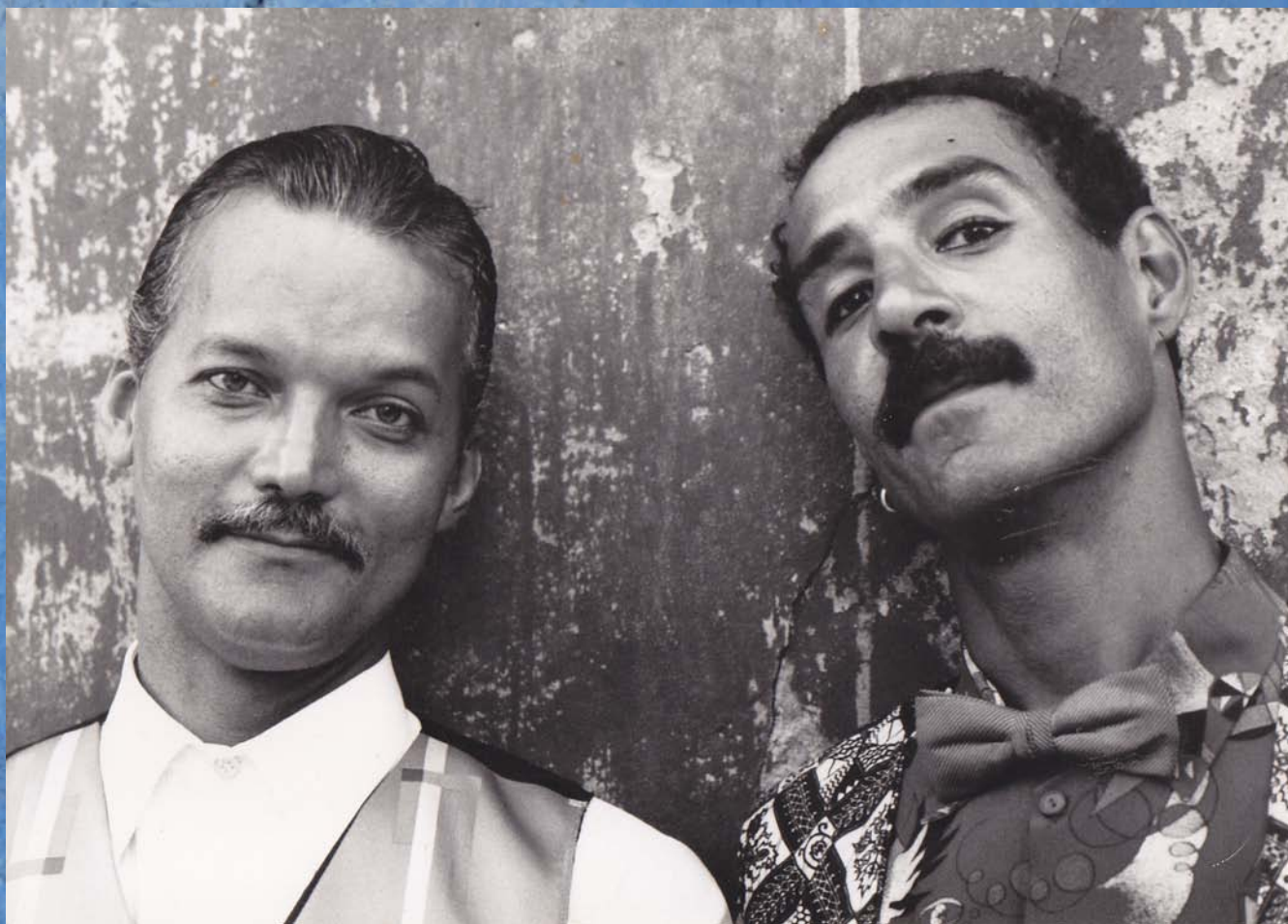
Nijmegen, the Netherlands: Clinical psychology



