

galeria	nara	roesler

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Raul Mourão exhibits unpublished works at Galeria Nara Roesler | São Paulo

Introdução à teoria dos opostos absolutos [Introduction to the theory of absolute opposites] will feature a special program during its opening

opening May 25 | **exhibition** May 27 to July 20, 2019



Raul Mourão. *Bang Bang # 1* [video still], 2017. Digital video and stereo soundtrack. Courtesy of the artist and Galeria Nara Roesler.

about the exhibition

Raul Mourão presents *Introdução à teoria dos opostos absolutos* [Introduction to the theory of absolute opposites], his third individual show at **Galeria Nara Roesler | São Paulo**, between May 25 and July 20. With a text by Guilherme Wisnik, the exhibition examines, through around 15 works, some of the aspects explored by the artist throughout his career, including videos, paintings, photographs and unprecedented kinetic sculptures—or balances—which are part of the artist's production since 2010.

As a result of almost a decade's worth of research on grids and security systems, among other iconographic elements of the urban context, the artist develops kinetic sculptures and installations with an interactive feature that can be triggered by the public. In these works, he establishes an association between violence and a formalist concern with structural

equilibrium. These notorious geometric sculptures, almost in a state of flotation, can be seen in small and large-scale pieces, as in *Estante dos Maquetes Valendo # 1* (2019), which brings together several suspended forms that move in different ways.

Mourão has been developing his work on several fronts, as a sculptor, draftsman and painter - and the public will be able to see the 2018 Untitled painting up close, made with acrylic on canvas and techniques that mix stamps with painting, resulting in a work that transits between total abstraction and figurative suggestion. The exhibition will also feature objects and videos that demand interaction with the public and new dialogues. In 1989, Raul Mourão began photographing urban elements such as security grids and signaling arrows, a work that has had several creative developments over the years. This relationship of the artist with the streets can be seen in other works such as *Flag Lapa* (2018), a photograph that shows a flag of Brazil, with its center cut out and bare, hoisted in Arcos da Lapa, in Rio de Janeiro.

Using different mediums, Raul Mourão explores issues such as structural balance and mathematical dimensions to reveal the potency of the materials with which he works, re-appropriating the meaning of everyday objects such as bottles and grids, as well as landscapes and urban iconographies, presenting a new panorama of opposites to the viewer.

On the occasion of the exhibition opening, Saturday, May 25, the artist prepared a diverse schedule with guests that will last throughout the day:

11 a.m. | opening

12 p.m. | guided tour with the artist and Guilherme Wisnik

1 p.m. | interview with Fábio Faissal

3 p.m. | talk with artist Lenora de Barros

4 p.m. | live video performance with Lucia Koch

5 p.m. | A performance from Cabelo with participations from Afonso Tostes and Dj Nepal

6 p.m. | Dj Surpresinha

7 p.m. | Closing

opening

May 25, 2019 | from 11am to 7pm

exhibition

May 27 - July 20, 2019

Monday to Friday, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday from 11a.m. to 3p.m.

Galeria Nara Roesler | São Paulo

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about the artist

Raul Mourão is renowned for his multimedia productions, which consist of drawings, prints, paintings, photographs, videos, sculptures, installations and performances, in which his vision is always permeated by a critical sense of humor about urban spaces. Inspired by the urban landscape, the artist uses real-life observations, developing proposals that transition between documentary and fiction. His work, made up of diverse materials, present a plastic vocabulary that includes elements of urban visibility displaced from their everyday context, in a process that redefines and stimulates reflections on the place and its social body. What started in 2010, as a consequence of his research on geometric forms in the urban context, Mourão develops interactive kinetic sculptures and installations that can be triggered by the public and addresses issues from previous work such as urban violence and structural equilibrium.

Born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1967, Raul Mourão lives and works between Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and New York, USA. He attended the Escola de Artes Visuais do Parque Lage [Lage Park School of Visual Arts] (EAV-Parque Lage), Rio de Janeiro and graduated in Architecture from the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro [Federal University of Rio de Janeiro] (UFRJ). Among his main individual exhibitions, the ones that stand out the most are: *Fora/Dentro*, Museu da República no Rio de Janeiro [Museum of the Republic in Rio de Janeiro] (2018); *Você está aqui*, Museu Brasileiro de Ecologia e Escultura (MuBE) [Brazilian Museum of Ecology and Sculpture] (MuBE), São Paulo, Brazil (2016); *Please Touch*, The Bronx Museum, New York, USA (2015); *Tração Animal*, Museum of Modern Art of Rio de Janeiro [Museum of Modern Art of Rio de Janeiro] (MAM Rio), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2012); and the collections: *Ready Made in Brazil*, Centro Cultural Fiesp [Fiesp Cultural Center], São Paulo, Brazil (2017-18); *Artistas comprometidos? Talvez*, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian [Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation], Lisbon, Portugal (2015); *All the best artists are my friends (Part 1)*, MANA Contemporary, New Jersey, USA (2014); *From the Margin to The Edge*, Sommerset House, London, England (2012). Participated in biennials, such as: *Vancouver Biennale 2014-2016 - Open Borders Crossroads Vancouver*, Vancouver, Canada (2014); *5th and 7th Biennial of São Tomé and Príncipe*, São Tomé, São Tomé and Príncipe (2008 and 2013); *3rd Mercosul Biennial*, Porto Alegre, Brazil (2001). He has works in important institutional collections, such as: Itaú Cultural, São Paulo, Brazil; Museu de Arte do Rio [Art Museum of Rio] (MAR), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and *Coleção Gilberto Chateaubriand* [the Gilberto Chateaubriand Collection] - Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro [Museum of Modern Art of Rio de Janeiro] (MAM Rio), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

about galeria nara roesler

Galeria Nara Roesler is one of the main galleries of Brazilian contemporary art, representing Brazilian and weekly international artists that emerged in the 1950s, as well as prominent emerging and mid-career artists who exchange footsteps presented by these historical figures. Founded by Nara Roesler in 1989, the gallery has consistently promoted the practice of curatorship, maintaining the highest quality in artistic production. This was actively put into practice through a select and rigorous exhibition program created in close collaboration with its artists, the implementation and development of the Roesler Hotel program, a platform for curatorial projects and ongoing support for artists beyond the gallery space, working with institutions and curators in external exhibitions. In 2012, the gallery doubled its exhibition space in São Paulo, in 2014 it expanded to Rio and, in 2015, was inaugurated in New York, continuing its mission to offer the best platform for its artists to exhibit their works.

press

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