



Lamb Projects inaugurates new art space in Mayfair with the exhibition of contemporary Brazilian artists:

#Project II
Equilíbrios Efêmeros
Tulio Pinto, Carla Chaim and Tete de Alencar

Curator
Marcello Pisu

Opening: 25th November 2014, 6 pm 10 Whitehorse Street, London, W1J 7LJ

Lamb Projects, directed by Lucinda Bellm, presents its first show in the new space in Mayfair, curated by Berlin/São Paulo based curator Marcello Pisu. The show displays the installation, sculpture, drawing and video work of three artists, who decline in their practice the topics of dynamic equilibrium between the social, political, environmental, physical, cultural extremes of our time.

Curatorial Text

Landing in São Paulo, the city looks like a gigantic plate of concrete laid on the brightest, densest of the vegetations, a layer of inert matter over a fertile ground. This impressively imposing grey creation, though, is not thick enough to make you forget what lies beneath. The merciless opacity and linearity of the dominant architecture, testament of an imported, grandiose ambition for modernity, couldn't contain the real nature of this land. The roots crack the asphalt in every corner, the sound of the lively soil talks through those who were born here, or feel like they did. The earth here vibrates in its constant stillness. Meanwhile, in the capital Brasilia, completely designed after the idea of an airplane, the sky is the real totalising element, permanent reminder of the absolute power of simplicity. In Rio, you couldn't stop feeling the presence of the ocean even in the highest of the mountains surrounding it. From north to south, some call these voices saints, some orishas: thankfully, the cultural equation doesn't have one solution, yet. How could it, in a place where natural and artificial are so extreme? Where life takes so many different manifestations in the same "nation", to the point that the notion itself is dubious. How close to the rest of the world can isolation bring you? Playing the rules of the strongest? Being Americans or Europeans? Being none of this? Being future, or primitive? The dilemma would be of easier solution, if the extremes wouldn't move so fast: which modernity to become, or which prehistory?

In this day and age of polarising tensions, when art often becomes a style, or an item of the gross domestic product, rather than a category of reality, the scene of independent art spaces in Brazil and especially São Paulo, has the aspect of a new wave of cultural activism. The content and the context appear experimental, non-linear, impermanent, and ultimately against the real enemy of the artistic expression: conformism. How could a finished object, or a repetition of a technique, reflect the revolutions of our time, the open process that is redefining society as our parents know it?

Inspired by the new wave of Brazilian independent art spaces, LAMB Projects and the exhibition Equilíbrios Efêmeros bring to London the intention of an open space, an open process, an open dialogue. Three Brazilian artists are invited to occupy the three rooms of the Mayfair space with their work on the topics of individual and collective transformation, personal and social balance.

Tulio Pinto's sculptures and installations are at the same time conflictual and supporting encounters between industrial materials at the limit of their physical resistance and balance, ephemeral conversations inspired by the laws of the universe and their transformational essence.

Coming from painting, Carla Chaim's art is the redefinition itself of her creative processes. Her videos, drawings, sculptures, are as much about destruction of traditional techniques, as much as about the search of a dynamic balance, meaning not a final solution, but an asymptotic research between control and loss of it.

Tete de Alencar proposes a possible environmental and social balance with her Ecotopias. Like in a bottled message, where the content perishes in the moment we choose to read it, Tete offers us an ideal, but ephemeral world, in jewellery cases. Just like the Amazon rainforest brings life to the whole planet if it is respected, a utopia dies if it becomes a forgotten dream.

BIOGRAPHIES

Tulio Pinto (1974)

Lives and works in Porto Alegre. Born in Brasilia. Has a degree in visual arts specializing in sculpture UFRGS (2009). Tulio is co-founder and member of the Atelier Subterrânea. In his sculptures and installations, the balance of the parts is achieved by the match between materials weights, sizes and densities such as concrete, iron plates and glass. The production revolves around the concept of ephemerality and transformation explored from the materials characteristics. Among its exhibitions can be highlighted "From territories, abysses and intentions", Contemporary Project RS – Santander Cultural Porto Alegre, Porto Alegre, 2013; "CEP: body, space and route", IFRN Gallery, Natal – Brazil, 2013; "Ground", Baró Gallery – São Paulo, 2013; "Salvaje – Digesting Europe Piece by Piece" – Traneudstillingen Exhibition Space, Copenhagen – Denmark, 2012; "Transposition" – Augusto Meyer Gallery – Casa de Cultura Mario Quintana, Porto Alegre, 2012; "New Brazilian Sculpture" – Caixa Cultural Rio de Janeiro, among others .

Carla Chaim (1983)

Lives and works in São Paulo. She graduated in Fine Arts at Fundação Armando Alvares Penteado – FAAP, 2004, where she also completed a Master's degree in Art History, 2007. With her drawing, video and installation she approaches a wide range of everyday issues. The work is created in the field of experience, allowing for coincidental, accidental and unexpected connections. The artist works with the notion of control in her pieces, both through pre-established rules and in her physical movements in making a drawing, for example, using the body as an important tool in this process. Carla Chaim participated in Artist Residencies: Arteles, Finland, 2013; Halka Sanat Projesi, Turkey, 2012; The Banff Centre for the Arts, Canada, 2010. In 2014, she had her first solo exhibition, in Lisbon, Portugal, at Carpe Diem Art and Research, and participated in group shows such as "Afinidades", at Instituto Tomie Ohtake, and "Entre dois mundos", at Museu Afro- Brasil, in São Paulo, Brazil. Received several awards, among them Prêmio Funarte de Arte Contemporânea, and Prêmio Energias na Arte, at Instituto Tomie Ohtake. Her work is part of collections such as Ella Fontanals-Cisneros and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Brazil, Itamaraty.

Tete de Alencar (1973)

Born in Salvador de Bahia, and raised in Fortaleza, she lives and works in London. Her studies include an M.A in Fine Art at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London, a B.A. in Fine Art at the Liverpool John Moores University, and (what?) at the London Film Academy. Her work refers to various techniques including film, photography, drawing, textile and glass making and it's inspired by contemporary society and its complex issues such as mass media, the exploitation of the female figure and the environment. Her work has been exhibited in art and design fairs like Art Rio, Saatchi Art Fair, London Art Fair, Pinta, in museums like the National Museum of Bahrain, the Museum of Contemporary Art and Illustration in Valencia, Funarte in Fortaleza, and festivals like Romarias de Mayo Art Festival in Cuba, the Festival International de Video and Arts Digitals in Girona. She was awarded by Wales Arts International, the British Council, the Arts Council of Wales with the Grant for Creativity, and the UAMO in Germany.