Norman & sister Jorina

Sambumbu's

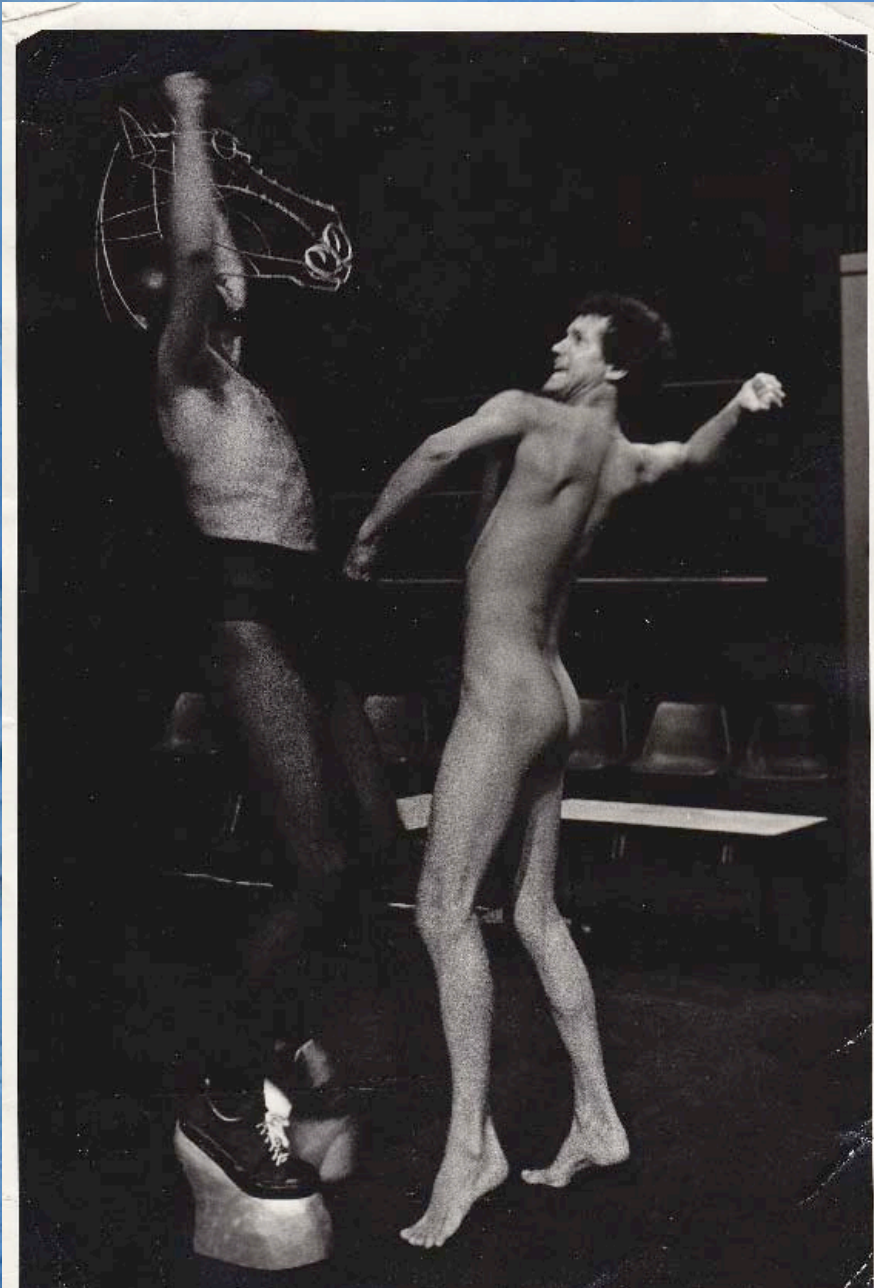




Norman de Palm & Felix de Rooy

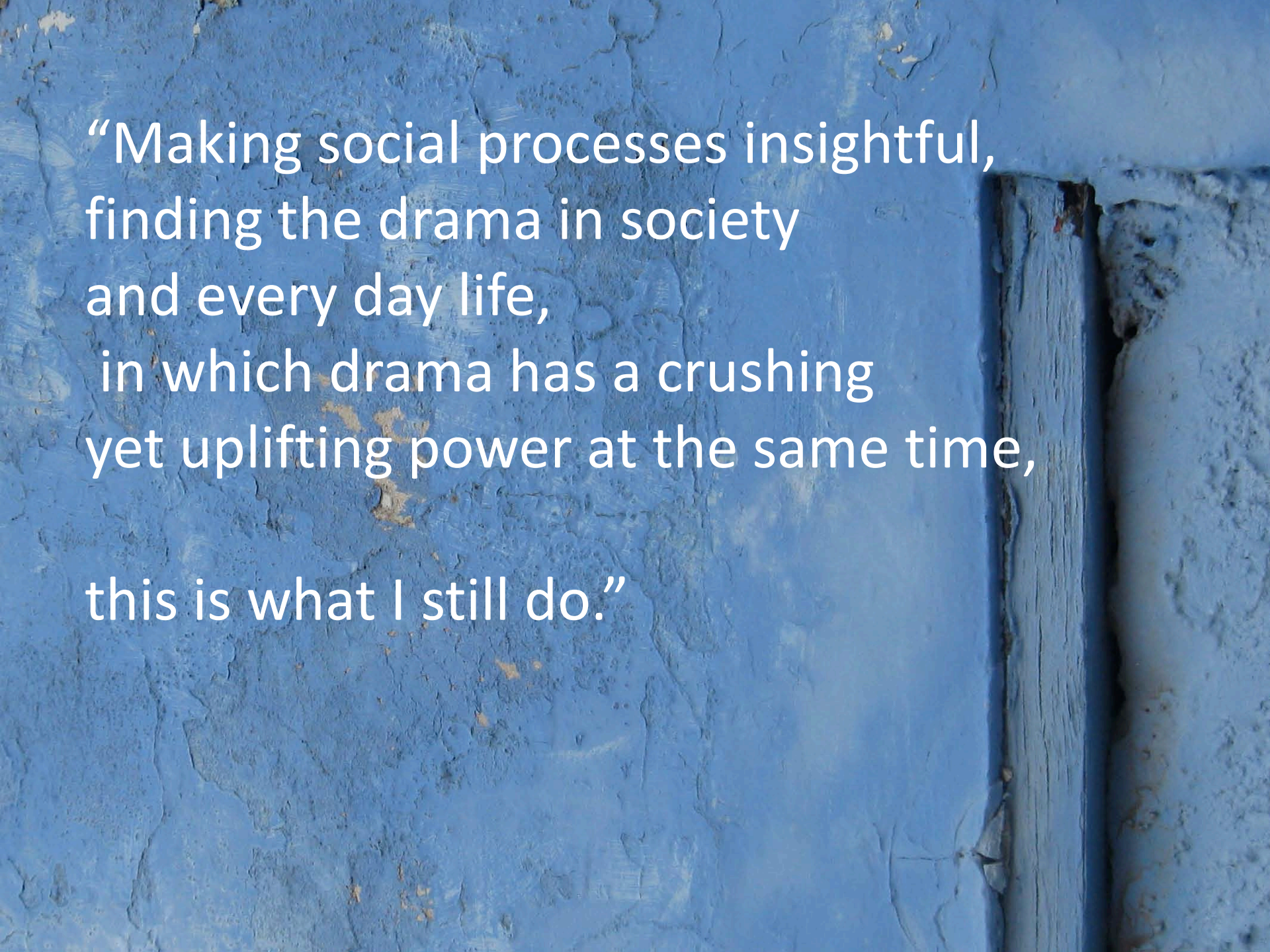
“Felix became one of the great minds
that contributed to my development,
to what propelled me”





