

PRESS RELEASE



Fragment of *Sobras de Uma Combinação* and *Menos Quinze*
© Armanda Duarte, 2008

Armanda Duarte

Subtracções

September 25 – October 31, 2008

Opening reception on Thursday, September 25 at 10 pm

Guided tour by the artist on Saturday, October 4 at 5 pm

Caroline Pagès Gallery

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New Opening Hours from September 1: Monday through Saturday from 3 to 5 pm and by appointment.

Entitled *Subtracções* (*Subtractions*), this exhibition by Portuguese artist Armanda Duarte offers a body of work revealing situations that focus on the specific, where experience is not the result of chance, but rather the fruit of a close observation of life and the construction of things. The approach to selected objects occurs through various installations which have been carefully chosen, in which they and the moments in which they occur are part of and represent a particular system of established relationships. The works are explorations constructed from a series of imperceptible steps governed by a logic and rules of their own, embracing a timeframe, which although essential to the artist for their creation, is not necessarily their own. Between the colour and the design itself – the main motivation for the juxtaposition of three adjacent perspectives – and the conceptualization of the scene, condensed in terms of subject matter and composition, the works selected formalize the gathering together of elements that provide a structure for each object, whether as a form of mental or physical exercise.

Armanda Duarte has paid close attention throughout the work to the mathematical principles that underlie the essence of each object. Submitting parallel processes to an almost scientific logic, the works become on the one hand subjects of study, and on the other, producers of this perspective to which, in fact, exercises in subtraction and addition or the reference to units of measurement are frequently associated as an elementary form of organization and an ordering of the materials used. In so far as these mathematical exercises allow, at the level of the sciences, wherein alternative responses, observations and ideally conclusions can be found, so in the artist's work there exists the intention to equate the perception that develops from the real, without, however, ignoring the possibilities defined by the senses. Circumscribing the situations and places, the creation of limits according to the outcome of cycles sets up an urgent tension, from which the sentient/emotional world cannot disassociate itself. As a result, the design emerges as a privileged instrument of investigation, essential to the process of abstraction through which conceptual evidence is strengthened, projecting it structurally in a preferential amplitude of pre-existing formal possibilities, but one which Armanda Duarte lays open to discovery.

Armanda Duarte (1961) completed her degree in Communication Design at the Lisbon Faculty of Fine Arts (FBAUL). Since the late eighties, her work has been shown regularly in institutions, biennials, galleries, and independent spaces in Portugal and abroad. Among the recent exhibitions, one can distinguish her latest solo exhibition at the beginning of 2008 at the space Plataforma Revolver in Lisbon (*Uma Combinação*, curated by Francisco Vaz Fernandes), her two solo exhibitions at the National Museum of Natural History in Lisbon (Sala do Vead, 1993 and 1999), and her latest two collective exhibitions: one at the Lagos Cultural Centre (*Armanda D., Ângela F., Ana V., Fernanda F., Maria L., Susanne T.*, curated by Alexandre Barata, 2007) and the other at the Presidential Palace in Belém (*Jardim Aberto*, curated by Filipa Oliveira, 2007). Since 2000, the artist took part in many collective exhibitions among which the one at the JAP Modern Art Centre in Lisbon (*Meeting Points*, 2004), the ones at Culturgest Lisbon (*Mediterrâneo: um novo muro?*, curated by Fátima Ramos & António Pinto Ribeiro, 2001 and *Um oceano inteiro para nadar*, 2000), the ones at Culturgest Porto (*A colecção Ivo Martins*, 2004 and *Novas aquisições da CGD*, 2002), and the one at the D. Luis I Foundation in Cascais (City Desk Sculpture Prize 2001).

Her work can be seen in the public collection of the Caixa Geral de Depósitos (Culturgest Portugal) and is represented in the private collections of Ivo Martins and artist Pedro Cabrita Reis as well as of other collectors in Portugal.

Rita Santos, June 2008
Caroline Pagès Gallery

For information and visuals please contact Caroline Pagès or Rita Santos at [+351] 21 387 33 76 or [+351] 91 679 56 97 or at galleria@carolinepages.com

Upcoming exhibition:

Lori Hersberger, Francisco da Mata, Gerold Miller
Triple Act
November 13 [10 pm], 2008 – January 3, 2009

Gallery news:

Manuela Marques
Unknown Land
(Group exhibition)
Curated by Anna Johansson
Elastic Gallery, Malmö, Sweden
August 22 – September 20

www.elasticgallery.com

Conceição Abreu
Acquisition Prize in Photography
Honorable Mention in Video
***On Europe*, I Visual Arts International Biennial, Montijo, Portugal**
August 14 – October 31

<http://www.mun-montijo.pt/>

Sofia Leitão

Uma viagem. Um destino.

(Group show)

MCO Gallery, Oporto, Portugal

July 25 – September 20

www.mcoart.com

Jean-Christian Bourcart

Le Plus Beau Jour de la Vie

(Solo exhibition)

Curated by Christian Lacroix

Rencontres de la Photographie d'Arles, France

Atelier de Maintenance, Parc des Ateliers, Arles

July 8 – August 31

<http://www.rencontres-arles.com/>

Manuela Marques, Francisco da Mata, Gerald Petit

Lá Fora - Arte Portuguesa e Emigração

(43 artists - cat.)

Curated by João Pinharanda

Edifício Arq. Fernando Távora (Praça da Liberdade), Viana do Castelo, Portugal

June 9 – September 30

www.museu.presidencia.pt/

Jeanine Cohen

(Permanent commission)

Exterior façade of the new extension to the

Photography Museum, Charleroi, Belgium

Opens on June 1, 2008

www.museephoto.be/

Maria Condado

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