
festival of voices

curated by moacir dos anjos

nara roesler são paulo**opening** march 31, 6pm**exhibition** march–mayFrancisco Brennand, *Untitled*, 1976 [detail]

Nara Roesler São Paulo is pleased to present *Festival of Voices* [Festa das Falas]. Curated by Moacir dos Anjos, this is the first exhibition in a sequence of exhibitions celebrating Nara Roesler's 50-year career as a gallerist, unfolding over the coming months across the institution's three spaces in São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, and New York.

In *Festival of Voices* [Festa das Falas], the curator brings together emblematic works by artists who have influenced Nara Roesler's trajectory from 1976 to the present. Focusing on works by artists "who come from the same region as Nara, the Northeast, particularly Recife," the curator, also born in the capital of Pernambuco, notes that "this exhibition seeks to recover a way of speaking, an inflection in this language,

in this repertoire, of artists who, regardless of whether or not they bring visual references to a given territory, do so with a certain manner, an affirmation of belonging." "In Nara's speech, in Nara's voice, there is this accent, just as there is in mine, and in the speech of other artists from this region."

Alongside works from the gallery's collection, the exhibition presents pieces from private collections, including the rarely seen, nearly eight-metre-long, two-metre-high ceramic panel *Untitled* (1976) by Francisco Brennand (June 11, 1927, Recife – December 19, 2019, Recife). The presence of works by José Cláudio (1932, Ipojuca, Pernambuco – 2023, Recife) is particularly significant, as he was the first artist with whom Nara Roesler worked, before opening her own gallery, and in

2022 was the subject of a retrospective exhibition curated by Aracy Amaral at Nara Roesler São Paulo.

A frequent visitor to contemporary art exhibitions long before dedicating himself to the field, Moacir dos Anjos first met Nara Roesler in the 1980s and later curated two exhibitions for the gallery. The first was in 2013, *Cães Sem Plumas* [Prólogo], presented as part of the 24th edition of Roesler Hotel, a project created in 2002 to foster dialogue between national and international artistic communities, inviting curators and artists to experiment within the gallery space in São Paulo. In 2016, Moacir dos Anjos curated *Deriva*, a solo exhibition by Cao Guimarães at Nara Roesler New York, and in the same space, in 2022, *Hotel Solidão*, a solo exhibition by Marcelo Silveira.

Regarding this exhibition at Nara Roesler São Paulo, Moacir dos Anjos states that “it is like a celebration of voices.” “We are gathered here listening to these artists, to their ways of being in the world. It is a way of celebrating this fiftieth anniversary of Nara’s activity as a gallerist by bringing together these voices, these forms of speech, these accents that were so important in her formation and remain so today, in the sense that this gallery has something that distinguishes it from others,” he emphasizes.

The curator recalls that 50 years ago, the art scene “was still very closed in on itself, highly endogenous.” “Artists often exhibited their work only in their own cities, in their own states, with rare incursions into other spaces, other territories,” he explains. “Today, artists circulate much more widely across different spaces in Brazil and abroad.”

about moacir dos anjos

Moacir dos Anjos is General Coordinator of the Museu do Homem do Nordeste at the Joaquim Nabuco Foundation, Recife. He served as director of the Museu de Arte Moderna Aloísio Magalhães (MAMAM) from 2001 to 2006 and coordinated the research and exhibition project *Política da Arte* at the Joaquim Nabuco Foundation from 2009 to 2023. He was curator of the 29th São Paulo Biennial (2010).

Among his most recent curatorial projects are *Negros na Piscina* (Pinacoteca do Ceará, Fortaleza, 2022, with Fabiana Moraes), *Hélio Oiticica. Delirium Ambulatorium* (Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil, Brasília and Belo Horizonte, 2023–2024), *Mutirão. MCP | Movimento de Cultura Popular 1960–1964* (Joaquim Nabuco Foundation, 2024), and *Arte Subdesenvolvida* (Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil, São Paulo, Belo Horizonte, Rio de Janeiro, and Brasília, 2024–2025).

He is the author of the books *Local/Global. Arte em Trânsito* (Zahar, 2005), *ArteBra Crítica* (Automática/Martins Fontes, 2010), *Contraditório. Arte, Globalização e Pertencimento* (Cobogó, 2017), and *Ataque à Indiferença* (Cobogó, 2025).

about nara roesler

Nara Roesler organized her first contemporary art exhibition in Recife in 1976 and moved to São Paulo in 1986, where she consolidated the gallery under her own name in 1989. Today, she is one of Brazil’s leading gallerists, recognized for playing a key role in the promotion and internationalization of more than 50 artists. Based in São Paulo, the gallery expanded its program to Rio de Janeiro in 2014 and became the first Brazilian gallery to establish an international presence by opening a space in New York City in 2016, reinforcing its commitment to the global circulation of Brazilian art.

Consistently fostering curatorial practice and critical research, she created Roesler Hotel in 2002, a program that promoted exchanges between foreign and Brazilian curators and artists. In 2011, the gallery became the first contemporary art gallery in Brazil to establish a publishing house, Nara Roesler Books, which has published more than 30 titles to date.

Throughout its trajectory, the gallery has made a significant contribution to the development of its artists’ careers, offering ongoing support and high-profile platforms for the presentation of their work, and facilitating their inclusion in major institutions as well as in important private collections in Brazil and abroad. Its program features established artists such as Abraham Palatnik, Amelia Toledo, Antonio Dias,

são paulo

avenida europa 655,
jardim europa, 01449-001
são paulo, sp, brasil
t 55 (11) 3063 2344

rio de janeiro

rua redentor 241,
ipanema, 22421-030
rio de janeiro, rj, brasil
t 55 (21) 3591 0052

new york

511 west 21st street
new york, 10011 ny
usa
t 1 (212) 794 5038

info@nararoesler.art

www.nararoesler.art

nara roesler

50

festival of voices

Artur Lescher, Daniel Buren, Heinz Mack, Julio Le Parc,
Lucia Koch, Tomie Ohtake, and Vik Muniz, as well as a new
generation of established artists, including André Griffo,
Bruno Dunley, Jaime Lauriano, Jonathas de Andrade, and JR.

festival of voices

curated by moacir dos anjos

opening march 31, 6pm

exhibition march – may

nara roesler são paulo

avenida europa, 655

press contact

com.sp@nararoesler.art

são paulo

avenida europa 655,
jardim europa, 01449-001
são paulo, sp, brasil
t 55 (11) 3063 2344

rio de janeiro

rua redentor 241,
ipanema, 22421-030
rio de janeiro, rj, brasil
t 55 (21) 3591 0052

new york

511 west 21st street
new york, 10011 ny
usa
t 1 (212) 794 5038

info@nararoesler.art

www.nararoesler.art