

HOME

ART

•  
EXHIBITION

SAT 23 JUL -  
SUN 2 OCT



# BEHIND THE SUN

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PRÊMIO MARCANTÔNIO VILAÇA CNI SESI SENAI



## BEHIND THE SUN

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The five artists presented here were selected after an extensive process of analysis and research involving curators and other professionals, who initially worked with a set of more than 600 Brazilian contemporary artists, enrolled in the fifth edition of the Marcantônio Vilaça Award.

Of this total, 30 artists were selected, representing the different regions of Brazil, and gathered into a wide exhibition held at the Museum of Contemporary Art, São Paulo. On the opening day, a jury composed of nationally recognized curators selected the five artists presented here in Manchester (aside from the nomination for two awards for curatorial proposals) and representatives from Manchester Metropolitan University chose an artist and a curator for residence in Manchester.

The exhibition, *Behind the Sun*, therefore gathers five distinctive producers that reflect the diversity and complexity of Brazil, where 200 million people from various ethnic groups co-exist, coming from different parts of the world and spreading throughout various territories, from cosmopolitan urban metropolises such as Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, to striking natural landscapes such as the Brazilian central highlands and the Amazon.

It is this natural tension between specific local aspects and their dialogue with the contemporary language of universal essence, that gives meaning and reason to this exhibition; to elaborate an aesthetic speech that reflects the mysterious world of today, in all its dimensions, on the borders of utopia and cynicism.

The selection of the images in this exhibition affirm the power of artistry as a tool for transformation and the ability of man to question and transform the world in which we live.

Marcus de Lontra Costa, Curator

*This exhibition is a partnership with Manchester School of Art, in conjunction with Instituto Plano Cultural, Brazil. Prêmio Marcantônio Vilaça is supported by CNI, SESI and SENAI.*

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## BERNA REALE

### **Ordinário (Ordinary), 2013**

Digital video, 3 mins 13 secs

### **Habitus, 2015**

Digital video, 3 mins 33 secs

### **Soledade (Lonesomeness), 2015**

Digital video, 3 mins 4 secs

### **BRICS, 2014,**

Digital video, 5 mins 8 secs

### **Cantando na Chuva (Singing in the Rain), 2014**

Digital video, 4 mins 12 secs

### **Promessa (Promise), 2015**

Digital video

Berna Reale lives in the warm and traditional town of Belém, the gateway to the Amazon. Amid the exuberance of the landscape where wonder and dread coexist, the artist brings a baroque atmosphere to her works that evokes human misery and the fragility of power and greed. Her videos show, through direct and scathing images, a defeated humanity, a pathetic look at the wreckage of a civilization unable to understand the mystery of life in its larger magnitude.

## GÊ ORTHOF

### **Varied Deceptions, 2015**

Acrylic sheets and MDF boards

To Gê Orthof, art is the essential exercise of storytelling, of gathering things, of uniting time. His works reflect the extensive spaces in his home, Brasília, the capital city of Brazil, a dream of modernity planted in tropical delirium. Gê explores narratives that are full of alluring invitations and delicious discoveries, an exploration of memory in which the past is the active agent of transformation, enabling the discovery of the new. Everything in his work conspires against the speed of today's world to reveal beauty as a result of a subtle and slow adventure.



## GRUPO EMPREZA

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**Endemias Cotidianas (Daily Endemics)**, Digital video, 5 mins 22 secs

