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Catarina Dias
INVERTED ONUS



NO CROSS BREEZE, 2024
Giclée print, acrylic and gouache on fine art paper
179 × 130 cm



IN ITSELF UNFINISHED, 2024
Giclée print and gouache on fine art paper
179 × 130 cm

Catarina Dias (London, 1979) lives and works in Lisbon. She completed an Advanced Course at Ar.Co Lisbon (2002) and a Master's degree in Fine Arts at the Byam Shaw School of Art (2003). Her solo shows include *THROUGH WET AIR*, Pavilhão Branco, Lisbon Municipal Galleries (2024), *WE KNOW YOU DON'T SEE US*, Project Space, Encounter, and Jahn und Jahn, Lisbon, (2023), *Mamute*, Galeria Vera Cortês, Lisbon, (2019). Also noteworthy is the happening *THIS IS HEAT*, Old School #42, Lisbon (2016). She has participated in group exhibitions such as *Contravisiões – a fotografia na Coleção António Cachola*, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Elvas (2023), *COME HERE THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO SHOW YOU*, with Corita Kent, UPPERCUT, Lisbon, (2019), *10000 anos*

depois entre Vénus e Marte, Galeria Municipal do Porto (2017), *The Colour of an Eclipse*, with Pedro A.H. Paixão, Ar Sólido, Lisbon (2016), among others. She has collaborated since 2012 with the artists and coreographers Sofia Dias and Victor Roriz on various scenography projects.

Her work is featured in several public and private collections, including: EDP Foundation Art Collection, CACE – Coleção de Arte Contemporânea do Estado, EGEAC/Lisbon City Council Collection, António Cachola Collection, Armando and Maria João Cabral Collection, Norlinda and José Lima Collection of Modern and Contemporary Art, and the Ilídio Pinho Foundation Collection, among others. Her work is represented by Jahn und Jahn. In 2011, she was nominated for the EDP Young Artists Award.

Tacit, violent, slow explosion.

A deafening silence fills the space. Suspended shards in a place oblivious of the regular cadence of time. Fragments of light, distant and faint, glimmer like in an immense night sky. Obnubilation gives way to wakefulness. An experience of clarity within the strange, mysterious dimension of infinite chaos that makes up a living, ever-changing, absolute universe.

Is this not how every image forms through the heed of our gaze?

Faced with the latent link between the visible and the invisible, what is manifest and what is yet to be achieved, our gaze captures and attempts to decipher the secrets that constitute the images. We search for echoes of a recognisable language that shortens the distance between the referent and the thought, between what we are shown and what the artwork proposes, transcending the boundaries of imagination.

We then touch the dense darkness of this announced night. Slowly, the veils hanging over the stage of a blurred, raw, insidious, inherently incomplete reality are opened. This stage is lit by a fire from which fulgent flames emerge, living matter permanently happening, guiding the vigilant gaze before the unknown. Flickering tongues of fire within an infinite blue twist as they ascend in an ancestral dance.

In the images we observe in this space, verses have been inscribed that convey our most intimate longings: tacit echoes of visions, wills, purposes, and desires that seek to be unlimited, unrestrained, free.

Just as a burning flame casts no shadow in the real world, the radiant energy that

composes these works refuses to exist through shadows or illusions. Thus, it is through these flashes of light which constitute certain artworks that one might reveal how the experience of reality is truly completed.

Drawing from a studious recomposition of image sets that form a disruptive, entropic visual universe defining the most genuine condition of sensibility of the world around us, Catarina Dias's *INVERTED ON US* offers an approach to experiencing a new construction of the visible that challenges what is immediately perceptible and typically recognisable to our eyes. By examining the realm of thought processes and the translation of the various forms of language upon which image creation is founded, Catarina Dias (London, 1979) continues a body of work that questions and therefore celebrates the enigma of visibility: the mystery of images and words, their transparencies and dissimilarities, analogies and metamorphoses, clear reflections and tacit echoes, mirrors and ghosts that give them existence.

Filipa Correia de Sousa
Curator

Catarina Dias
INVERTED ON US
18/09/2024-17/03/2025

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Filipa Correia de Sousa

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Agenda

Tour of the exhibition with
Catarina Dias and Marie-Therese
Bruglacher (independent curator):
05/10/2024, 16.00.

Publications

Exhibition catalogue to be published
during the exhibition. The "Ashpit
8" series already includes the books
published on the occasion of the
exhibitions by Paulo Lisboa and Luísa
Jacinto, available at the museum shop.

More information
and other content
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exhibition guide



18/09/2024 → 17/03/2025

