

Ponto dos Mentirosos// Atlas of a Village

Radio-Drama by Merzouga & Nina Hellenkemper

Editor: Sabine K uchler. Produced by Deutschlandfunk 2019.



500 years ago Pedro  lvarez Cabral landed on this beach and "discovered" Brazil. The "tree of liars", the Ponto dos Mentirosos, still stands on the banks of the jungle river. Here people gather to tell each other stories. Like the myth of the mermaid who rose from the Atlantic at night in order to steal fruit. Or of the fisherwoman, whose house has already been carried away twice by the sea. The medicine man's hut used to stand in the middle of the jungle, the Mata Atlantica. Over the past 60 years the forest disappeared, the garden with the medicinal herbs has dried up. When the longing for the vanished forest and the birds becomes too overwhelming, Jakama, his wife, sings the songs of former times. The young are no longer interested in the knowledge of the plants. But when the full moon emerges from the sea, three hundred Patax  dance around the fire. They proudly sing, adorn themselves and drum. The "atlas of a village" combines stories, songs and sounds from the oldest village of the new Brazil with an opulent sound composition and evokes a tropical place of dark beauty.

Featuring Felix von Manteuffel, Juan Carlos Lobo, Susanne Barth & Michael Witte.

Sound engineers: Eva P pplein.

Composed by: Merzouga.

Directed by Merzouga & Nina Hellenkemper

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Foto credits:   Hajo Drees/Deutschlandradio.