**Sopa de Letrinhas (Letter Soup)**, Digital video, 3 mins 19 secs

**Sua Vez (Your Turn)**, Digital video, 2 mins 44 secs

**Antropofagia (Anthropophagy)**, Digital video, 4 mins 26 secs

**Fura Bolo (Hole the Cake)**, Digital video, 4 mins 30 secs

**Cheia de Graça (Full of Grace)**, Digital video, 8 mins

**É que esse tempo também é corpo (It is that time is also body)**, Digital video, 2 mins 11 secs

**Vesúvio #1**, Digital video, 1 hr 34 mins

**Vesúvio #2**, Digital video, 1 hr 39 mins 12 secs

**Vesúvio #3**, Digital video, 1 hr 2 mins 22 secs

**Vesúvio #4**, Digital video, 1 hr 33 mins 42 secs

**Vesúvio #5**, Digital video, 54 mins 50 secs

**Impenetráveis (Impenetrables)**, Digital video, 16 mins 44 secs

**Mal Educação (Bad Education)**, Digital video, 39 mins 32 secs

**Réquiem da Vaca (Requiem for a Cow)**, Digital video, 12 mins 14 secs

**Sehão (Sehão)**, Digital video, 14 mins 13 secs

**Arrastão (Dragging)**, Digital video, 34 mins 32 secs

**Carma Ideológico (Ideological Karma)**, Digital video, 3 mins 25 secs

**Impenetrabilidade (Impenetrability)**, 2012-2014, Digital photographs

The collective, Grupo Empreza, is structured like an organism in which parts of the whole are adjusted and rebuilt like a caterpillar during its metamorphosis. In the sun of the Brazilian central plateau, this living matter expresses itself through violence, sex, clashes and encounters. Blood, sweat and tears, are the elements with which the body turns into a stage to present human experience. Through performative actions and happenings, the group prepares a vast repertoire that is constantly changing, inventing and expanding the language and the limits of gesture and body in contemporary action.



## NICOLÁS ROBBIO

### **The Strange Illusion of Tranquility, 2015**

Mixed media installation

Amidst the noise and speed of São Paulo, the most vibrant metropolis in the southern hemisphere, Nicolás Robbio builds new meanings and concepts for spaces and situations that occupy the urban arteries. The contemporary man seems to follow paths determined by plants and projects. The artist, against what is real, builds a new direction, a special compass that creates points of contact and unusual discoveries. To look is also to look twice. It is to notice that there is more to be seen in those objects that shift into view, as well as in the gaps between them. This is the challenge, the game of art.

## VIRGÍNIA DE MEDEIROS

### **Fábula do olhar (Fable Look), 2012 -13**

Digital photopainting and framed text

Made in collaboration with Mester Júlio Santos

### **Cais do Corpo (Wharf of the Body), 2015**

Digital video, 7 mins

### **Sérgio Simone, 2007 - 2014**

Digital video, 20 mins

At the junction of a few paths rises Feira de Santana, Virginia de Medeiros' hometown. On one side is the sensual and inviting coast of Bahia. On the other the sertão: desert, empty, unknown. Through photographs and videos, Virginia speaks of transversality, of life that transforms and rebuilds. Diverse sexualities are explored in a practise that is guided by affection, objectivity and complicity. Virginia reveals what is hidden, making visible the importance of 'the other', giving voice to immigrants, the homeless and transgender. The artist builds images that reveal the power and dignity of the marginal body.

## EVENTS

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### TIAGO CADETE: ALLA PRIMA

SAT 20 AUG, 16:00 - 17:00

THEATRE 2

FREE, booking required.

Tiago Cadete is a Brazil-based performer and maker whose work lies at the border between theatre, dance and visual arts. In *Alla Prima*, Tiago takes us on an exploration of representations of the human body throughout history. Using his own body alongside more than five centuries worth of images, he looks at the construction and invention of Brazil and the creation of certain ideas of what is Brazil, Brazilian and Brazilian-ness.

### EXHIBITION TOURS

SAT 23 JUL, 14:00 - 15:00

SAT 3 SEP (BSL), 14:00 - 15:00

FREE

An informal tour of the exhibition led by one of our Visual Arts team. A number of the featured artists will be present for the tour on Sat 23 Jul and Siobhán Rocks provides BSL Interpretation on Sat 3 Sep.



## RACHEL MACLEAN: WOT U :- ) ABOUT?

SAT 29 OCT 2016 - SUN 8 JAN 2017

PREVIEW FRI 28 OCT

A major solo exhibition of entirely new work by acclaimed Scottish artist Rachel Maclean who will represent Scotland at the 2017 Venice Biennale.

Curated by Bren O'Callaghan and Sarah Perks.

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