

Empower the Favela
by Maike Pricelius / Adrian Mengay [urps]

Favelas can be thought of as a materialization of the social exclusion that affects their inhabitants. Though crowded with people, lacking infrastructure, and manifesting cultural and economical discrimination, favelas are nevertheless places of solidarity and laboratories of political, economic and cultural alternatives. This documentary explores the practices of empowerment developed by various institutions in their struggle for a better life and interrelates issues such as community development, education, social history, favela culture and "economia solidaria".

Wie Bienenwaben türmen sich die wilden Bebauungen entlang brasilianischer Städte. In Favelas und verfallenen Häusern konzentriert sich die urbane Armut. Ausgehend von den prekären Orten spürt der Film dem Phänomen der Selbstermächtigung nach und führt in das Leben der Bewohner ein. Er begleitet urbane Akteure in Sao Paulo und Rio de Janeiro und dokumentiert politische, ökonomische und kulturelle Alternativen.

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