

## Work by Ana Teixeira occupies the *Projeto Parede* at MAM São Paulo

*The artist presents a new iteration of her work “Cala a boca já morreu” in the museum corridor*

The **Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo** [Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo] (MAM São Paulo) will display work by the artist Ana Teixeira in the new edition of **Projeto Parede** [Wall Project]. Occupying the wall of the corridor that connects the reception to the Milú Villela Exhibition Hall, *Cala a boca já morreu* [Shut Up Is Dead Already] (2019-2023) is the result of actively listening to women, which the artist then projects in the public space as a politically-charged exercise. The procedural work, which has had a few previous iterations, investigates the demands and desires of these women.

The work was first carried out in 2019, during the artist's solo exhibition at the Centro Universitário Maria Antonia, in São Paulo. According to Ana, it was the first time in her urban practices that she spoke with groups and not individuals, which allowed the artist to encounter the experience that American feminist Carol Hanisch describes in her 1969 essay titled *The Personal is Political*. In the text, the author proposes that awareness is the main condition in the process of women's empowerment, especially when it arises from an exchange of experiences and collective reflection.

*Cala a boca já morreu* [Shut Up Is Dead Already], a title that traces back to a familiar expression in the artist's childhood, consists of an action that has more than one phase. Firstly, the artist distributes pamphlets to women in public spaces, inviting them to participate in a conversation, which arises from a simple question from Ana Teixeira: “What do you no longer want to be silent about?” The answers are then synthesized and written by Ana on posters. Next, the participants are photographed holding these posters so that they can later be drawn, in pen or adhesive vinyl, by the artist onto the walls of exhibition spaces.

In total, 101 women participated in the activity, meeting with Ana Teixeira in places such as the Casa das Rosas, Centro Universitário Maria Antonia, and Ocupação 9 de Julho, in São Paulo; and in the city of Cologne, Germany, where the artist carried out this work at the invitation of the local university. To Ana's surprise, the issues raised by the German women were the same as those raised by the Brazilian women in previous iterations of the work.

“In both my experiences in Germany and in Brazil, what you can see is that the pressure of patriarchal society on women is very relevant. Amongst the 101 phrases I have collected, only



five do not mention sexism and the impositions of the patriarchy on women's bodies and lives,” says the artist.

The version of the work presented in the *Projeto Parede [Wall Project]* at the MAM São Paulo will feature the drawn representation of 18 women, in addition to the recording of 101 phrases made by both cisgender and transgender women who collaborated with Ana Teixeira in 2021.

The display at MAM will also feature pages of a publication of the same name, created by Ana Teixeira based on research done at the Mário de Andrade Library. The publication brings together various excerpts that address female silencing, selected from books acquired between 2010 and 2020, written by women authors and with a feminist theme.

“This is a compilation of criticisms about various types of oppression to which we women have been subjected to over the last few centuries. Everyday discriminations that go unnoticed as well as others of unquestionable gravity, which, if noticed, light the fuse for a reflection— late but always necessary—on the possible ways that we can dismantle patriarchal structures that, even today, are committed to silencing and erasing women in all areas of life”, explains Ana Teixeira.

The MAM library will have all 26 research books available for consultation. The publications will be on loan to the museum by the Mário de Andrade Library for the entire duration of the exhibition.

“Ana Teixeira's work reveals that in the lamentable silencing of women there is a force of meaning that cannot simply fit on a wall. Instead of emptiness or absences, the silences, especially those that are being broken, are promises of a future with equal rights, including the right to speak”, writes MAM's chief curator, Cauê Alves, in the text accompanying the work.

#### **Further Details:**

**Projeto Parede [Wall Project] - *Cala a boca já morreu* [Shut Up Is Dead Already], by Ana Teixeira**

**Opening:** 2nd of March, Thursday, 7pm

**Duration:** 2nd of March - 28th of May, 2023

**Location:** Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, Projeto Parede

**Address:** Ibirapuera Park (Av. Pedro Álvares Cabral, s/no - Gates 1 and 3)

**Opening Hours:** Tuesday to Sunday, from 10am to 6pm (with last entry at 5:30pm)



**Tickets:** R\$25,00 Full price R\$12,50 Half Price. Entrance is free on Sundays and visitors can pay what they like.

\*Half price for students with identification; low-income youth and the elderly (+60). Free for children under 10 years

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**museu de arte moderna de são paulo**

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old; people with disabilities and their caregiver; teachers and directors of the state and municipal public network of São Paulo, with identification; members and students of the MAM; employees of partner companies and museums; members of ICOM, AICA and ABCA with identification; SPTuris employees and employees of the Municipal Secretary of Culture.

Telephone: (11) 5085-1300

Disabled access for the restaurant & café

Air-conditioning

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