From 5 May to 3 June

Parques de Sintra holds the collective photography exhibition “Signification: Other Images of the Garden”

- Exhibition goes on display in MU.SA – Sintra Museum of the Arts
- Exhibition features works by four artists
- Initiative seeks to foster new perspectives on historical heritage

Sintra, 9th April 2018 - On 5 May, Parques de Sintra inaugurates the collective photography exhibition “Signification: Other Images of the Garden” in MU.SA – Sintra Museum of the Arts. The display features the work of four artists, winners of the competition launched by the company at the end of January, and remains open to public viewing until 3 June.

Taking the gardens, parks and hunting grounds under the management of Parques de Sintra as their field of work, this exhibition seeks to foster new perspectives on the historical heritage, stimulating and supporting contemporary artistic production and its enjoyment by diverse publics.

Of the proposals submitted for competition, the jury – made up of Marc Lenot, art critic and author, Isabel Capeloa Gil, rector and director of the international Culture Studies program of the Catholic University of Portugal, and Sérgio B. Gomes, photography critic and Público journalist – nominated four winners: António Castanheira, Camille Aboudaram, for their project “Moonscape Reverie”, Lorena Travassos, for the “Knot” project, and Mané, with her “Dirty Nature” project.

According to the jury, the artists selected stood out for their questioning of “the ontology of the garden and its connection with the photographic process”. António Castanheira “proposed photographs that present a theatricalisation of the garden statues as symbols of power”, Camille Aboudaram opted for “a graphic intervention within the scope of photography itself, producing colourful and falsely decorative works”, Mané approached
“the sensual dimension of the garden”, “eliciting questions about the ethical and (i)moral frontier that separates the erotic from the pornographic; the sacred from the obscene; the perverse from the natural”, while Lorena Travassos placed “emphasis on the photographic process”, “producing ephemeral photographs transferred onto tree leaves found in the parks”.

“The variety and richness of these proposals open new perspectives on garden photography. Between sensing and feeling theatricality, questioning and process, these photographers demonstrate talent, creativity and the capacity to work beyond the field of tradition”, the jury concluded.

The exhibition may be seen in MU.SA – Sintra Museum of Arts, from Tuesday to Friday between 10am and 8pm and on the weekends between 2pm and 8pm.

The artists

António Castanheira
Lives and works in Lisbon. Having graduated in Architecture and with a Post-graduate qualification in the Theory of Architecture, he also studied painting at MArt, under Paulo Brighenti, engraving with Ana Natividade and, more recently, photography at Ar.Co, under the supervision of Gonçalo Salema.
Over time, he has participated in brief courses in cinema, video and design with Paulo Rocha, Wasted Rita, Ana Rito and José Maçãs de Carvalho, among others. He has considerable teaching experience across a range of artistic fields, culminating in the António Arroio School, where he received written praise for his complementary activities.

Camille Aboudaram
Camille Aboudaram (1989) was born and raised in Lyon and is currently resident in Lisbon. She obtained her undergraduate degree in photography and illustration from the University of East London. She has already held exhibitions in Britain, the United States (California) and Portugal. Her first photobook, entitled (We are) the ghostly others, was released in September 2014, in Portugal, as a self-published work.
Her photographic practices, frequently experimental, focus fundamentally on the author landscapes photography, incorporating illustration techniques whenever relevant. She combines photography with artisanal processes such as sewing/weaving and as well as other materials and alternative printing techniques. In her illustrative practices, she employs a variety of different techniques, such as collage, manual design, computerised illustration or various engraving techniques.

Her work approaches themes such as marginality, identity and otherness as well as popular culture and the idea of accessible art. Poetry and humour are essential presences to her work.

Lorena Travassos

Attending the Doctoral Degree Program in Communication Sciences at the Nova University of Lisbon (FCSH), with a CAPES international doctoral degree study grant from the Brazilian government. She develops her research on photography and subjectivity, specifically related with contemporary Portuguese photography. She holds a Master’s Degree in Communication from the Post-graduate Program in Communication of the Federal University of Paraíba. She has worked as an iconography researcher for the Scientific American, História Viva and Mentes&Cérebro journals.

She is a photographer and member of the Research Group on Portable Media and Interactive Content Production (MPg) at UFPB (Brazil)/ UA (Portugal) and the Photography Discussion Group under the supervision of Prof. Margarida Medeiros and a researcher at CIC.DIGITAL (FCSH-UNL).

Mané

Having graduated in Multimedia Art (performance and installation option), she was distinguished with the 2009/10 Merit Grant from the University of Lisbon and the BPI/FBAUL 2010 Award. She also holds a degree in Environmental Health and a Post-graduate qualification in Urban Design and Public Art. This background continues to exert a major influence over the work she produces that frequently explores the interrelationships between art and the environment.

She participated in the Cascais 2010 Festival of Landart and the Artistic Residence for Creadores de Iberoamérica en México, financed by the Consejo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes, having exhibited in the Diego Rivera-Anahuacalli Museum and in the Cultural Centre of Spain in Mexico. She featured in the National Selection of Young Creatives 2009 in the Arts category.
Useful information:

**Viewing times:** from Tuesday to Friday, from 10am to 8pm, and on Saturday and Sundays from 2pm to 8pm. Closed on Mondays and public holidays.

**Tickets:** €1. 50% discount for municipal residents, holders of youth and retired / pensioner cards, students at any level of education, Sintra Council staff and their direct family members when accompanying them and organised groups whenever pre-booking. Exempt from entry charges: teachers and assistants participating in educational activities run by Municipal Museums. Free entry for visitors aged 14 and under.

- end –

**About Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua**

Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua, S.A. (PSML) is an entirely state owned company founded in 2000 in order to meet the challenges arising out of the UNESCO classification of the Sintra Cultural Landscape as a World Heritage site. The entity does not resort to the State Budget and the restoration and maintenance of the heritage in its care are ensured by the revenues resulting from sales at its ticket offices, stores, cafeterias and the rental of facilities for the hosting of events.

In 2016, the sites managed by PSML (the Park and National 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 Monseñor, the Convent of the Capuchos and the Portuguese School of Equestrian Art) welcomed 2,625,011 visits, around 83% of whom were international in origin. In 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016, PSML was distinguished with the World Travel Award for the 'World's Leading Conservation Company'.

The PSML shareholders are the General Directorate of the Treasury and Finance (representing the Portuguese state), the Portuguese Institute of Nature and Forestry Conservation, the Portuguese Tourism Board and Sintra Municipal Council.


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