Norman de Palm in
Equus, Curaçao





“Making social processes insightful,
finding the drama in society
and every day life,
in which drama has a crushing
yet uplifting power at the same time,
this is what I still do.”

- Arts: poetry, acting, sculpting, language, theater, FILM
- Multiculturality (creolization)
- Plural identities
- Fairytales & Myths
- Magic, surrealism
- Good vs Evil
- Psychology
- Catholic Church
- African lore
- Critiquing society / challenging authority / (60s)
- Community
- Curacao



Desiree

FUNDACION ARTE PRO ARTE Y DEPARTAMENTO DI CULTURA ARUBA TA PRESENTA

**PELICULA NA PAPIAMENTO PREMIA
INTERNACIONALMENTE NA PAISAN MANERA
INGLATERA, SPANA, BELGICA, BURKINA FASO Y MARTINIQUE**

ALMACITA DI DESOLATO

LUGA:



THE CINEMAS
RENAISSANCE

FECHA:

22 TE CU 28 OCTOBER 2008

ORARIO:

6:30 PM - 8:40 PM - 10:50 PM

CARCHI OBTENIBEL NA

VAN DORP O'STAD, Y SAN NICOLAAS Y SERCA

HIM TRÖMP PRAKTUK VOOR MONDHYGIENE, NA CAYA DR. JEM ARENDS 18, TEL 5889350

"UN PELICULA PRODUCI PA E ARUBIANO NORMAN DE PALM Y DIRIGI PA FELIX DE ROOY" NO PERDE!! SOLAMENTE ARI 10

DIR: Felix de Rooy

SCR/PROD: Norman de
Palm

1986, 100 min

Papiamentu
English subtitles



The priestess Solem, her baby Almacita
and her helper Lusio

“When we speak Papiamentu we speak from
the past to the now”



Tera Kora (Red Soil)

ALMACITA di DESOLATO

VAN

NORMAN PH DE PALM



The script



“I wanted to create a world in which you could see the strength of a community to redefine itself, to recover, to generate renewal”



