

“1/3 MeelPress”

Portuguese Contemporary Artists
Curated by João Silvério



1st– 13th April 2019 | Private View: 3rd April 6:30 –9 pm

183 –185 Bermondsey Street SE1 3UW London (Opposite to White Cube Art Gallery) - Map Location



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Bermondsey Project Space is delighted to announce its forthcoming exhibition, titled “1/3MeelPress”, curated by João Silvério. This is a non-profit showcase sponsored by Camões IP with the Embassy of Portugal in the United Kingdom and Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.

This exhibition celebrates the past five years of print work from MeelPress Studio by Portuguese contemporary artists. Its aim is to present their work in an international context, choosing the city of London as an acknowledgment of teaching and learning relationships established between Portuguese artists and British institutions.

“1/3 MeelPress” was projected by Hugo Amorim, Constança Arouca and Mara Alves, and will show artworks from the following artists: Alexandre Conefrey, Ana Jotta, Ana Yokochi, Ana Pérez-Quiroga, André Romão, Ângela Ferreira, Belén Uriel, Constança Arouca, Edgar Pires, Elisa Pône, Francisco Tropa, Henrique Pavão, Hugo Amorim, Joana Villaverde, Julião Sarmiento, João Louro, João Paulo Feliciano, João Queiroz, Luís Paulo Costa, Luísa Cunha, Miguel Palma, Paulo Brighenti, Ricardo Jacinto, Rui Calçada Bastos, Salomé Lamas, Susana Mendes Silva, Thierry Simões, Tomás Cunha Ferreira.

João Silvério exhibition’s Curator, comments:

The exhibition 1/3 MeelPress brings together a group of contemporary artists from different generations whose work was developed in collaboration with MeelPress print studio, founded in Lisbon in 2013 by the artist and printmaker Hugo Amorim.

The singularity of the exhibition project is anchored in the diversity of artistic projects which, emerging within a great historical tradition, reveals a strong experimental component present in the art works on show. This print studio has assumed a dual role in the context of Portuguese contemporary art, as both a space for production of printed work and an artist’s studio where they can create and develop new art work.

1/3 MeelPress is the collective expression represented by printmaking in contemporary art production.

NOTE TO EDITORS

About Meel Press Studio:

The MeelPress studio was founded in 2013 by the artist and printmaker Hugo Amorim with the primary purpose of creating a collaborative space for contemporary artists, in the production and diffusion of print editions, as well as other cultural agents, curators and gallerists.

Meel Press printed with the following artists for their solo shows: Alexandre Conefrey, Ana Jotta, Ana Pérez Piroga, Belén Uriel, Constança Arouca, Elisa Pône, Henrique Pavão, João Queiroz, Miguel Palma, Paulo Brighenti, Rui Calçada Bastos, Salomé Lamas, Thierry Simões, Tomás Cunha Ferreira.

Meel Press printed editions for the following group exhibitions: “Appleton Square 10 Anos” (10th anniversary book of prints), Appleton Square (2018) : Alexandre Conefrey, Ana Jotta, Ana Yokoshi, Ângela Ferreira, Belén Uriel, Edgar Pires, Francisco Tropa, Joana Villaverde, Julião Sarmiento, João Louro, João Paulo Feliciano, Susana Mendes Silva; “BAT bon à tirer”, Appleton Square (2018): Alexandre Conefrey, Ana Jotta, Ana Yokoshi, Ana Pérez Piroga, André Romão, Ângela Ferreira, Belén Uriel, Constança Arouca, Edgar Pires, Elisa Pône, Henrique Pavão, Hugo Amorim, Joana Villaverde, Julião Sarmiento, Luís Paulo Costa, Luísa Cunha, Miguel Palma, Paulo Brighenti, Ricardo Jacinto, Rui Calçada Bastos, Salomé Lamas, Susana Mendes Silva, Thierry Simões; “Mercadoria Chinesa”, Galeria Cristina Guerra (2014): Ana Jotta, André Romão, Julião Sarmiento, João Louro, João Paulo Feliciano, Luís Paulo Costa, Luísa Cunha, Ricardo Jacinto.

About the Curator João Silvério:

João Silvério (1962) is an Art Curator based in Lisbon. He works as a curator for the Art Collection of the Luso- American Development Foundation (www.flad.pt) and is the President of AICA (International Association of Art Critics) Portuguese section 2013-2015. In 2007 he created the independent project EMPTY CUBE (www.emptycube.org).

He holds a Master's Degree in Curatorial Studies from the Fine Arts Faculty of Universidade de Lisboa and is currently preparing his PhD dissertation at the Arts College of Universidade de Coimbra.

