

The **SEEDS - Means for a Sustainable Art Practice project**, supported by the Creative Europe program, has as its main objective the creation of time and space for the investigation and sharing of techniques and means, as well as critical thinking, which promote a more sustainable artistic practice. This project has activities scheduled between September 2023 and May 2024, in three countries - Portugal, Spain and Greece.

At the beginning of September, the twelve artists selected by Open Call took part in a Cycle of Conferences at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon and a series of workshops, both led by guests of honor Linda Weintraub (USA), Sónia Francisco (PT) and Yasmine Ostendorf-Rodríguez (NL). This was followed by the first long-term artistic residency, at the headquarters of the Quinta das Relvas Association (the project's main promoter), where the artists lived and worked for a month, resulting in the works now on show. This exhibition will move to the Cineteatro Alba Exhibition Hall in December 2023.

The artists are now moving on to Oficinas-do-Convento in Montemor-o-Novo for their second long-term artistic residency. In 2024, two more short-term residencies, dedicated to interaction with different local communities, will take place in Eleusis (Greece) and Monfero (Spain).

In May 2024, all the results obtained will be presented in the Gallery of the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon, including artistic works, a video documentary, a publication and a toolkit.

All the results will be published on the project's own website, which will be constantly updated until May 2024, and available at projectseeds.eu.

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SEEDS - MEANS FOR A SUSTAINABLE ART PRACTICE

SECAR ROUPA À CHUVA

28th SET > 30th NOV 2023

VIARCO, S. JOÃO DA MADEIRA

ana amarante, Alicia Monreal Ortega, Alkyoni Papakonstantopoulou, Camila Almeida, Carme Ayala, Diana de Brito, Eva Manaridou, Inés Ballesteros, Inês Coelho da Silva, Leah Saraiva, Folie a Deux, Rafael Raposo Pires

Curator: Noemi Ferreira

Secar a roupa à chuva ('drying clothes in the rain') is the culmination of a month of residency of a group of 12 artists in Quinta das Relvas as participants of project SEEDS – means for a sustainable art practice, within the Creative Europe program. Project SEEDS had its start at the beginning of September, with a weekend of conferences featuring speakers such as Linda Weintraub, Yasmine Ostendorf-Rodriguez and Sónia Francisco. These speakers then came to Quinta to facilitate some workshops.

The natural force that is Quinta das Relvas – an oasis of plant variety in the midst of a land almost completely made up of eucalyptus monoculture – was the ideal environment to open up the debate on sustainability. With the instructors the artists walked, trained their eye, read, took care of their mind, consciously harvested, learned how to transform natural elements into matter useful to their practice, questioned... Challenged the current way of the world and debated possibilities for the future.

An environment of research and sharing emerged during the last weeks that the 12 artists spent together at the studio. The techniques of reusing natural materials coexisted with a constant questioning of the world around them.

Then Autumn came.

It started to rain. It kept raining...

The clothes they had brought in their luggage came to an end and the drawings of ropes began hanging up wherever possible, adorned with what they could wash. And then it rained... Fingers crossed so they would dry; some pieces were sheltered inside in the hopes of having, at least, the essentials available. And the rain stopped. A glimpse of sun was enough for hope to come back. However, the importance of the rain increased, in beauty and amount. We contemplated it. The clothes took a long while to dry...

The struggle, the frustration and the persistence are subjects that go hand in hand with sustainability. As do caring and loving. Resisting the tide, with hearts full of willingness and above all this vital love, several artistic projects were developed throughout the length of a month.

Alicia, Ana, Alkyone, Camila, Carme, Diana, Eva, Inés, Inês, Leah, Folie and Rafael took a stand in the same fight: to bind artistic practices with sustainability. A natural and organic union was born in the group, leaving space for each one to express themselves in their own language.

The result is a visual variety converged in a single organic voice, resulting from the thought of decentralizing humanity in relation to nature. After all, is the human world containing nature or is it just a part of it?

25. Untitled
Painting with black walnut in tinted fabric
18,5 x 17,5 cm

26. Untitled
Walnut pile installation
15 x 30 cm aprox.

Alkyoni Papakonstantopoulou

Natural inks (dragon's blood, hibiscus, curcuma, oak galls, black walnut), natural dyes (hibiscus and chamomile), fabric, watercolour paper, ink for descriptions, leaves and flowers for ecoprints
(26 e 27)

27. Fading series.
26x21 cm, 26x21 cm, 30x22,5 cm, 21x26 cm, 26x21 cm, 21x26 cm, 14,8x10,5 cm

28. Research diary
24x16,5x2 cm

Leah Saraiva

29. Mandala
Natural ink on paper
3 paintings 11 x 15 cm

30. mapa-universo II
Watercolor and pen on paper
35 x 27 cm

31. universe-map III
Natural ink and pen on paper
41,5 x 29,5 cm

32. experience (interior-anterior)
Natural inks on cloth
21,5 x 33 cm

33. experience (natural)
Natural ink on paper
20,5 x 29,5 cm

34. The book of home
8 page book, pen on wax paper
3 x 2,5 cm

35. nest-home
bird's nest
2 x 8 x 6 cm

Inés Ballesteros

36. Here it doesn't fit a forest
Eucalyptus leaves paper, eucalyptus dye, fabric and eucalyptus bark
15 x 10 x 6 cm aprox