Berimbao

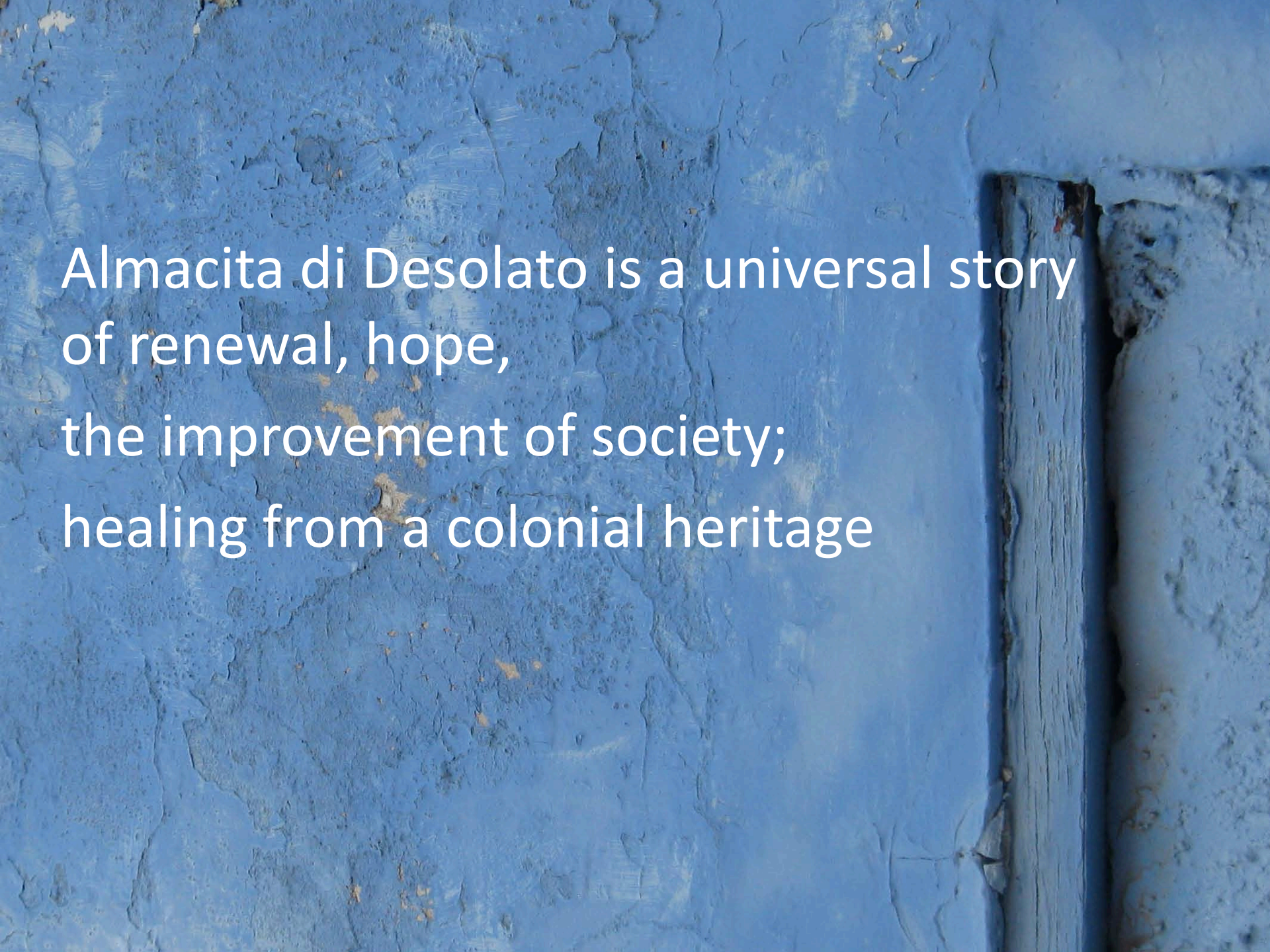


“Evil” - with green eyes

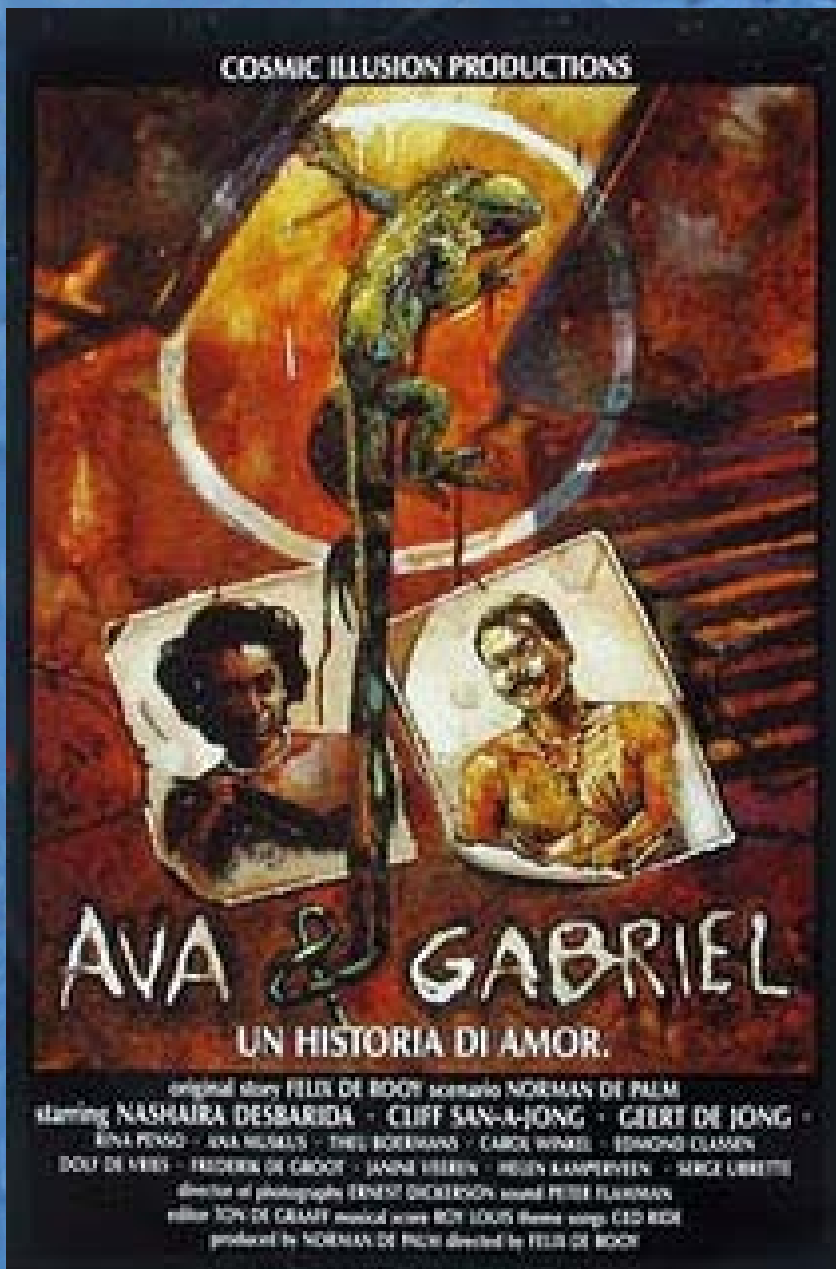




The forbidden fruit: cashew



Almacita di Desolato is a universal story
of renewal, hope,
the improvement of society;
healing from a colonial heritage