He is the author of art books, writes regularly on art projects in catalogues, publications and websites including the www.emptycube.org

From the exhibitions curated by João Silvério we select: Imaginário da Paisagem – Coleção BESArt – Centro de Artes de Visuais, Coimbra, 2010; all to wall, Parte I Parte II, Cristina Guerra Contemporary Art, 2011, Lisbon; Dois Desenhos, Uma Escultura, de José Pedro Croft , Appleton Square, Lisbon, 2012; INDEX – Julião Sarmiento, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Elvas - Collection António Cachola; Co-Curator with Suzanne Cotter of the exhibition HABITAR(S) Group show with works from the collections of the Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento and Fundação de Serralves – Biblioteca Municipal Almeida Garrett, Porto, 2013; Passagem de Nível, exhibiton of Rui Calçada Bastos, Invaliden1 Galerie, Berlin, 2014; Coleção de Arte Contemporânea Arquipélago, uma selecção, Arquipélago Centro de Artes Contemporâneas, Ribeira Grande, S. Miguel, Azores, 2015; shadow pieces on Body frames - Julião Sarmiento, CAPC-Círculo Sereia, Bienal Ano Zero, Coimbra, Portugal(2015); As Good As it Gets- Julião Sarmiento, Museum of Fine Arts / Kula Gallery/ Institut Hazu, Split and Museum of Contemporary Art Zabgreb, Croatia, 2016; Ponto de Partida, Coleção Figueiredo Ribeiro, Quartel – Galeria Municipal de Arte, Abrantes, 2016; Uma Coleção = Um Museu, 2007-2017, António Cachola Collection 10 Years Exhibiton program, MACE, Elvas and Badajoz, Spain, 2017; EDP FOUNDATION'S NEW ARTISTS AWARD 2017, Lisbon.

In 2018 he has curated Mesa dos Sonhos: duas coleções de arte contemporânea - Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento e Fundação de Serralves, Museu de Arte Contemporânea Nadir Afonso, Chaves, Centro de Cultura Contemporânea de Castelo Branco – CCCB (2018); “O Estado das Coisas - Obras da Coleção da Fundação PLMJ”, Kunstrraum Botschaft / Camões Berlin (2018). In 2019 he is curator and member of selection Jury of 2019 EDP FOUNDATION'S NEW ARTISTS AWARD.

About Hugo Amorim (Meel Press Founder):

Hugo Amorim (1975) is an artist printmaker and editor who was born in Lisbon where he lives and works. Between 2004 and 2007 he was the teacher and head technician for the Printing Studio at Ar.Co - Independent Art School, in Almada. In 2013, Hugo Amorim founded MeelPress Studio with the main purpose of creating a Print Studio to collaborate with artists and develop print editions.

Hugo Amorim studied at Ar.Co - Independent Art School, where he graduated from the Complete Painting Studies, in 2002, the Advanced Course in Visual Arts, in 2004, the Cinema/ Moving Image Course, in 2005, and Sculpture Practice in 2006. He participated in the following group shows: Selected artists for the prize Amadeo Souza-Cardoso (2017), Amarante; Mostra15 (2015); "Sim Não", with Francisco Tropa, included in the project: "O corpo como utensílio, o corpo como matéria", Auditório da Fundação de Serralves (2006), Porto; "Ar.Co, Bazar", Centro Cultural de Belém (2006), Lisbon; "Exposição de Finalistas e Bolseiros", Ar.Co, Cordoaria Nacional (2005), Lisbon; "Exposição de Verão"/ Open Studio, Ar.Co (2004), Almada.

At MeelPress Studio he printed with the following artists for their solo and group shows: Alexandre Conefrey, Ana Jotta, Ana Yokoshi, Ana Pérez Piroga, André Romão, Ângela Ferreira, Belén Uriel, Constança Arouca, Edgar Pires, Elisa Pône, Henrique Pavão, Hugo Amorim, Joana Villaverde, João Louro, João Queiroz, João Paulo Feliciano, Julião Sarmento, Luís Paulo Costa, Luísa Cunha, Miguel Palma, Paulo Brighenti, Ricardo Jacinto, Rui Calçada Bastos, Salomé Lamas, Susana Mendes Silva, Thierry Simões, Tomás Cunha Ferreira.

He printed editions for the following group exhibitions: "Appleton Square 10 Anos" (Livro), Appleton Square (2018); "BAT bon à tirer", Appleton Square (2018); "Mercadoria Chinesa", Galeria Cristina Guerra (2014)

About Constança Arouca ("1/3 Meel Press" Project Manager – Portugal):

Constança Arouca (Lisbon, 1976) is an artist and researcher based in Lisbon. She has developed her work in the fields of drawing, printmaking and moving image.