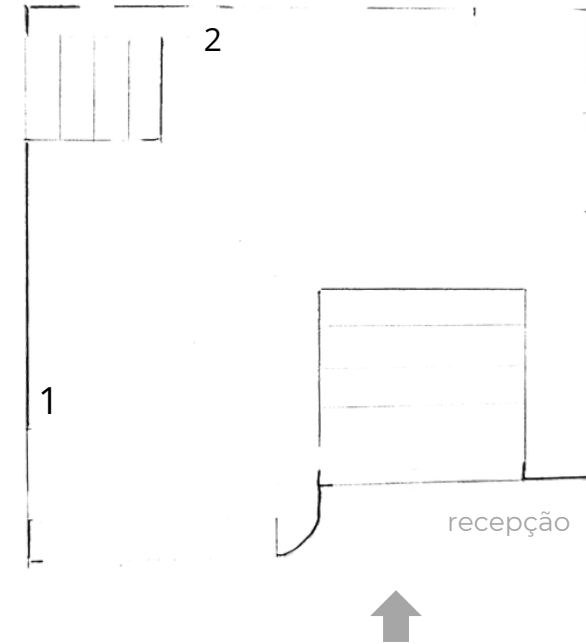
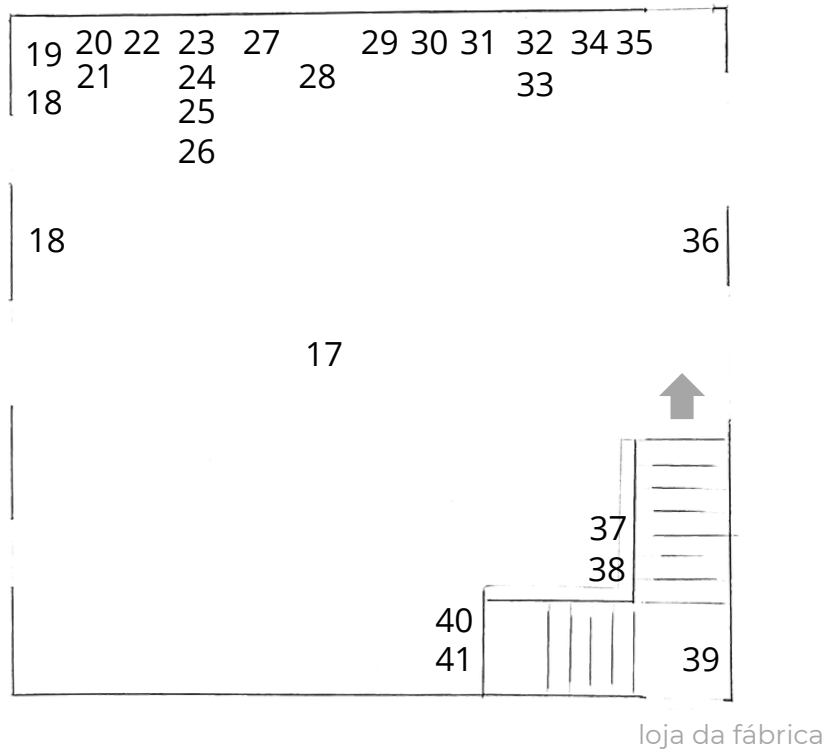
37. Other species in the margins protect from fires
Eucalyptus leaves paper, eucalyptus dye, fabric and eucalyptus bark
30 x 24,5 cm

38. Bald
Natural eucalyptus tint and ink
20 x 25 cm

39. The memory of another landscape has already disappeared
Eucalyptus leaves paper, eucalyptus dye, fabric and eucalyptus bark
32 x 25 cm

40. Flag
Eucalyptus leaves paper, eucalyptus dye, fabric and eucalyptus bark
14 x 15,5 cm

41. If the mountain changes its skin
Eucalyptus leaves paper, eucalyptus dye, fabric and eucalyptus bark
15 x 24,5 cm aprox



Rafael Raposo Pires

17. *Untitled (continual fall)*
Fence grid (100 x 90 x 85 cm), granite stone (117 x 10 x 10 cm, 31,48 Kg), 2023

Inês Coelho da Silva

18. *Caterpillar's poetries*
Garlic, camomile, wood, honey, salt, onion, ivy, clover, clay, cotton, hibiscus, oak gall
Variable dimensions

Alicia Monreal Ortega

19. *Mould cloud (it was a cloud)*
Corn starch, birch shelf, corn husk
28 x 25 x 14 cm

