

TRANSOCEANEXPRESS

Paulo Nazareth | Runo Lagomarsino | João Pedro Vale + Nuno Alexandre Ferreira | Wantanee Siripattananuntakul | Nikolaj Larsen

Curated by Alexandre Melo

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In the context of a world and culture in the process of globalization, it is necessary to break with strict notions of cultural identity based on strict geographical belonging, mythical substantial contents or abstract symbolic essences.

The collapse of fixed and substantial identities is the result of the impact of massive migrations, the planetary structure of the means of social communication and the cultural industries, the cosmopolitan nature of more dynamic artistic creations and the intensity of cultural exchanges, confrontations and miscegenations that result from all these phenomena.

It is about replacing a substantial conception of identity as heritage for a dynamic conception of identity as a process, built on notions such as translation, voyage and diaspora. Identity is permanent negotiation. Identity, today, is no longer, maybe, an identity. Perhaps it never was.

The artists, namely the artists gathered in this exhibition, due to the nature of the ways of imagination and creativity inherent to their activities, offer us privileged occasions to leave our very tiny day-to-day world and take on the challenge of accompanying them in their journeys and geographical and metaphorical metamorphoses that animate their works and give us, all of us, excitement to see and live the world beyond every boarder.

The defense of an open and complex political and theoretical position, in line with the global dynamics of the contemporary world, means that all identities are constructed and reconstructed, in a process of movement and adjustment, in which we are simultaneously ourselves and all others, inhabiting a virtual place of translation between different spaces, times, memories and imaginations. Let's call it the transoceanic place of crossing. TRANSOCEANEXPRESS

Alexandre Melo

Biographies

Paulo Nazareth

Paulo Nazareth (Governador Valadares, 1977) lives and works around the world.

He studied Linguistics at Faculdade de Letras, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, in Brazil, and received his BFA at Escola de Belas Artes, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais.

His performance and installation work is often inspired on his African and indigenous heritage, and he collects video, photos and found objects that document his journeys of self exploration. The artist explores themes that are often related to race, ideology and the unequal distribution of development through his practice that is both interdisciplinary and participatory. Nazareth seeks to embody the idea of the artist as a connector, a decoder, and a philosopher.

His work can be found in the Boros Collection (Berlin, Germany); Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary (Vienna, Austria); Pinault Collection (Venice, Italy); Coleção Banco Itaú (São Paulo Brazil); Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil); Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art (Oslo, Norway); Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo (São Paulo, Brazil); Rubell Family Collection (Miami, USA); Tate (London, UK).



*Sem título, da série Notícias de América, 2011/ 2012
Santa Rita, Santo Antônio, São Roque, 2019
São Roque, Santa Amália, São Francisco, 2019*

Runo Lagomarsino

Runo Lagomarsino (Lund, Sweden, 1977) lives and works between Malmö and São Paulo.

He received his BFA at Academy of Fine Art Valand in Gothenburg, Sweden, in 2001, and his master's degree in Fine Art at Malmö Art Academy in Sweden (2003).

In 2008, he undertook the Whitney Independent Study Program in New York, USA.

Born in Sweden, with exiled Argentinian parents who descended from Italian emigrants who fled Europe during the First World War, Lagomarsino's biography set the tone for his artistic endeavor.

Lagomarsino's oeuvre finds itself within a critical, decolonial project. His work presents alternative perspectives on historical, political and cultural power relationships. Often employing strategies of displacement and transformation to question the writing of history, especially within the context of South America, his installations, sculptures, pictures, and films focus on how today's political and social environment has developed through historical processes, and how this creates metaphors and pictures from which we read history and society.

His work is part of many national and international collections, such as, Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, Miami, USA; Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas; Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangdong, China; Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA; Teixeira de Freitas' Art Collection, Lisbon, Portugal; etc.



La Neblina, 2018

João Pedro Vale + Nuno Alexandre Ferreira

João Pedro Vale (Lisbon, 1976), graduated in Sculpture from Faculdade de Belas-Artes de Lisboa and he also studied at Escola Maumaus. Nuno Alexandre Ferreira (Torres Vedras, 1973), studied Sociology at the Universidade Nova de Lisboa. They have been working together since 2004, in several projects that range from sculpture to photography, to production of shows and theatre, performances and videos.

In their practice, they recreate objects, symbols and sayings related to traditional and popular views of History. These new shapes are reinvented through a radical change on materials, contexts and connotations, that create a dichotomy between poor materials and rich effects, echoing the luxury and the kitsch. There's a big resource of modest materials that sabotage the distinction of erudite and vernacular and place sexual references on unconventional supplies that appeal to all senses.

Their works are featured in private and public collections such as Tate (London), Serralves Foundation (Porto), Museu do Chiado (Lisbon), Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (Lisbon), Navacerrada Collection (Madrid).



Spice Sculpture (Saffron), 2009

Wantanee Siripattananuntakul

Wantanee Siripattananuntakul (1974) lives and works in Bangkok, Thailand. She received her BFA in Silpakorn in 1999, and she was a master pupil of Prof. Jean-François Guiton, University of Arts Bremen in 2007. She is a lecturer at the Faculty of Painting, Sculpture and Graphics Arts, Silpakorn University since 2009. She works mainly with multimedia and is recognized for exploring the potential of works of art to raise many social questions and to increase awareness on social issues. In 2007, she was selected to join the 53rd Venice Biennale and she was one of the top 13 Thai emerging artists, chosen by Bangkok collectors, in 2016. Most of her renowned past works are in the forms of video art, sculpture, and installation based on the utilization of many new forms of media.



Castle in the Air, 2018

Nikolaj Larsen

Nikolaj Larsen (1971) lives and works in Paris. He undertook a master's degree in Fine Art and Media at Slade School of Fine Art in London (2001) and a bachelor's degree in Fine Art and Sculpture at Chelsea College of Art in London (1999).

Nikolaj Larsen uses a variety of technological media (photo, video, installations) to create work with a deeply humanistic engagement at its core. Though his work addresses political and social issues, his approach remains sensitive, careful and engaging.

He attended several artistic residencies – Qwatz, Calabria (Italy, 2014); PiST///, Istanbul (Turkey, 2012); Santa Fe Art Institute (SFAI), Santa Fe (USA, 2009); Al Mamal Foundation for Contemporary Art, Jerusalem (2006) – and his work is represented in public and private collections, such as Sharjah Art Foundation, United Arab Emirates; Museum of London, UK; Kunsten Museum of Modern Art, Aalborg, Denmark.



Rush Hour, 2007