DIR: Felix de Rooy

SCR/PROD: Norman de Palm

Based on a story by
Felix de Rooy

1990, 100 min

Papiamentu & Dutch
English subtitles

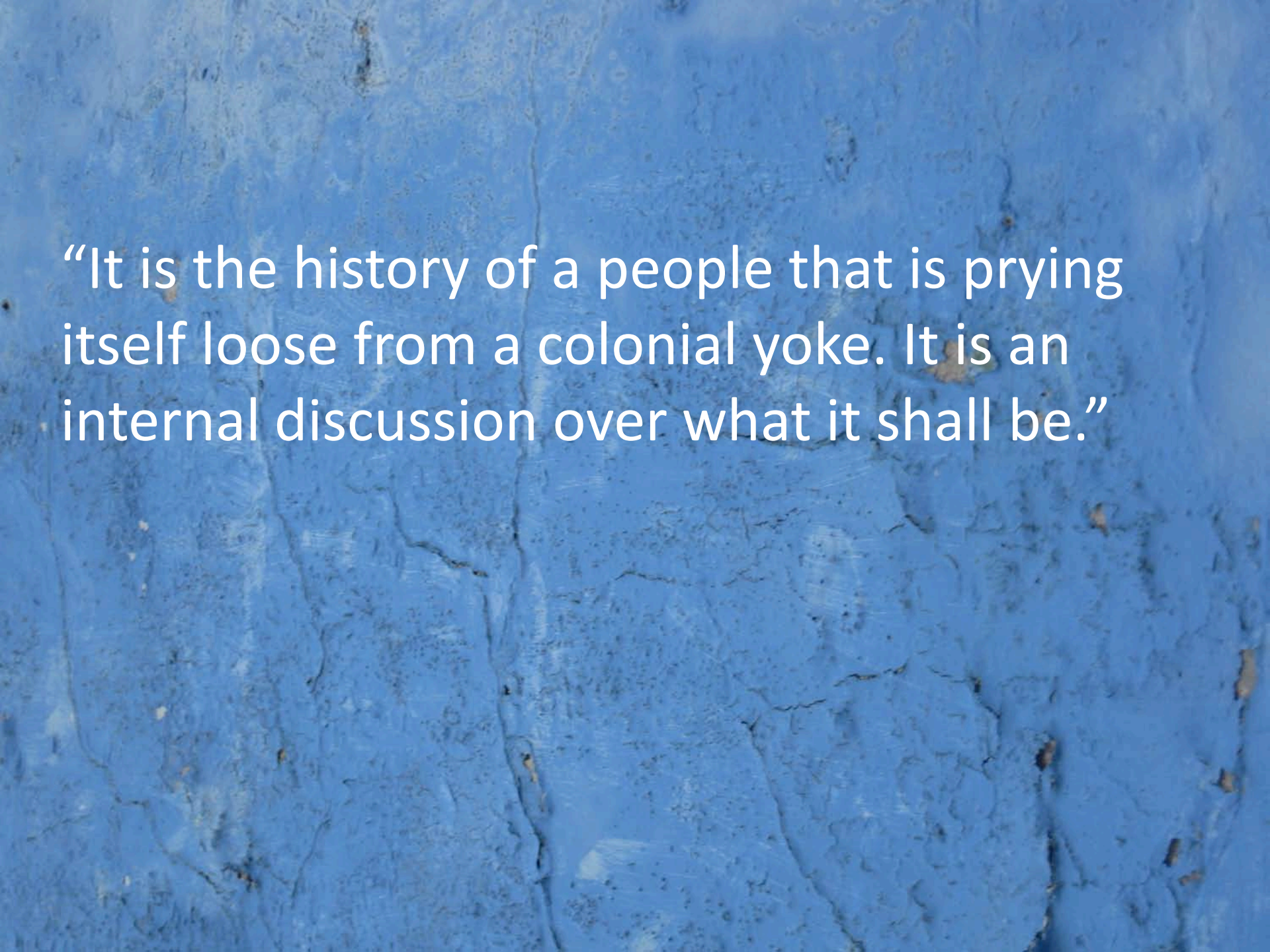






“The Governor represents the authority,
and he is married to the resistance”

