



**Sandra Valle**

*Ninguém termina na ponta dos dedos*

21.01 – 18.02.2023

With Sandra Valle's exhibition *Ninguém termina na ponta dos dedos* (No one ends up on their fingertips) begins an exhibition cycle co-programmed by Galeria Imago and Instituto de Produção Cultural e Imagem (IPCI), that strengthens the partnership between these two institutions. Three exhibition moments in which we invite three different emerging artists from the national scene, supporting, as usual, the beginning of the career of young artists in Portugal.

For this exhibition cycle, we wanted to create a path for the viewer to follow throughout this first half of 2023 and that begins with the work we have in this room. For this, we took into account not only the space and its location, but also the following exhibition, which, for scheduling reasons, is interspersed with the exhibitions co-programmed by Imago and IPCI.

In one hand our work pivoted between orientation towards the White Cube and the space's target audience, and on the other we wanted to connect this exhibition with the work of João Mota Costa, *Angústia* (Anguish), in order to create a narrative transversal to time and exhibition moments marked in the usual monthly rhythm in gallery programming.

This narrative begins with the analytical coldness of Sandra Valle who, paraphrasing the futurists, anticipates a future that dehumanizes cities and, therefore, the society. A work with sculptural landscapes in which the absence of colors emphasizes the crudeness of the reality that the author predicts. With this disruptive beginning, it is only up to us to go against the grain, retreating from this discourse towards a more emotional goal, along a humanizing path. Although this connection with the sculptural is also present in the work of João Mota Costa, which seems to present us with images that are far from what we define as inexorably human. However, spaces emptied of living elements are enveloped in an atmosphere that takes us to an emotional plan, as the title itself indicates.

As we move forward in this cycle, these emotional states thrive, bringing us closer to discourses that come out from the personal, the intimate. In mid-April, Ana Rego brings us a project in which she appropriates other people's memories, making it her own by being crossed by the family bond. *Não poder viver senão uma vida* (Not being able to live but one life) is a poetic and interdisciplinary visual essay between art and science, which addresses the body-mind duality and the meaning of being alive when we are totally deprived of autonomy and communication skills.

In line with this appropriation of memories, Philippe Gabriel's exhibition, *Pele* (Skin), will follow, in which through the intervention of vernacular photographs found at Feira da Ladra (a flea market) reports a mother-child relationship with autobiographical remarks. The relationship he establishes with the images, develops learning from his childhood with the aim of unlearning it. In the words of the artist, «I sewed upon these images the pain of being born a foreigner in a body with scratched skin».

**Vítor Nieves.** Curator.

**Sandra Valle.** (1977, Lisbon)

Lives and works in Lisbon. Higher education in Industrial Design [IADE], Architecture [IST], Post-Graduation - Discourses of Contemporary Photography (FBAUL) and Master in Artistic Photography (IPCI).

Her project «No one ends at their fingertips» was exhibited at f/est Amarante, in the group exhibition «Remapear as margens: hipsografia do centro».

In her artistic practice, the influence of architecture is a preponderant element, both in the portrayal of urban landscapes and in the creation of models that simulate them, in a search that wanders between concepts such as identity, place and non-place, light and shadow, emptiness and time.

Production: [ipci.pt](http://ipci.pt)



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