She graduated from the Advanced Course of Visual Arts, in 2004, and Individual Project at Ar.Co, Lisbon, in 2005. In 2006, she participated in Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation's Visual Arts Course. In 2009 and 2011 she was an artist in residence at Amsterdams Grafisch Atelier. In 2016 she graduated from Nova University's Master Program of Anthropology-Visual Cultures.

Her solo shows include: "Uma escada é um bom tema para uma pintura?" O Armário, Lisbon, 2019; "Meia Cana Chanfrada", FRESS Museu de Artes Decorativas, Lisbon, 2018; "Pick a Prime", Galeria Diferença, Lisbon, 2017; BĂ Studio, Lisbon, 2012; Módulo, Centro Difusor de Arte, Lisbon, 2006; Módulo, Centro Difusor de Arte, Porto, 2006. From her group shows we select: Orto di Incendio, Istituto Centrale per la Grafica, Rome, 2019; "BAT bon à tirer", Appleton Square, Lisbon, 2018; Her research work in printmaking includes: The Case Study of Iohannes Moll's Copper Plate, conference: "Stones, Blocks and Plates: Matrices/ Printing Surfaces in Research and Collections", Courtauld Institute of Art, London, 2017; Neptuno e Coronis, Vieira Lusitano, 1724 – co-presentation with Dra Alexandra Markl, Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga, 2017; Lisboa Prática (e materialidade) Desenho Indireto: conference: "Ways of doing, Ways of being: artistic practices in and with anthropology", Museu Nacional de Etnologia, Lisbon, 2017.

In 2018 she was an artist in residence at the Decorative Arts Museum's Chiseling workshop. In 2019 travelled to Vietnam with a scholarship from the Orient Foundation, where she has been researching on Vietnamese printmaking and folk painting since 2017.

About Mara Alves (“1/3 Meel Press Project Manager – London):

Lisbon-born Artist, Contemporary Art Curator and Advisor with a Degree in Fine Arts and Curatorial Studies. Mara was accepted to an MA in Art Business programme at Sotheby’s Institute of Art, with impressive merit, in 2019. Over eight years in Managerial roles in the Arts Industry.

Between 2010 and 2015 Mara developed and led educational and cultural programmes for students and the general public at a studio and gallery that she founded in Lisbon. In 2015 and before moving to London, Mara founded PortugArt, a project that globally promotes Portuguese culture. Between 2015 and 2016 Mara has developed a drawing programme for one year for the Independent Art School in London, to improve the student’s capacities of representation and concentration.

For three years she was Chief Curator and Manager with start-up gallery D Contemporary in Mayfair, dealing with emergent and mid-career artists. In 2018 Mara was a Guest Curator and Advisor for Caspia Contemporary Gallery, and a Guest Speaker at various events including COBA (Contemporary Balkan Art) and the International Art Congress, Brazil. Also, Mara conducted and organised a series of art salon evenings during Frieze week.

Currently, Mara was appointed as Head Of Projects and Senior Curator with The Dragon Gallery focusing on highly contemporary work from emerging and mid-career artists, and she is also independently managing and mentoring individual artist’s careers. Mara has enrolled as a cultural facilitator and project manager in London with MEELPress to bring a group of Portuguese contemporary artists to Bermondsey Project Space in April 2019, and will be presenting and curating a solo exhibition with Caracas-born analogue photographer Alexandro Pelaez.

About Bermondsey Project Space:

A cutting edge, creative platform to encourage personal development through visual art and support the fusion of art, photography and culture. A not-for-profit space supporting community initiatives in the heart of London, the Bermondsey Project Space comprises three galleries, three floors, three thousand square feet of exhibition space and offices located in one of the most vibrant arts areas of London, in the shadow of the Shard and minutes from White Cube, and close to Borough Market and Tate Modern.

The BPS has created high profile exhibitions with some of the UK’s leading photographers and partnered with internationally renowned agencies - like Magnum Pictures and Camera Press - to showcase the best in British photography. In 2018, the gallery’s efforts to encourage interaction and participation within the area’s many diverse interests were generously recognised by Southwark Council who shortlisted the BPS for two awards, alongside finalists of the calibre of the Old Vic and Brunel Museum.

The Bermondsey Project Space has become a popular destination for art collectors, residents and visitors to London from the UK and beyond. The area has become a beacon for art thanks to nearby White Cube gallery and Tate Modern.

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