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Piolho Nababo

Ana Luiza Neves

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Against the reversible world and objectified ideas. Made into cadavers.

The stop of thinking that is dynamic.

The individual victim of the system. Source of classic injustices. Of romantic injustices.

And the forgetfulness of interior conquests.

(Oswald de Andrade, our translation)

Abstract

The present article describes the performance and the history of the "Collective Exhibit in Process – Piolho Nababo" and its relations with the production process in the arts in Belo Horizonte. The goal of this work is to raise discussions about the place of art in contemporaneity and to point some possibilities, based on experience on the Piolho Nababo exhibit.

Keywords: contemporary arts; process of creation; Piolho Nababo.

Initiated in late 2010 and included in a circuit of independent contemporaneous art and with an autonomous performance, the "Collective Exhibit in Process – Piolho Nababo" is currently in its 32nd edition.

The chosen location for the Exihibit consists of a room in the Maletta building, a refuge of bohemian and art for decades in Belo Horizonte, called *Ystilingue*. *Ystilingue* is an open space for

experimentation and exchange in a context of freedom, participation and solidary cooperation among autonomous groups and individuals. Each week, different artists present new works, enabling the confluence of people and ideas.

The artist Warley Desali is the coordinator of the independent space, where every Friday productions of artists are released and interested in arts present their work.

The idea started from a first exhibit in the end of 2010, as the first step for what would become a circuit of "artists without a gallery". However, there was a feeling of making this initiative something major, as stated by Desali, the space asked for actions and new ideas: "I came up with this idea of the process-gallery in order to always be able to perform in the space". The idea of a process-gallery consists of a place in constant transformation and possibilities. Each week, a new proposal is submitted, added to the prior ones, increasing the collection and the exchange among artists. Process, because it is in constant transformation: exhibits, artists and ideas.

The name "Piolho Nababo" was collectively chosen, from a first meeting of a group of artists, such as: Warlei Desali, Moshi, João Perdigão and Froiid, among others. Several ideas for the name of the exhibit were presented until they reached this result. The contradictions of the name can well represent the place: *Nababo* (Nabob) – synonym of power and wealth; and *Piolho* (Louse) – insect that acts in a certain point, mainly in the head, causing irritation and discomfort. This is the essence of Piolho Nababo: provoke the art market and its forms of excluding actions, show new possibilities for action beyond the current model.

Another relevant feature of Piolho Nababo is being a project in constant transformation. Its central issue is to question and rethink the place of art in the contemporaneity, also looking for to raise reflections on the current patterns of the art market. An alternative form of gallery, that comes from a shared and autonomous management.

The selection of artists, the invitations, the idea and the development of the project, as well as the display of the works and the unfoldings within the next events, are activities coordinated by Desali, along with the spontaneous collaboration of the regulars of the space. The promotion occurs through virtual medium and informally, "word of mouth".

Visual arts, performances and music provided by DJs keep alive the tradition of the place that was once the refuge of the big names of the artistic scenario of *Minas Gerais* in the years of military dictatorship.

The space has a communitarian book, disco and video library and is open to free workshops and courses, videos exhibits, lectures or other activities that any person proposes to undertake. The

works can be presented in various formats, including posters, drawings, paintings on canvas, photographs, graffiti, collage and installations.

The emergence of the Collective Exhibit in Process – Piolho Nababo arose from several factors, but mainly because the spaces in the city can't bare the demand for artistic productions, taking into account also the number of students, related to arts in general, that graduate each year.

In many moments of human history and in various contexts, one can observe a restless spirit of youth to dare and subvert pre-established orders, whether in the political, social or cultural, rethinking the notions of collection, restoration and rarity, and questioning the work of art within an obsolete hierarchical system.

In less than one year of work, have gone through Piolho Nababo approximately 70 artists, with almost 200 works displayed in its total. Names like Tatiana Cavinato, Moshi, Mirele Brant, Clarice Steinmuller, Froiid, Alexandre Rato, Marconi Marques, Rafael Perpétuo, Messias Mendes, *Coletivo 4e25* and others are major representatives of contemporary artistic production of Belo Horizonte, which are inserted in the official circuit of art, with exhibits in galleries and cultural centers of the city and other states.

In addition to the irreverence, what this exhibit searches is experimentation, critical and artistic proposals, out of the institutional agendas, counterpoint to bureaucratization from an experimental attitude.

In general, these spaces would not be subject to injunctions of different orders - economic, political or social - implying new articulations from a reflexive attitude about the role of these places in the contemporary context (*Espaços Independentes*, 2010).

According to the creator of the project, and coordinator of the process of collective exhibition, Warlei Desali, when asked about his motivation to produce the Piolho Nababo, answers: "what moves me is the motivation of people, what each one may contribute by attending or proposing new ideas. I don't know the end of it all yet. Everything is very uncertain and permeated with doubts. *Ystilingue* is a self-governing space, open to any kind of proposal".

Finally, I conclude this paper by proposing that the place of art is the one where it wants to be. That the whole process of creation may be more valid than its result, since the end result that generates the work is no longer the main consequence of the artistic processes in contemporaneity.

Collective Exhibit in Process - Piolho Nababo

Site: http://piolhonababo.blogspot.com

Local: Ystilingue - Maletta Building - 1148 Bahina Street, mezzanine #35 - Centre - Belo

Horizonte MG - Brazil

Date: every Friday at 19 o'clock

Free admission

Artists participating in the 32 editions of Collective Exhibit in Process - Piolho Nababo:

Águeda Couto | Alexandre Rato | Alinde Korsett | Ana Rocha | André Ferreira | Arianni Xisto | Augusto Fonseca | Bruno Rocha | Carol Melo | Chacal | Clarice Steinmüller | Coletivo 4: 25 | Coletivo Poesiak | Cris Paulo | Culundria Armada | Daniela Eugênia | Daniela Parampal | Desali | Felipe Godoy | Flávio CRO | Froiid | Gabriella Araujo | Giovanni Xisto | Guilherme Bita | Hernani Guimarães | Hugo Honorato | Igor Reis | Iron | Jamaro | J.G. Morais | João Martins | João Perdição | La Osnofa | Luma Brant | Maíra Fonte Boa | Marconi Marques | Mirele Brant | Marscalito | Matheus Dutra | Matuto | Menor | Messias Mendes | Mosh | P.H.Susu | Priscila Rezende | Radharani Lenine | Rafael Perpétuo | Renata Nery | Renato Negrão | Samuca Martins | Sara Alves Braga | Sara Lambranho | Tatiana Cavinato | Thiago Pena | Thiago Scap | Wandala Mucchiut | Xerel

Reference

Espaço Independentes, 2010. Ateliê 397, Funarte, São Paulo.

Powerpoint Slides





























































