

Preview: *Pasanaku*, a film by Invernomuto commissioned by the association Bolivia-9

June 15, 2025 – Musée d'art et d'histoire de Genève (MAH)



Pasanaku, still image, 2025 © Invernomuto, courtesy by the artists

Press release – Geneva, May 1st, 2025

The Nouveaux commanditaires (New Patrons) are pleased to announce the preview screening of *Pasanaku*, a film by the Italian artist duo Invernomuto, in collaboration with association Bolivia-9. The event will take place on 15 June 2025 at the Musée d'art et d'histoire de Genève (MAH), in the presence of the directors and actors (free entry). The film gives a voice to the various generations of the Bolivian community living in Switzerland, and in Geneva in particular. Partly fiction, partly documentary, it brings together personal accounts, traditional dance and music, and many elements of Bolivian cultural heritage. Tracing the stories and collective histories that shape the construction of the Bolivian community in Switzerland, the work opens up a dialogue on the issues of transmission and the search for belonging.

Initiated in 2018, the project was born out of the desire to value and highlight the Bolivian diaspora in Switzerland from an intergenerational perspective. Supported by Les Nouveaux commanditaires (New Patrons), the association Bolivia-9 played an active role in developing the project, from drafting the

specifications to developing fundraising, up to organising the preview. The members of Bolivia-9, both commissioners and actors of the film, play their own roles, talking about their experiences and the challenges they have faced in Switzerland, "*e/ país de los bancos*". The title of the film refers to a "*pasanaku*", an informal lending practice based on solidarity and trust. This saving system or shared pot, set up mainly to meet needs or dreams, is deeply rooted in Bolivian communities.

During the organisation of a "*pasanaku*", members of the community discuss their cultural differences as a result of coming from a country with multiple identities and 37 official languages. Based on the principle of capturing images used during sessions of the United Nations Security Council, Invernomuto films each testimonial using a rotating camera set up in the centre of the table.

Scenes of dance and music are added to the testimonials. Bringing together more than 150 Bolivian dancers and musicians from Geneva and

Switzerland, the "*fiesta*" celebrates a living, ancient and complex culture, transmitted through sounds and bodies in movement. The dancers in their shimmering costumes contrast with the sobriety of the neoclassical architecture. These sequences shot in the Musée d'art et d'histoire question the place of a minority culture in Western narratives. Behind the collective, festive energy, tensions are revealed – the difficulties of living together with a cultural heritage that is sometimes repressed.

Other elements are added to the interweaving of scenes, giving the film another dimension. The filmmakers pay tribute to "*alasitas*", another important aspect of Bolivian tradition. "*Alasitas*" – derived from the festival of the same name - are miniature objects or figurines that people give every year to wish each other good fortune. These symbolic items, in the form of paper tickets, goods, diplomas or residence permits, are filmed in up-close shots. Their presence resonates with the film's music, some of which was composed by artist and musician Elysia Crampton Chuquimia ([Instagram](#)/[Website](#)). They were recently awarded a Silver Lion at the Musica 2025 Biennale in Venice, in recognition of their body of work. Their practice blends experimental music, electronic composition and folk sounds, as part of a decolonial approach and cultural resistance.

The film takes us on an increasingly ecstatic visual and sonic choreography, driven by the musical rhythms, bright colours, dance movements and communicative warmth of the characters.

Invernomuto

[Instagram](#) / [Website](#)

The Invernomuto duo – formed by Simone Bertuzzi and Simone Trabucchi – has been exploring the persistence and mutations of popular cultures in the globalised world for over 15 years. Through films, installations and musical collaborations, their work navigates between diasporic narratives, systems of representation and visual technologies. Their work has been shown at Nuit Blanche (Paris), the Liverpool Biennial of Contemporary Art, and the Bourse de Commerce – Pinault Collection (Paris). From May to July 2025, the duo will be taking up an artistic residency at La Becque in Switzerland. (<https://labecque.ch/invernomuto/>)

Bolivia-9

[Email](#)

The association Bolivia-9, founded in Geneva in 2009 with the aim of obtaining a Bolivian consulate in Switzerland, is working for the integration of Bolivians and their descendants.

Nouveaux Commanditaires Suisse

Since 2014, the Nouveaux commanditaires (New Patrons) have been working with groups wishing to address a social issue through an artistic work. Their

mission: to make the commission process accessible to everyone, with no requirement for artistic training or financial means. It currently accompanies 6 project commissions in the cantons of Geneva, Vaud, Bern and Basel. The Bolivia-9 commission is the fourth to be carried out, with the mediation of Charlotte Laubard.

[Instagram](#) / [Facebook](#) / [Website](#)

Save the date

June 15, 2025 – Musée d'art et d'histoire (MAH)

14:00 *Pasanaku*: 1st preview screening

15:30 Welcome drinks

16:00 *Pasanaku*: 2nd preview screening

A discussion with the artists, the patrons and the mediator will follow the screenings.

Technical information

Genre: Artist film / documentary / fiction

Director: Invernomuto

Cast: 150 members of the Bolivian community in Geneva and Bolivian musicians from other parts of Switzerland

Languages: French, Spanish, Quechua, Aymara

Subtitles: French, English

Duration: c. 60 min

Format: HD 4K

Production: Nouveaux Commanditaires Suisse

Production assistance: Grégory Bindschedler, Swiss Label

Partners and patrons

Fondation Leenaards, Fondation de France, Loterie Romande, République et canton de Genève, FCAC (Fond cantonal pour l'art contemporain), HEAD-Genève, Musée d'art et d'histoire de Genève, Fonction:cinéma

Press material and information

For all press enquiries, please contact info@nc-na.ch

Wren Cellier

Press

+41 78 972 37 27

info@nc-na.ch

Charlotte Laubard

Mediator Nouveaux Commanditaires Suisse

+41 76 323 11 44

c.laubard@nc-na.ch