

## Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo inaugurates the exhibition "Antonio Bandeira"

*A pioneer of abstractionism in Brazil, the painter is the subject of an exhibition encompassing several periods of his work, curated by Regina Teixeira de Barros and Giancarlo Hannud.*

A series of around 60 little-known works by the artist Antonio Bandeira (1922–1967) can be seen at **MAM São Paulo** from December 10, 2019. Curated by Regina Teixeira de Barros and Giancarlo Hannud, the exhibition **Antonio Bandeira** brings together works from different phases of the artist's work, from his first figurative paintings to the large woven canvasses created in the final years of his career.

The show enjoys the master sponsorship of Bradesco, the sponsorship of Havaianas and support from the Instituto Antonio Bandeira. It is produced by MAM and Base7 Projetos Culturais.

An exponent of abstractionism in Brazil, Bandeira occupies a prominent place in Brazilian art. Born in Fortaleza in 1922, he moved to Rio de Janeiro in 1945. At the age of twenty-four, he travelled to Paris on a study scholarship from the French government, and there he became intimate with artists such as Camille Bryen and Georges Mathieu, as well as the German Wols, who exerted a strong influence on his work.

Although, thanks to a career encompassing Brazilian and international artistic achievements he has become one of the most highly valued Brazilian artists commercially, Bandeira is still little known to the general public. According to Giancarlo Hannud, one of the exhibition's curators, this is due to the independence cultivated by the painter, who was always demanding, methodical and extremely disciplined, but never affiliated himself with any group.

"Bandeira occupies a very specific place in Brazilian art because unlike most artists of his generation, especially in the 1950s and 1960s, he never joined any artistic groups or movements, always remaining independent of aesthetic organizations. He is, thus, one of the few 'independent artists' of his time in Brazil, always producing work of formal internal purity. He was also one of the first Brazilian artists to actively cultivate his own image, developing a persona and feeding the narratives that were constructed around him. In addition to this, he also formed part of both the Brazilian and international artistic environments, participating equally in shows in Brazil and abroad, and having interlocutors both in Europe and Brazil," observes Hannud.

The presentation of the exhibition at an institution like MAM São Paulo acquires greater importance as a result of this, since it allows the public to discover the work – and the debate around the work – of Bandeira. Behind the abstractionism, the painter suggests concrete



emotions guided by titles which refer to an urban landscape and everyday scenes, such as *Flora agreste* [Wild Flower] (1958), *Ascensão das favelas em azul* [Rise of the Favelas in Blue] (1951) and *Cais noturno* [Nocturnal Pier] (1962-63). The exhibition also showcases the variety of Bandeira's work, from the watercolors and gouaches of the 1940s, to the more experimental works, produced in the 1960s, with adhesive tape or on newspaper plates.

The exhibition arrives in São Paulo after being presented at the Espaço Cultural Unifor at the University of Fortaleza, in 2017, with some minor differences in relation to the original show.

"The curators were invited by MAM due to the extensive research they had already conducted on the artist which resulted in the show *Antonio Bandeira: an abstractionist friend of life*. So, we will be able to present to the audience of MAM an updated view of this artist's work which is didactic and comprehensive in relation to his body of work", explains Felipe Chaimovich, the museum's curator.

### **Bandeira and MAM**

Antonio Bandeira's relationship with the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo began in the first years of the museum's existence: in 1951, when MAM organized its first Biennial, Bandeira was given a solo show at the museum; in 1953 he again exhibited at MAM and was the author of the poster for the Second Biennial of the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo. In 1955, he again participated in the museum's programming with another solo show consisting of drawings sent from Europe to Brazil and, in 1959, Bandeira once again took part in the museum's Biennial – before the creation of the Fundação Bienal de São Paulo, at the time of the seventh edition of the event.

### **About Bradesco Cultura**

Sponsoring hundreds of projects annually, Bradesco believes that culture has the power to transform society. The bank supports initiatives that contribute to the sustainability of cultural events which take place from the north to the south of Brazil, highlighting its commitment to the democratization of art. These encompass regional events, fairs, exhibitions, cultural centers, orchestras, musicals and many others, in addition to the Bradesco Theater in São Paulo. The 2019 calendar includes attractions such as the Amazonas Opera Festival, the musical *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Natal do Bradesco*, in Curitiba.

Schedule:

#### ***Antonio Bandeira***

Inauguration: Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 8 pm

Visitation: December 11, 2019 to March 1, 2020

Location: **Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo**

Address: Parque Ibirapuera (av. Pedro Álvares Cabral, s/nº - Gates 2 and 3)

Opening Hours: Tuesday to Sunday, from 10 am to 5:30 pm (doors close at 6 pm)

Phone: (11) 5085-1300

Admission: R\$ 10.00. Free on Saturdays. Half-price for students and teachers with ID.



Free entry for children under 10 years of age or adults over 60 years of age, people with disabilities, members and students of MAM, employees of partner companies and museums, members of ICOM, AICA and ABCA with identification, environmental agents of CET, GCM, PM, Metrô and employees of the Yellow Line of the Metrô subway, CPTM, the Civil Police, bus conductors and drivers, coach drivers, employees of SPTuris, itinerant vendors of Ibirapuera Park, gas station attendants and taxi drivers with identification, and up to 4 of their guests.

Group visits can be scheduled for free by calling Tel. 5085-1313 or using the following email addresses:

[educativo@mam.org.br](mailto:educativo@mam.org.br)

[atendimento@mam.org.br](mailto:atendimento@mam.org.br)

[www.mam.org.br](http://www.mam.org.br)

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[www.youtube.com/MAMoficial](https://www.youtube.com/MAMoficial)

On-site parking (Blue Zone: R\$ 5.00 per 2h)

Access for people with disabilities

Restaurant/coffee

Air conditioning

### **Press information**

#### **a4&holofote comunicação**

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