



LAZA

Director - Producer - President of APASER
Founding Director of MADAGASCOURT Film Festival

Commander of the Order of Arts, Letters, and Culture of Madagascar

Biography

Laza holds a Master's degree in film directing / assistant director for cinematographic and audiovisual works. He studied in Paris at **La Femis** and at **ESEC**.

In 2006, he created the annual **Rencontres du Film Court de Madagasikara (RFC)**, now known internationally through **MADAGASCOURT Film Festival**, where he remains the director.

With his production company **Rozifilms** and the ecosystem he has built around **MADAGASCOURT / RFC**, Laza has played a central role in the emergence of contemporary Malagasy cinema. Over the past fifteen years, he has produced, executive-produced or directly supported the work of the overwhelming majority of Malagasy directors active today - close to nine out of ten - while also creating the **SERASARY Fund** in 2011 to support production.

He is President of **APASER**, the Pan-African Alliance of Screenwriters and Directors, and is strongly engaged in projects defending the rights of African audiovisual authors. He is a board member of **FEPACI**, the Pan-African Federation of Filmmakers, and a board member of **AVACI**, the Audiovisual Authors International Confederation.

Since 2023, he has served, and continues to serve, as **Direção de Curadoria** for the **Encontro de Cinema Negro Zozimo Bulbul** in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

His international curatorial work also includes the **Festival International de Films de Fribourg (FIFF)**, where he curated the 2014 parallel section "Terra incognita: Madagascar / Nouveau territoire: Madagascar", introducing Malagasy cinema through a selection of feature films, documentaries, shorts and animation works.

From 2019 to 2023, he was a member of the selection committee of **FESPACO**. From 2016 to 2020, he was a member of the Cinema Commission of the **Fonds Image de la Francophonie**.

Through **CINEMALAGASY**, presented in the official SFC | Rendez-vous Industry market catalogue of the Festival de Cannes / Cinéma de Demain, he has created an international showcase for short films from Madagascar and works connected to Malagasy cinema.

He has also been a mentor for projects at **Talents Durban / Durban FilmMart**, and has served as an expert for **Berlinale Talents**.

He has served on the juries of numerous film festivals, including the **Locarno Film Festival (Jury)**, **FESPACO (Jury)**, **Journées Cinématographiques de Carthage (JCC, Jury)**, **Festival Films Courts de Dinan (Jury)**, **Interfilm Berlin**, **Kenya International Film Festival (KIFF)**, **International Film Festival of Africa and Islands (FIFAI)** in La Réunion, **Comoros International Film Festival (CIFF)**, and the **International Film Festival of Kinshasa (FIKIN)** in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

He has also worked as a film consultant and cultural expert for numerous institutions and cultural organizations, including the **Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)**, **UNESCO**, the **European Union Delegation to Madagascar and the Comoros**, the **Indian Ocean Commission**, the **Institut français de Madagascar**, and the **Goethe-Zentrum Antananarivo / CGM**.

Online version and press materials

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