From 25th May 2016 to 25th May 2017

The “Point of View” contemporary art exhibition brings together renowned national and international artists in the Park of Pena

- A site specific exhibition of contemporary art in the UNESCO recognised world heritage Park of Pena
- Ten artists of international renown and of different nationalities
- Project commemorates the bicentenary of the birth of Ferdinand II, the founder of the Park of Pena
- Dialogue between Man and Nature

Sintra, 7 March 2016 – On May 25, Parques de Sintra inaugurates the “Point of View” contemporary art exhibition in the Park of Pena. This site specific, group exhibition, under the artistic direction of Paulo Arraiano, brings together ten artists from different nationalities but sharing their international renown: Alberto Carneiro (Portugal), Alexandre Farto/Vhils (Portugal), Antonio Bokel (Brazil), Bosco Sodi (Mexico), Gabriela Albergaria (Portugal), João Paulo Serafim (Portugal), NeSpoon (Poland), Nils-Udo (Germany), Paulo Arraiano (Portugal) and Stuart Ian Frost (United Kingdom).

The project aims to commemorate the bicentenary of the birth of Ferdinand II, the “king-artist” who founded the Park of Pena, through enriching the visitor experience enabling them to thus “lose themselves” in the Park, exploring its different perspectives and “points of view.” Hence, “the relationship between Man and Nature gets sensed through a total symbiosis as King Ferdinand had himself sought”, described the Project Director, Sofia Barros. The name “Point of View” stems precisely from the French expression Point de Vue applied in landscape architecture and interrelating with the concept of perspective.

The exhibition implies the creation of a series of specific installations, strategically created/placed in different points around the Park of Pena and that shall above all incorporate the natural materials existing in the Park itself. Throughout the year that they shall remain on display, these works will not be subject to maintenance work as the natural maturing process of each piece forms an integral facet of the exhibition concept.
Within this context, the Artistic Director, Paulo Arraiano, explained that “the ten artists work as agents of reconnection and dialogue between the binomial Man/Earth, through a process of geographic acupuncture that thereby fosters different in situ dialogues with a living organism. ‘Point of View’ thus seeks to both celebrate and recall this correlation and the collaboration first launched by Ferdinand II in 1838 following the creation of a neuralgic bridge to the cultural heritage of humanity.”

The artists
The selection process for the ten artists took into consideration the fact that the Man-Nature theme had emerged in their works – the common denominator to the group – the CVs of each artist and their cultural diversity (in keeping with the history of Sintra and the eclecticism present in the Park of Pena itself).

Alberto Carneiro (Portugal)
Born in 1937, he went onto become one of the most important artists of his generation. He developed within a minimalist and conceptual approach to art in London with the progressive dematerialisation of his works of art from an anthropological based vision resting on the Man – Nature relationship.

Alexandre Farto/Vhils (Portugal)
One of the contemporary Portuguese artists with the greatest international profile and one of the best represented in site specific projects whether in galleries or museums, Vhils started out as a graffiti artist in the early 2000s and since that time onwards his art has interacted with the urban landscape.

Antonio Bokel (Brazil)
One of the most important artists of his generation in Brazil, he is represented in the Chateaubriand Collection in MAM (the Rio de Janeiro Museum of Modern Arte). Bokel takes graffiti as the basis of his work, that was born in the streets and breaks with traditional forms of presentation.

Bosco Sodi (Mexico)
His works are left untitled with the objective of removing any predisposition or conclusion beyond the immediate existence of the work. The works themselves become transformed into a memory and a symbolic relic of the dialogue between the artist and his raw materials. Sodi is famous for his large scale paintings with bright colours and rich textures.

www.boscosodi.com

Gabriela Albergaria (Portugal)
Working between Lisbon, Berlin and New York, Gabriela is a representative member of ELAN (the European Land Art Network). This Portuguese artist was also present this year at the most outstanding Art exhibition in New York – the “Armory Show”. Her works deploy photography, design, installations and sculpture to develop a line of work that applies gardens and their histories as the point of departure for the development of her artistic creativity.

www.gabrielaalbergaria.com

João Paulo Serafim (Portugal)
Since 2005, he has been engaged in the MIIAC – the Improbable Museum of Contemporary Image and Art project, a fictional museum based on iconographic research of a personal and documental collection built up over the course of his artistic career. He now aims to develop this archival research into a site specific application interrelated with the landscape and constituting a proposed atlas for the natural territory of Sintra arising from observed phenomena based upon a specific point of view.

www.miiac.com

NeSpoon (Poland)
NeSpoon works with site specific installations and public art and with museums and galleries deploying techniques including ceramic, painting and lace. His work reflects the objective of making art positive in order to deal with positive emotions. NeSpoon further casts his attentions, through his works, on social and political commentaries.

www.behance.net/NeSpoon

Nils-Udo (Germany)
From Bavaria, Nils-Udo moved on from painting nature to creating site specific pieces deploying organic materials to this end. The artist works in the location applying the features found on the site with each piece a response to the respective landscape and the materials
found in its vicinity to create a seductive world of “potential utopias” drawing upon nature as his inspiration.

Paulo Arraiano (Portugal)
The works of Paulo Arraiano throw a spotlight on the intangible territory and its interconnections with the physical territory: emotional cartography in which the body acts as an extension of nature through a register based on the movements and the fluidity of the materials applied in very large scale, site specific installations.

www.pauloarraiano.com

Stuart Ian Frost (United Kingdom)
Stuart Ian Frost works on site specific and sculptured works characterised by his interest in the physical nature of objects and their specific relationships with the surrounding environment, their culture, myths and history. His international career spans Land Art sculpture.

www.stuartianfrost.com

This exhibition counts upon the support of Sintra Bliss House.

For further information on this exhibition:
Website: www.penapointofview.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/penapointofview
Instagram: www.instagram.com/penapointofview

Technical details:
Stewardship: Parques de Sintra – Monte da Lua, S.A.
Artistic Director: Paulo Arraiano
Project Director: Sofia Barros
Technical Director for Natural Heritage (Parques de Sintra): Nuno Oliveira

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About Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua
Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua, S.A. (PSML) is a state-owned limited company with exclusively public capital that was created in 2000 following the recognition by UNESCO of the Cultural Landscape of Sintra as a World Heritage Site. The company was created to assemble the public institutions responsible for preserving and enhancing the natural and cultural heritage in Sintra. PSML has been entrusted with the management of the State's main properties in the area. Because it does not resort to the State Budget, PSML depends entirely on proceeds from the tickets sale, shops, cafeterias and hiring of venues for events, in order to restore, maintain and promote the heritage it manages.

In 2013, the natural and cultural heritage managed by PSML (the Park and Palace of Pena, the National Palaces of Sintra and Queluz, the Chalet of the Countess of Edla, the Moorish Castle, the Palace and Gardens of Monserrate, the Convent of the Capuchos and the Portuguese School of Equestrian Art) welcomed approximately 1,700,000 visitors, over 90% of whom were from outside of Portugal.

The shareholders of PSML are the Directorate General of Treasury and Finance (Direção Geral do Tesouro e Finanças - representing the State), the Institute for the Conservation of Nature and Biodiversity (Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e Biodiversidade - ICNB), the Portuguese Tourism Board (Turismo de Portugal) and the Municipality of Sintra (Câmara Municipal de Sintra - CMS).

www.parquesdesintra.pt or www.facebook.com/parquesdesintra

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