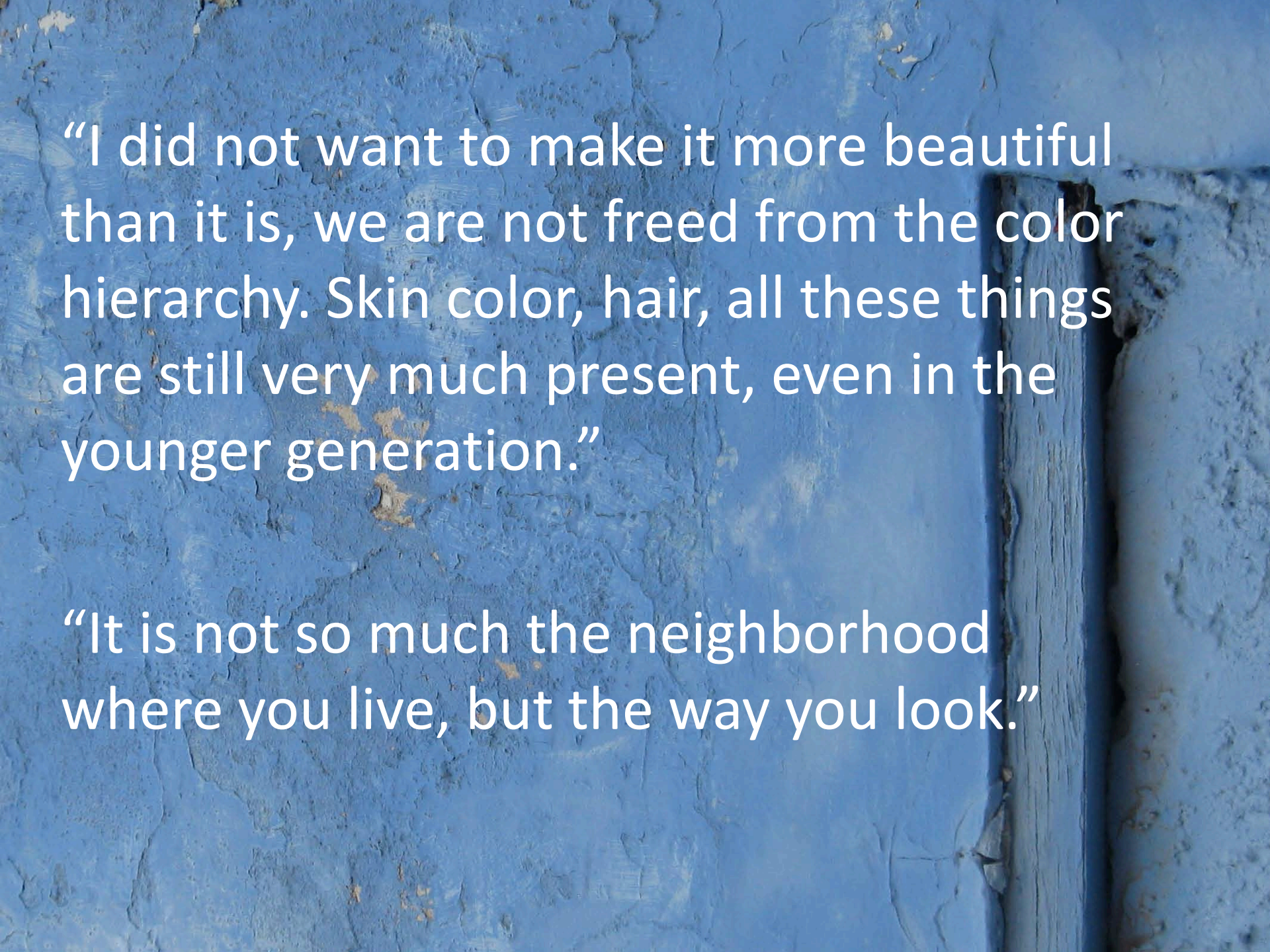




“It is the history of a people that is prying itself loose from a colonial yoke. It is an internal discussion over what it shall be.”



