

Almeida & Dale Art Gallery celebrates the centenary of the Ceará born painter Antonio Bandeira

More than 40 works, including self-portraits, landscapes, trees, rescue the artist's journey in the exhibition "I will defoliate my eyes in this dark veil", which is curated by professor and curator Galciani Neves

Based on the already known language of the Ceará born artist Antonio Bandeira, based in Paris and deceased in 1967, at the age of 45, the exhibition "I will defoliate my eyes in this dark veil", which Almeida & Dale Art Gallery presents from May 28 to July 02, aims to bring together plastic discourses of some texts and testimonies about the entire journey of the artist marked by painting. "Much is known of his departure from Ceará and arrival in Paris, but who was Bandeira? What are these hands that have produced so much in such a short time?", asks guest curator Galciani Neves.

Antonio Bandeira was a Brazilian painter and drawer, one of the most valued, with works in the largest private collections in museums in Brazil and the world. About him, people would say: "that he tried to do painting and not paint pictures, that he was a figure who could move with the same availability through bars and embassies, that Paris revealed the Ceará born artist to the world, that he dodged isms, that his work could walk between lyrical, informal, tachist abstractionism", as Galciani reflects in the exhibition presentation text.

The list of recurring narratives is extensive and now, 100 years after his birth, the gallery seeks that which has not been said, moving from chronological and linear logic to an approximation of the creations, from works that talk to one another. "In the first room, for example, we assembled dark paintings, from nocturnal landscapes to compositions in which the black color predominates. In the second room, the color blue invades the cities and landscapes painted by Bandeira. And in the other rooms, trees, for example, appear multicolored. The selection of works is sewn together by the self-portraits produced by the artist at different moments of his journey", explains the curator.

"It is essential for us to invent ways of looking at and living with Bandeira's work. This requires deep research. What we tried to do in this exhibit was to look at his work beyond historical landmarks, from a reading of what is quite recurrent in the Brazilian critical reception about his work, beyond the isms that he avoided so much. And to enter the density of his gestures, of his chromatic compositions, to hook out a bit of Bandeira's subjectivity from his work and his writings. Perhaps, even to imagine what the memories accumulated by the artist would be and to perceive his paintings as accounts of the experiences he had and the places he has been, such as the small studio in Paris, the neighborhoods of Fortaleza, the sea of Rio de Janeiro, the Italian cities", says Neves.

As part of the exhibition, an audio installation by the artist João Simões invites visitors to wander through the works. João Simões appropriates the text by Marguerite Duras, present in the video "The negative hands", 1979, in which the artist narrates a human being in distant times who, from the top of a cliff, glances at the immensity of time, of the ocean and their loneliness. Thus, the curatorship proposes an approximation between times, between gestures and between mysteries of leaving marks in the world.

I will defoliate my eyes in this dark veil

100 years of Antonio Bandeira

Visitation starts on May 28

Monday to Friday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed on holidays

Until July 02

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About Almeida & Dale Art Gallery

Founded in 1998, Almeida & Dale Art Gallery has become, in more than two decades of existence, one of the most relevant galleries in Brazil, inserting the work and legacy of Brazilian artists in important national and international collections and archives. Among them: Willys de Castro, Di Cavalcanti, Flávio de Carvalho, Mestre Didi, Alberto da Veiga Guignard, Alfredo Volpi, Jandira Waters e Roberto Burle Marx. In recent years, with Antônio Almeida and Carlos Dale as directors, the gallery's program revisited the work of several exponents of Brazilian art, promoting retrospective exhibitions prepared by guest curators and produced with museological rigor. Publications that are widely recognized for their originality and notoriety of academic essays and for the rescue of historical texts accompany the exhibitions. Recently, Almeida & Dale held individual exhibits of artists fundamental to the historical and critical panorama of Brazilian art, such as Agnaldo Manuel dos Santos, Miriam Inez da Silva, Luiz Sacilotto and Sidney Amaral, relying on borrowings from collectors and institutions, and stimulating the interest of critics both in Brazil and abroad. Along with the constant promotion of exhibitions and publications, Almeida & Dale supports projects to preserve works by Brazilian artists. An example is the representation of the estate of Luiz Sacilotto, a prominent artist of the Brazilian concrete art.

Information for the Press

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