

SELVA

(2022)

↳ BROTÉRIA, LISBOA

Selva is a work specifically developed for the staircase of Brotéria, the former Palace of the Marquês de Tomar, and is the result of a partnership between artists Cristina Lamas and Francisca Carvalho.

The piece celebrates the importance of a dialogue, which is based on a collaborative process and develops around an imaginary related to textile and dyeing cultures. The involvement of the participants, the interweaving of different skills and the crossing of the various stages have created their own organic structure, which has evolved naturally, leading the work to dictate its own time and intrinsic expression. As in a dance that explores the intersection of references, authorship and formats, this whole process has paid attention to the plasticity of the material, the design and gravity that molds it, as well as the space that frames it.

Comprising a set of different fabrics that have been cut, dyed with natural dyes and sewn together to form a single suspended element, the installation consists of a large work.

Its presence comes from the manuality implied throughout its execution, referring to the pace of a slow time and the memory of a primordial vegetation, also linked to the specific conditions of the space that houses it. Working with the light and verticality of the staircase, which reinforce its spiritual dimension, an immersive environment is explored where the relationship with the viewer progresses intuitively.

Selva aims to configure a pictorial and sculptural body that, in dialogue with the site, along various steps and levels, induces opportunities for encounter and discovery. Thus, the work unfolds, reveals itself and involves us in a gradual reading that works in stages and layers, drawing our attention to the part and the whole, inviting us to wander between the specificity of each fabric and the expressiveness of the whole.

WRITTEN BY

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