

# MAM São Paulo and Museu Afro Brasil Emanoel Araujo [Emanuel Araujo Afro Brazil Museum] present the exhibition 'Mãos: 35 anos da Mão Afro-Brasileira' ['Hands: 35 years of the Afro-Brazilian Hand']

Displayed at both institutions, the exhibit proposes a review of the iconic 'A Mão Afro-Brasileira' ['The Afro-Brazilian Hand'], held at MAM, 35 years ago, with curatorship by Emanoel Araujo, on the centenary of the slavery abolition in Brazil With curatorship by Claudinei Roberto da Silva, the current exhibition brings an excerpt from the 1988 exhibition and a major update, with popular, academic, modern and contemporary artists







Caption: Emanoel Araujo, *Composição Roxa e Vermelha [Purple and Red Composition]*, 1979. Private collection | Aline Bispo, *Moça [Girl]*, 2021. Luis Maluf Gallery Collection | Luiz83, Untitled, 2023 | Photos by Renato Parada

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From October 19th, the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo [Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo] and the Museu Afro Brasil Emanoel Araujo [Emanuel Araujo Afro Brazil Museum] present the exhibition Mãos: 35 anos da Mão Afro-Brasileira [Hands: 35 years of the Afro-Brazilian Hand]. Exhibited simultaneously in both institutions, the exhibition has curatorship by Claudinei Roberto da Silva - curator, artist, member of the MAM Arts Commission and guest curator from MAB Emanoel Araujo - and brings together paintings, engravings, photographs, sculptures and documents by more than 30 Brazilian afro-descent popular, academic, modern and/or contemporary artists. The exhibition celebrates and revisits the legacy of A Mão Afro-Brasileira [The Afro-Brazilian Hand], an exhibition held at MAM in



1988 - the centenary year of slavery abolition in Brazil - with curatorship by Emanoel Araujo and which marked the history of art in the country. The exhibition is sponsored by **Vale Cultural Institute** through the culture incentive law.

The exhibition's idea was shared with Emanoel Araujo (1940 - 2022), artist, curator, creator and director of the Museu Afro Brasil [Afro Brazil Museum], who was enthusiastic about carrying out the institutional partnership, but was unable to see the project come to fruition. The current exhibition is also a tribute from both institutions to his legacy.

"Mãos: 35 anos da Mão Afro-Brasileira [Hands: 35 years of the Afro-Brazilian Hand] on MAM, held in partnership with the Museu Afro Brasil Emanoel Araujo [Emanuel Araujo Afro Brazil Museum], renamed in honor of its founder, is inaugurated 35 years after the pioneering version displayed at MAM São Paulo. More than joining a discussion that is currently very present in institutions, the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo [Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo] revisits its history, revealing its pioneering spirit in regards to the appreciation of Afro-Brazilian art that so deeply marks national identity and culture", comments **Elizabeth Machado**, MAM's president.

"It was through a series of exhibitions held by Emanoel Araujo that the Museu Afro Brasil [Afro Brazil Museum] project – the name by which the institution became known for, before adopting the name of its founder – began to acquire its outlining, before it even officially existed. And it can be said that it is found in the historic exhibition *A Mão Afro-Brasileira* [The Afro-Brazilian Hand] (1988), as well as in the homonymous publication, also organized by Araujo, the genes of the Museum he created, both from a conceptual point of view and from the constitution of its collections", states **Sandra Salles**, executive director of the Museu Afro Brasil Emanoel Araujo [Emanuel Araujo Afro Brazil Museum].

At MAM, the exhibition will be shown in the Paulo Figueiredo Room with artworks by Agnaldo Manuel dos Santos, Aline Bispo, Almandrade, André Ricardo, Arthur Timótheo da Costa, Betto Souza, Claudio Cupertino, Cosme Martins, Denis Moreira, DiogoNogue, Edival Ramosa, Edu Silva, Emanoel Araujo, Emaye - Natalia Marques, Eneida Sanches, Estevão Roberto da Silva, Flávia Santos, Genilson Soares, Heitor dos Prazeres, João Timótheo da Costa, Jorge dos Anjos, José Adário dos Santos, Leandro Mendes, Luiz 83, Maria Lídia Magliani, Maurino de Araújo, MayAgontinmé, Mestre Didi, Néia Martins, Nivaldo Carmo, Otávio Araújo, Paulo Nazareth, Peter de Brito, Rebeca Carapiá, Rommulo Vieira Conceição, Rosana Paulino, Rubem Valentim, Sérgio Adriano H, Sidney Amaral, Sonia Gomes, Taygoara Schiavinoto, Wilson Tibério and Yêdamaria.



And at MAB Emanoel Araujo, the works of Emanoel Araujo, Denis Moreira, May Agontinmé, Juliana dos Santos, Lidia Lisbôa and Renata Felinto will be exhibited at the Carolina Maria de Jesus Library, alongside documents relating to the 1988 exhibition belonging to the MAM Archive.

Claudinei Roberto explains that *Mãos: 35 anos da Mão Afro-Brasileira* [Hands: 35 years of the Afro-Brazilian Hand] reviews the historic exhibition from 35 years ago based on now historicized productions and other contemporary achievements that, naturally, were not present in the 1988 exhibition, but that, in any case, provide evidence of the current panorama of Afro-Brazilian art.

