



dora smék + paul setúbal: opositores

01.10 – 12.11.2022

Central Galeria is pleased to present Dora Smék and Paul Setúbal's *Opositores* (Opponents), exhibition held in partnership with Casa Triângulo with accompanying curatorial essay by Benjamin Seroussi. Reflecting the country's status of growing social tensions, the artists show an installation project consisting of bronze sculptures and chains that crisscross the gallery's venue, seeking to broaden the debate on democracy as well as on political, ethical and territorial polarity.

Opositores comprise a series of thus far unseen sculptures co-created in 2017 by Smék and Setúbal. Bronze cast from the artists' hand molds, they're combined and placed as parts of the children's game "thumb wrestling", whose goal is to capture your opponent's thumb using your own. However, in Smék and Setúbal's work, the fingers' gesture does not indicate a clear winner: it crystallizes the moment of dispute, broadening a sense of impasse and constant tension.

For this exhibition, the artists chose to display the sculptures using a tensioning system, with chains, hooks and stainless steel turnbuckles placed as vectors, taking advantage of Central's concrete columns. Crisscrossing the exhibition space, the chains create transit obstacles and emphasize the opposition correlation of each gesture.

Dora Smék (Campinas, 1987) lives and works in São Paulo. Among her recent exhibitions, stand-out her solo show *A dança do corpo sem cabeça* at Central Galeria (São Paulo, 2021), and the group shows: *13th Bienal do Mercosul* (Porto Alegre, 2022); *Arte em Campo*, Estádio do Pacaembu (São Paulo, 2020); *No presente a vida (é) política*, Central Galeria (São Paulo, 2020); *Arte Londrina 8* (Londrina, 2020); *Hinte dem Horizont*, Reiners Contemporary Art/Sammlung Jakob (Freiburg, Germany, 2020); *Cuerpos Atravesados*, Reiners Contemporary Art (Marbella, Spain, 2020); *Mulheres na Arte Brasileira: Entre Dois Vértices*, CCSP (São Paulo, 2019); *47. Salão de Arte Contemporânea Luiz Sacilotto* (Santo André, 2019); *13. Verbo*, Galeria Vermelho (São Paulo, 2017). Her works integrate public collections such as the ones from Museu de Arte do Rio (Rio de Janeiro) and Museu Nacional de Belas Artes (Rio de Janeiro), among others.

Paul Setúbal (Aparecida de Goiânia, 1987) lives and works in São Paulo. His solo exhibitions include: Museu da República (Rio de Janeiro, 2022); C. Galeria (Rio de Janeiro, 2022 e 2018); Casa Triângulo (São Paulo, 2021); Andrea Rehder Arte Contemporânea (São Paulo, 2016); Elefante Centro Cultural (Brasília, 2015). Among group shows, stand out: *40th Arte Pará*, Casa das Onze Janelas (Belém, 2022); *No presente a vida (é) política*, Central Galeria (São Paulo, 2020); *Aparelho*, Maus Hábitos (Porto, 2019); *36th Panorama da Arte Brasileira*, MAM-SP (São Paulo, 2019); *29th Programa de Exposições*, CCSP (São Paulo, 2019); *Demonstração por Absurdo*, Instituto Tomie Ohtake (São Paulo, 2018); *Arte, democracia, utopia*, Museu de Arte do Rio (Rio de Janeiro, 2018); among others. His works integrate public collections such as the ones from Museu de Arte do Rio (Rio de Janeiro), Museu de Arte de Brasília and Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Goiânia, among others.

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exhibition: Dora Smék + Paul Setúbal: Opositores

address: Central Galeria / Rua Bento Freitas, 306 / Vila Buarque / 01220 000 / São Paulo

opening: Saturday, 01.10.2022 / 2pm – 5pm

dates: 01.10 – 12.11.2022 / Monday–Friday: 11am – 7pm / Saturday: 11am – 5pm

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