Carne Ayala

20. *Untitled*
Painting and embroidery on cloth
87 x 76 cm

21. *Untitled*
Set of two drawing on pampas grass paper
9 x 20 cm

22. *Untitled*
Patchwork of tinted fabrics
40 x 53 cm

23. *Untitled*
Acorn tinted cotton fabric
18 x 12,5 cm

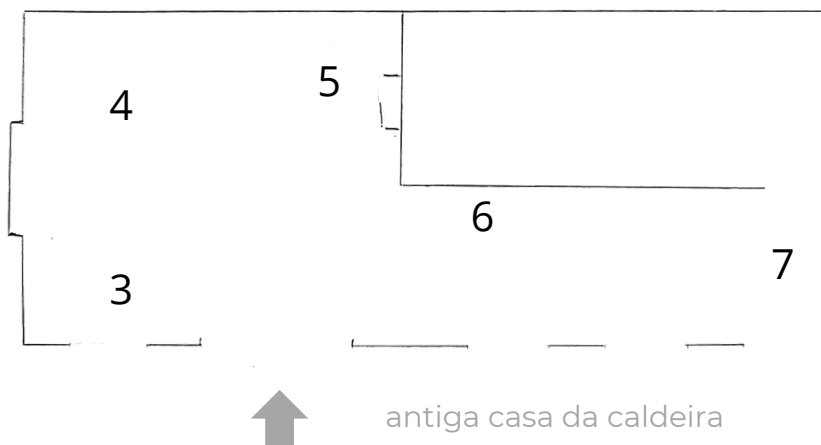
24. *Untitled*
Set of three paintings of oakgall and blackwalnut ink on aquarelle paper
12 x 13 cm

Eva Manaridou

1. *The Unconscious Birth*
Braiding and carving/ string made from eucalyptus bark, oak gall, pampas grass, Pokeweed ink and velvetleaf
40 x 11 x 8 cm

Inés Ballesteros

2. *Home*
Eucalyptus leaves paper, eucalyptus dye, fabric and eucalyptus bark
34 x 41 cm



Eva Manaridou

3. *Chrisalifourfouro in basket*

Collaboration work Eva Manaridou and Alicia Monreal Ortega
Stitching, carving and ecoprint/
string made from eucalyptus bark,
fabric, pampas grass, chestnut, salvia
and begonia
18 x 17 x 7 cm

ana amarante

4. *No man's land*

Plaster, stones, logs, bones, tetra pak
aluminum, manganese dioxide, coal,
recycled paper.
142 x 96 cm

Camila Almeida

5. *talismãe*

Dirt, plaster, bee's wax, spores from
Pisolithus Arrhizus, dog hair, white
glue
Variable dimensions

Folie a Deux

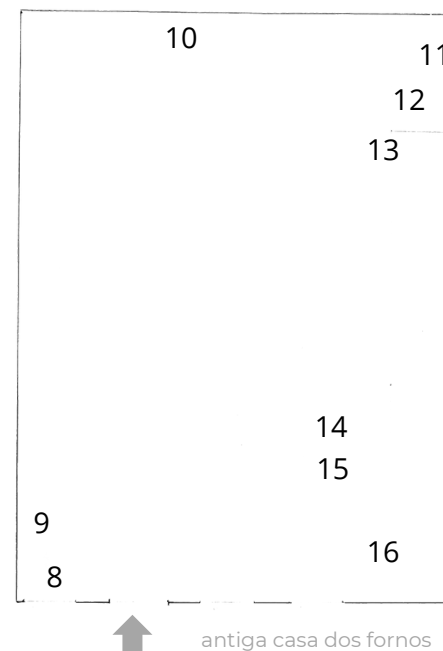
7. *To unlearn*

Fabric, natural dye, found objects
(panels, wood), cardboard, pen, rope
190 x 150 x 190 cm
Inside object:
All i can carry (ongoing)
Wood, reused thread, paper, flowers,
ink, rope
22 x 32 cm

Leah Saraiva

6. *a gift greater than I*

Natural ink on paper
16 paintings
11 x 15 cm



Alicia Monreal Ortega

8. *In my head it's mycelium*

1xtapioca, 3xwater, 1xvinegar,
0,5xhoney, natural pigments
24 x 22 x 3 cm

Eva Manaridou

9. *The man in the room*

Braiding and carving/ string made
from eucalyptus bark, oak gall, arabic
gum, chestnut, pampas reed and
camellia fruit
57 x 18 x 7 cm

Rafael Raposo Pires

10. *Untitled (laying the floor)*

8' 07", colour, mute, full hd, 2023.

Diana de Brito

11. *Duas bolotas, ou para sempre até quebrar*

Oak branch, beeswax, linseed oil,
charcoal, metal
5 x 15 x 15 cm

12. *Artefactos, primeira colheita*

Beeswax, linseed oil, charcoal,
eggshell, chestnut shell
Variable dimensions

13. *A vida contigo*

Pampas grass, silk paper, beeswax,
nail
10,5 x 5 cm

Eva Manaridou

14. *Princes of Decision*

Braiding and carving/ string made
from eucalyptus bark, oak gall, arabic
gum and pampas grass
50 x 10 x 5 cm

15. *The becoming*

Braiding / string made from
eucalyptus bark, snail and pampas
grass
38 x 12 x 5 cm

Alicia Monreal Ortega

16. *Slowly kissed by the seconds*

Coal and corn oil ink printed on
paper, text written on the wall with
graphite pencil.
16,5 x 13 x 4cm