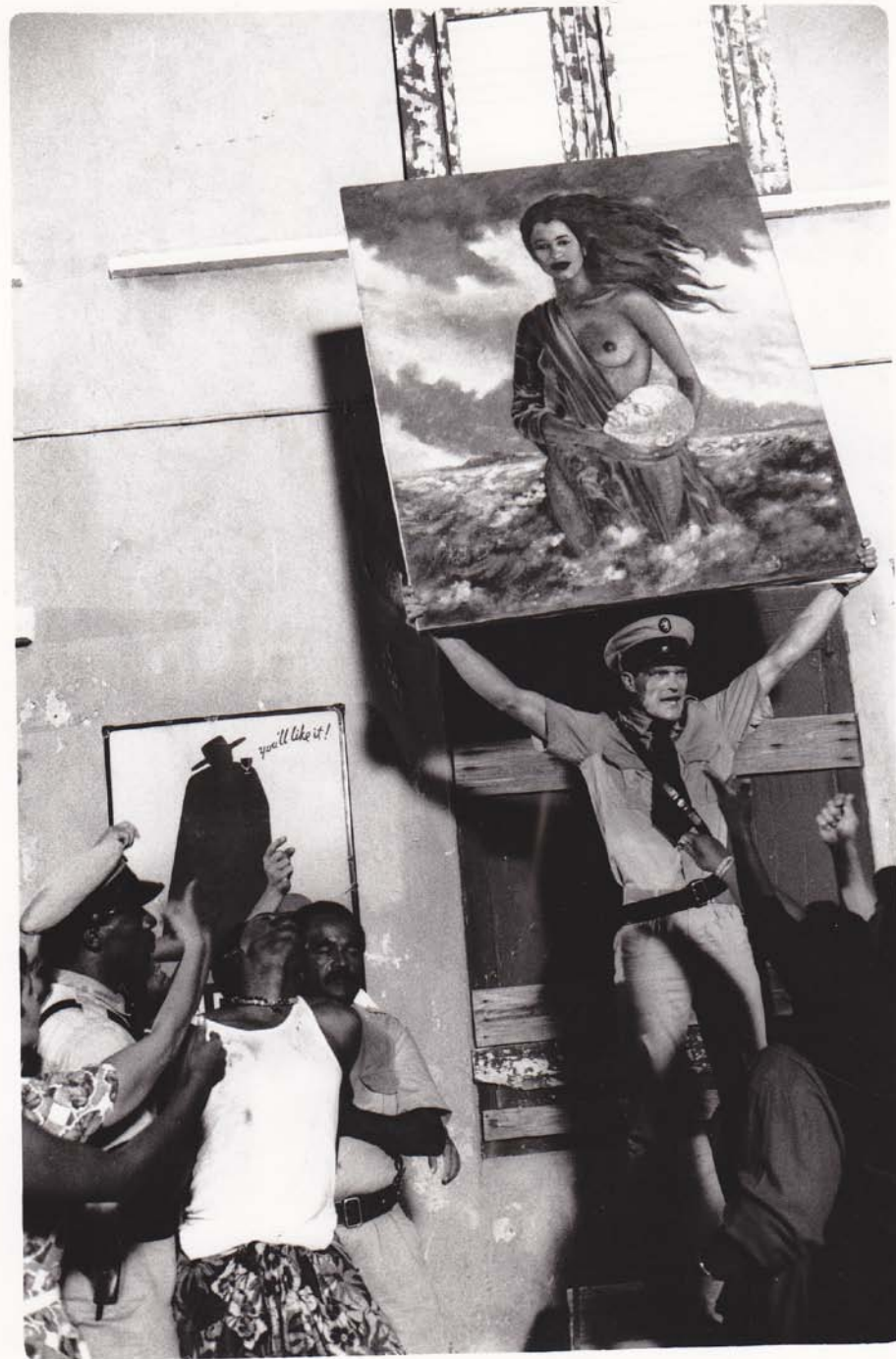




“I did not want to make it more beautiful than it is, we are not freed from the color hierarchy. Skin color, hair, all these things are still very much present, even in the younger generation.”

“It is not so much the neighborhood where you live, but the way you look.”

Ava as Yemaya



Oftentimes someone needs to be sacrificed, burned at the stake, in order to make change happen...