"Epistemicide is the term created to mark the processes of erasure and silencing of the history and culture of a given group. In a social scenario historically marked by profound inequality of race, class and gender, epistemicide is also a result of structural racism that creates conditions for education, art and cultural institutions to neglect the symbolic productions of weakened social sectors that consequently remain subordinate. Therefore, the current emergence and appreciation of Afro-Brazilian and Afro-diasporic art has its rhythm influenced by the advancement of the struggles for civil rights undertaken by black women and men in the country", reflects Claudinei in the text that makes up the catalog.

For **Cauê Alves**, MAM's chief curator, in addition to its artistic and social relevance, *Mãos: 35 anos da Mão Afro-Brasileira [Hands: 35 years of the Afro-Brazilian Hand]* is fundamental for reflecting on the history of exhibitions. "Held 35 years after *A Mão Afro-Brasileira [The Afro-Brazilian Hand]*, also carried out at MAM São Paulo by Emanoel Araujo, it updates the debate and reopens a field of possibilities. This narrative, which addresses the first exhibitions on Afro-Brazilian art, has *A Mão Afro-Brasileira [The Afro-Brazilian Hand]* as a fundamental part of projecting future possibilities. The exhibition values the symbolic production of those who have traditionally been relegated to the margins in the official narratives of the institutions that have dominated discussions about the arts in the last 150 years", comments Cauê Alves in an essay in the catalog.

#### About MAM São Paulo

Founded in 1948, the Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo [Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo] is a non-profit civil society of public interest. Its collection has more than 5,000 works produced by the most representative names in mostly Brazilian modern and contemporary art. Both the collection and the exhibitions favor experimentalism, opening up to the plurality of global artistic production and the diversity of interests of contemporary societies.

The Museum maintains a wide range of activities that include courses, seminars, lectures, performances, musical shows, video sessions and artistic



practices. The content of the exhibitions and activities is accessible to all audiences through visits in Libras [Brazilian Sign Language], audio description of the works and video guides in Libras [Brazilian Sign Language]. The collection of books, periodicals, documents and audiovisual material comprises 65,000 titles. The exchange with museum libraries in several countries keeps the collection alive.

Located in Ibirapuera Park, the most important green space in São Paulo, the building housing MAM was adapted by Lina Bo Bardi and in addition to the exhibition rooms it has a studio, library, auditorium, restaurant and a shop where visitors can find design objects, art books and a line of products from the MAM brand. The museum spaces are also visually integrated with the Sculpture Garden, designed by Roberto Burle Marx and Haruyoshi Ono to house works from the collection. All facilities are accessible to special needs visitors.

## About the Museu Afro Brasil Emanoel Araujo [Afro Brazil Museum]

The Museu Afro Brasil Emanoel Araujo [Emanoel Araujo Afro Brazil Museum] is an institution of the Secretary of Culture, Economy and Creative Industry of the State of São Paulo managed by the Associação Museu Afro Brasil - Organização Social de Cultura [Afro Brazil Museum Association - Social Organization of Culture]. Opened in 2004, from the private collection of its curator director, Emanoel Araujo (1940-2022), the museum is a space of history, memory and art. Located in the Pavilion Padre Manoel da Nóbrega, within the most famous park in São Paulo, Ibirapuera Park, the Museu Afro Brasil Emanoel Araujo preserves, in approximately 12 thousand m2, a museum collection with more than 9 thousand works, presenting different aspects of African and Afro-Brazilian cultural universes and addressing themes such as religiosity, art and history, based on the contributions of the black population to the construction of Brazilian society and national culture. The museum exhibits part of its collection in the long-term exhibition and holds temporary exhibitions, educational activities, in addition to a broad cultural program.

### Information

Mãos: 35 anos da Mão Afro-Brasileira [Hands: 35 years of the Afro-Brazilian Hand]

Curatorship: Claudinei Roberto da Silva

Opening: October 19th, Thursday - 3pm at MAB Emanoel Araújo and 7pm at MAM

São Paulo

Exhibition period: October 20, 2023 to March 3, 2024

Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo (Paulo Figueiredo Room)

Address: Ibirapuera Park (Av. Pedro Álvares Cabral, s/nº - access through gates 1 and 3)



Schedules: Tuesday to Sunday, 10am to 6pm (last entry at 5:30pm)
Tickets: R\$30.00 full price and R\$15.00 half price. On Sundays, entry is free and visitors can contribute whatever amount they want. For advance tickets, go to mam.org.br/visite

\*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 Paiulo'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:

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www.instagram.com/mamsaopaulo/
https://www.facebook.com/mamsaopaulo/
www.youtube.com/@mamsaopaulo/
https://twitter.com/mamsaopaulo

#### Museu Afro Brasil Emanoel Araujo

Address: Ibirapuera Park (Av. Pedro Álvares Cabral, s/nº - access through gate 10) Schedules: Tuesday to Sunday, from 10am to 5pm (permanence until 6pm) Tickets: R\$15.00 full price and R\$7.50 half price. On Wednesdays, entry is free for everyone. For advance tickets, go to: https://museuafrobrasil.byinti.com/#/ticket/

#### press information

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