

## MAM São Paulo's Projeto Parede [Wall Project] receives "Sonhos Yanomami" ["Yanomami Dreams"], a photograph series by Claudia Andujar

*In the 20 images with overlay technique recently integrated into the MAM collection, Claudia Andujar presents the shamanistic rituals of the Yanomami*



*Claudia Andujar. Desabamento do céu / O fim do mundo [Collapse of the sky / The end of the world] - from the Sonhos Yanomami [Yanomami Dreams] series (2002). Courtesy of Galeria Vermelho. Click [here](#) to access more images*

Artist and activist, **Claudia Andujar** was born in Switzerland in 1931 and grew up in Transylvania in a family with Jewish and Protestant origins. Having survived the Holocaust, she arrived in Brazil in 1955, where she began her career as a photojournalist and artist, and settled in the country. Photography was the way she used to get to know people and learn about the new country. In 1971, she met with the Yanomami for the first time and decided to spend more time with them. **Sonhos Yanomami [Yanomami Dreams]**, one of the last works carried out by **Andujar** from her collection of images about the Yanomami people, will be exhibited from September 5, 2023 to January 28, 2024 on the *Projeto Parede [Wall Project]* from the **Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo [Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo]**.

Ever since her first contact with the Yanomami, Claudia Andujar returned several times to their region and remained there for long periods of time, developing close

ties with its members, photographing them in their collective houses - called “yano” - and accompanying them into the forest to photograph various activities.

“I consider the series *Sonhos Yanomami* [*Yanomami Dreams*] a turning point in my experience with the Yanomami. The images that assemble the series reveal the shamanistic rituals of the Yanomami, their meeting with the spirits. From its creation, I began to conceive an imagetic interpretation of rituals, a fact that gave me access to their genealogy, bringing together aspects of culture and dissolving the boundaries between human beings, their gods and nature, integrating everyone into a continuous flow”, said the artist in an interview published on the occasion of the exhibition *Identidade* [*Identity*], exhibited in 2005, at the Fondation Cartier, in Paris.

The series, which has just been integrated into the MAM collection, is made of 20 images created through the overlap of negative chromes photographed from 1971 onwards. “It is a work from the artist’s mature period, when she already had great intimacy with the culture of the people who embraced her. The images reveal something from the rituals performed by Yanomami spiritual leaders and the importance of dreams in their cosmology”, comments **Cauê Alves**, chief curator of the museum, in a text that goes with the exhibition.

The set of images displayed in MAM’s Projeto Parede [Wall Project] is also a reflection of a breather moment for Andujar and the Yanomami people. Alongside other activists, Andujar founded the Comissão pela Criação do Parque Yanomami [Commission for the Creation of the Yanomami Park] (CCPY) in 1978 – known as the Pro-Yanomami Commission. The Commission, coordinated by her, organized the campaign for the demarcation of Yanomami territory, in order to guarantee the preservation and survival of this indigenous Amazon people. The Yanomami Indigenous Land was recognized by the Brazilian government in 1992, however it continues to be invaded by illegal mining that has caused hundreds of deaths. Andujar made the fight to preserve the Yanomami people, culture and land her life's work.

“Photography is my way of communicating with the world. A two-way process in which you receive as much as you give. If the photographic record of cultures can be considered a way of understanding others, I believe that with the *Sonhos* [*Dreams*] series I managed to understand the essence of the Yanomami people”, said Andujar on the occasion of the exhibition at the Fondation Cartier.

**Service:**

***Sonhos Yanomami* [*Yanomami Dreams*], by Claudia Andujar**

Opening: September 5th, Tuesday, 7pm to 9:30pm

Exhibition period: September 6, 2023 to January 28, 2024

Location: Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo (Projeto Parede [Wall Project])

Address: Parque Ibirapuera (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 and R\$12.50 half price. On Sundays, entry is free and visitors can contribute whatever amount they want.

\*Half price tickets for students, only with identification; for low-income youth and elderly people (+60). Free tickets for children under 10 years old; people with disabilities and companions; teachers and directors of São Paulo's state and city public school systems, with identification; members and students at MAM; employees from partner companies and museums; members of ICOM, AICA and ABCA, with identification; SPTuris employees and employees of the Municipal Secretariat of Culture.

Contact: +55 11 5085-1300

Access for people with disabilities

Restaurant/Cafe

Air conditioning

More info:

### **MAM São Paulo**

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