



PAPER TRAIL: 15 BRAZILIAN ARTISTS

9th April – 10th May 2008, Private view: 9th April, 6.30pm – 9pm

Allsopp Contemporary's next exhibition, Paper Trail: 15 Brazilian Artists, presents new works on paper from several generations of Brazilian artists from the 'New Brazilian Figuration' artists of the 1960's to the emerging artists of the 21st century - many of whom have not previously exhibited in the U.K. The exhibition will examine what discernible links can be found within their work and ask whether there is a national artistic identity.

The question is timely as Brazilian art is receiving increased international exposure - the Brazilian Pavilion at ARCO, Madrid, in February, for instance, in which nine of these artists were represented, and the forthcoming retrospective of Cildo Meireles this year at Tate Modern.

For this exhibition, works have been selected by artists who have used paper as a primary material for a variety of different media including painting, drawing, collage, photography, sculpture, performance and installation. A highlight will be a site-specific installation by Sandra Cinto (b.1968), who creates ethereal environments and dream like spaces referring simultaneously to the interior world of the human psyche and the larger exterior universe. Also site specific will be the wall drawings of Brigida Baltar (b.1959). Using brick dust from the Rio de Janeiro home she left some years ago, Baltar conjures memories of the sprawling city with its traces.

Juxtaposed with recent work by the more established Brazilian figures - Carlos Vergara (b.1941) and Nelson Felix (b.1954) - will be the new generation of Brazilian artists. Pedro Varela (b.1981) has created over 200 miniature paper buildings that will hang from the ceiling of the gallery - a suspended world, reduced in size to allow for easier inspection. Maria Laet (b.1982) creates delicate drawings without direct contact. Her movement around a floating helium balloon to which an ink stained strand of string is attached, activates the string which makes apparently random, calligraphic drawings on large sheets of tracing paper.

By focusing on the experimental use of these basic artists' materials, the curator aims to lay a trail of discovery that will encourage dialogue between the artists' work, inviting comparison and discussion.

Selected artists: Carlos Vergara (b.1941), Nelson Felix (b.1954), Daniel Senise (b.1955), Brigida Baltar (b.1959), Franklin Cassaro (b.1962) Alex Cerveny (b.1963), Jarbas Lopes (b.1964), Cabelo (b.1967), Sandra Cinto (b.1968), Daniel Zarvos (b.1974), Cadu (b.1977), Laura Lima (b.1971), Gustavo Speridião (b.1979), Pedro Varela (b.1981), Maria Laet (b.1982).

The exhibition will be curated by Maria do Mar Guinie. It will be accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue with texts by Dr. Michael Asbury, (TrAIN Research Fellow, Camberwell College of Arts) and Fernando Cocchiarale (former Director of the Museum of Modern Art, Rio de Janeiro).

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Nelson Felix

Opening Times: Monday – Friday, 10:00am – 6:00pm / Saturday, 12:00 – 5:00pm

Next exhibition: Daniel Wallis, New Work: May 14th – June 14th 2008