ZULAIKA



DIR: Diederik van Rooijen

SCR: Milushka Birge

PROD: Norman de Palm

2003, 100 min

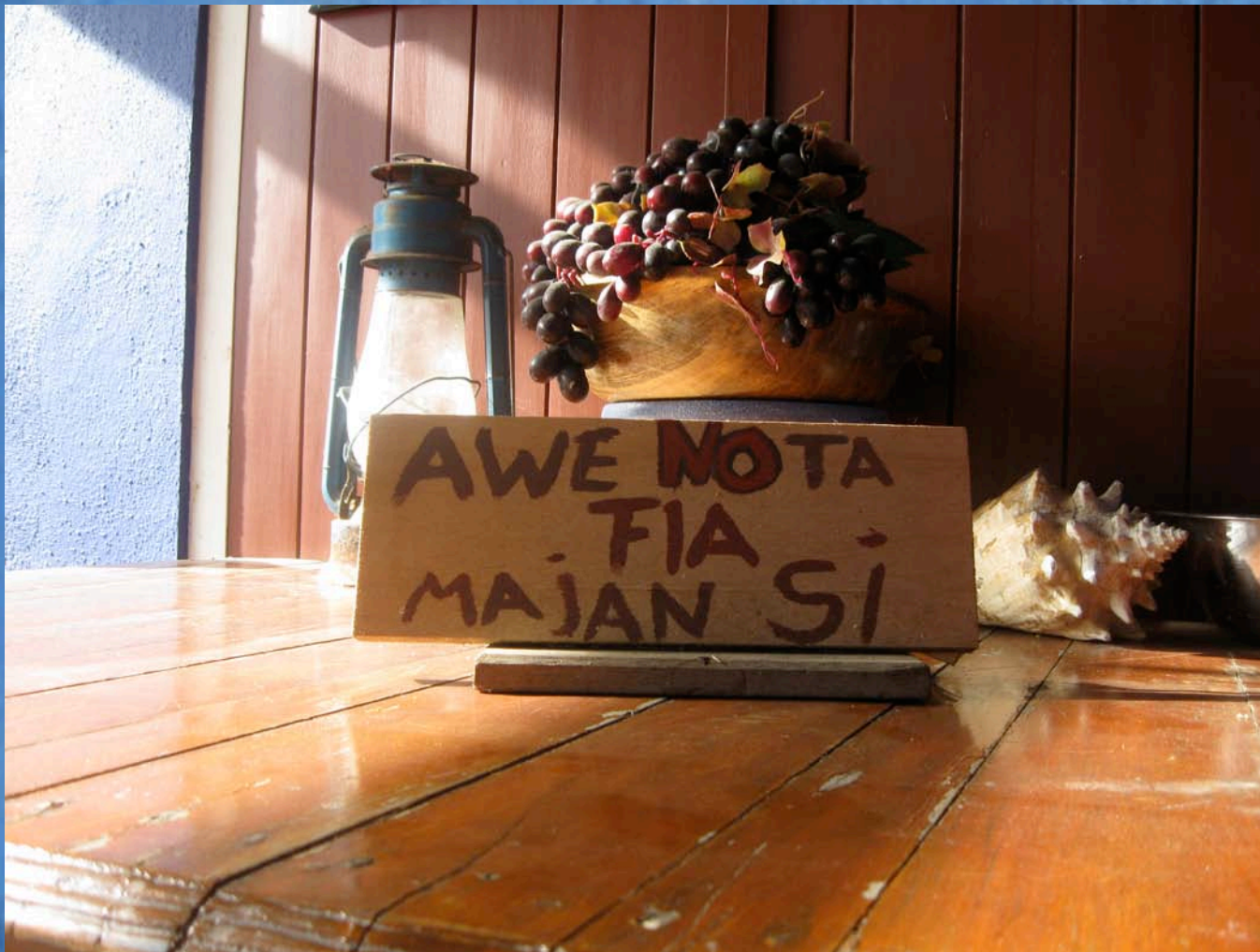
Papiamentu & Dutch
English subtitles

ZULAIKA

PAGA KESH

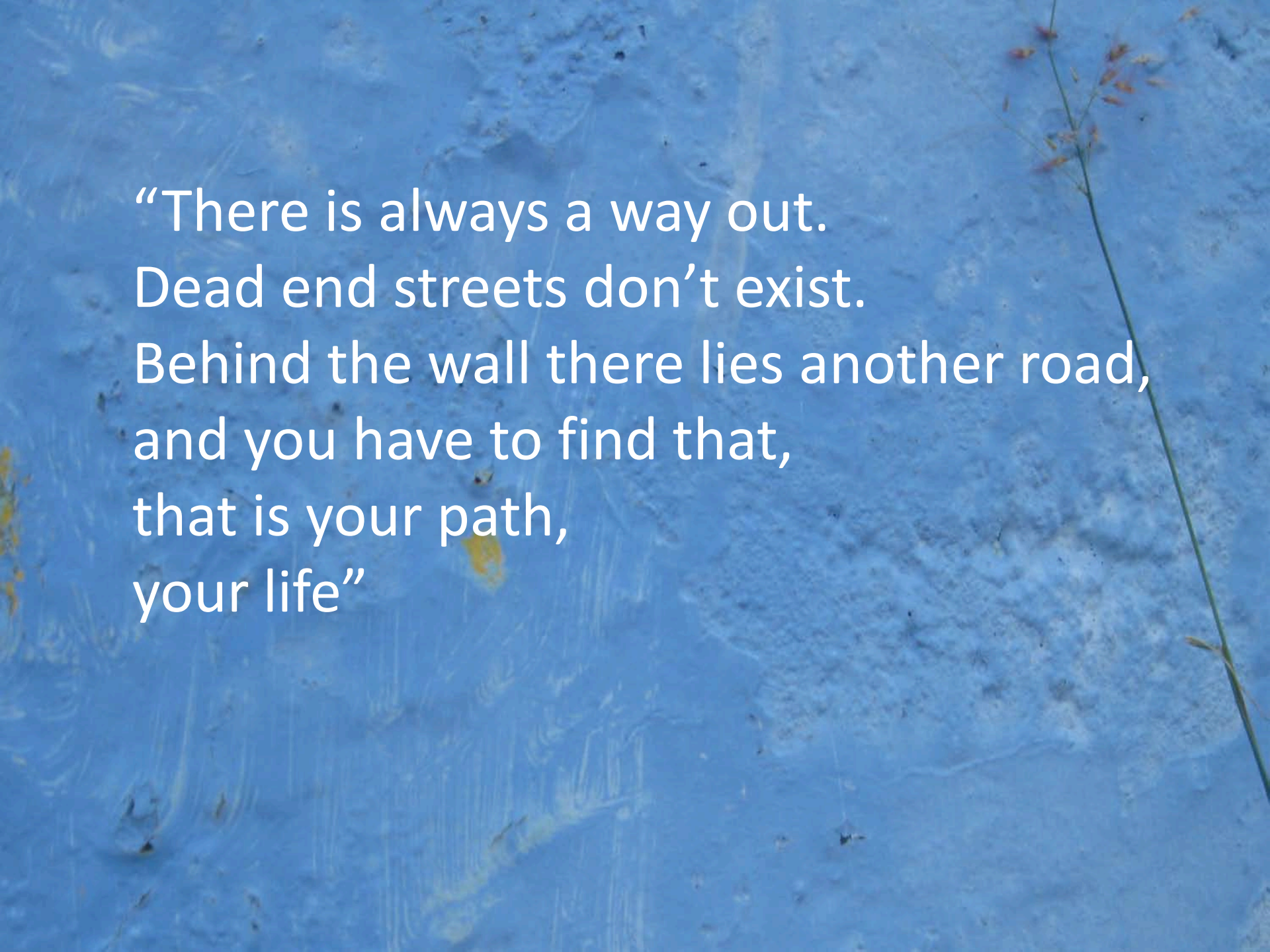
HISA BAI

“Pay cash, take
your purchase
home now”



“Today we DON”T lend things (run a tab),
tomorrow we do”

“I play this in Cuba and people think the movie takes place there around the corner”



“There is always a way out.
Dead end streets don't exist.
Behind the wall there lies another road,
and you have to find that,
that is your path,
your life”

ZULAIKA





San Antonio





Teatro Luna Blou





