

Conference:
Hot Art, Cold War: US Art and Portugal, 1945-1990

27-28 April 2022

Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Sala de Congressos 1, Lisbon



Nikias Skapinakis. *Portrait of the Critics*, 1971. Col. Brasileira do Chiado.

This conference examines the artistic relations between Portugal and the US in the complex climate of the Cold War and the transition from Salazar's dictatorship to democracy. The intersections between the Portuguese and US art worlds in this period have rarely been examined. Portuguese audiences had limited access to US art during this time, as the first exhibition of US art shown in Lisbon only took place in the late 1970s. Throughout Salazar's dictatorship, information about US art often reached audiences via exhibitions and networks in other European countries, especially France and Spain. One aim of the conference is to evaluate the different means by which Portuguese artists, critics, curators and wider audiences discovered and engaged with US art. Invited scholars and critics will offer first-hand insights into the challenges of studying and writing about US art during the late Cold War period. In addition, scholars will discuss the exhibition reviews that shaped the Portuguese perceptions of US art. They will examine the impact of US artists and movements on Portuguese art practice and tease out parallels and affinities between the artists of the two countries.

The event is inspired by the anthology *Hot Art, Cold War—Southern and Eastern European Writing on American Art, 1945-1990* edited by C. Hopkins and I.B. Whyte (Routledge, 2020), an initiative of the journal *Art in Translation* and funded by the Terra Foundation for American Art. The conference is organised by Pedro Lapa (Instituto de História da Arte, Universidade de

Lisboa) and Sofia Nunes (FCSH-Universidade Nova de Lisboa) in collaboration with Claudia Hopkins (Durham University) and with generous funding from the Terra Foundation for American Art.



Format: in-person event at the Gulbenkian Foundation.
To register, please click here [here](#).

Schedule

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10:00-10:40 Welcome and introductory remarks

Introduction: Hot Art, Cold War: European Writing on US Art.

Claudia Hopkins (Professor and Director of the Zurbarán Centre for Spanish and Latin American Art, University of Durham)

A Difficult Gap: the reception of North-American Art in Portugal, 1945-1990

Pedro Lapa (Professor, University of Lisbon) and Sofia Nunes (Art Critic, PhD. Student Nova University of Lisbon)

Keynote Lecture

10:45-11.35 Vieira Da Silva: Looking at a Cold World from above.

Serge Guilbaut (Professor Emeritus of Art History, British Columbia University)

11.35-12.00 Coffee Break

Panel 1: Reviews Revisited

12:00-12.30 Sílvia Chicó (Professor Emeritus, University of Lisbon)

12:30-13.00 Alexandre Melo (Professor, ISCTE, Art critic)

13.00-14.30 Lunch Break

Panel 2: US Art Exhibitions and Portugal

14:30-15.00 *Painting and Sculpture of a Decade* (Tate), 1964

Leonor Oliveira (Researcher, Nova University of Lisbon)

15.00-15.30 *Liberation – 14 American Artists* (Gulbenkian), 1977

Giulia Lamonì (Researcher, Nova University of Lisbon)

- 15.30-16.00 Coffee Break
- 16:00-16.30 *Contemporary American Sculpture: Signs of Life*, 1989,
Isabel Nogueira (Researcher, University of Lisbon)
- 16:30-17.00 *Encontros de Fotografia de Coimbra*
Conversation between Albano Silva Pereira (Director CAV) and Sérgio
Mah (Professor, Nova University of Lisbon)
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Keynote

- 10:00-11.00 Robert Rauschenberg: Neo-Dada and Intermedia.
Branden Joseph (Frank Gallipoli Professor of Modern and Contemporary
Art, Columbia University)
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee Break

Panel 3: Affinities between US and Portuguese Artists, 1945-1990

- 11.30-12.00 Thomas Hart Benton and Júlio Pomar
David Santos (Curator)
- 12.00-12.30 The Family of Man Effect
Emília Tavares (Curator)
- 12.30-13.00 Abstract Expressionism
Fernando Rosa Dias (Professor, University of Lisbon)
- 13:00-14.30 Lunch Break
- 14:30-15.00 Hard Edge, Shaped Canvas and Minimalism
Delfim Sardo (Professor, University of Lisbon)
- 15:00-15.30 The Shadow of Neo-Dadaism and Pop Art
Pedro Lapa (Professor, University of Lisbon)
- 15:30-16.00 Coffee Break
- 16:00-16.30 Julião Sarmiento, a case study
Sofia Nunes (Art Critic, Phd student, Nova University of Lisbon)
- 16:30-17.00 Neo-Expressionism, Bad Painting
Margarida Brito Alves (Professor, Nova University of Lisbon)
- 17:00-17.30 Final remarks