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## PROJECT INTRODUCTION

Kindred Spirit is an exhibition space, conceived, founded and directed by Sérgio Fazenda Rodrigues, based upon the logic of a non-profit collaborative action. Based in Lisbon, but seeking a national and international scope, its action is focused on the creation and discussion of contents, supported by the combination of a curatorial, editorial and educational plan. Its purpose is to increase contemporary artistic creation and its approach to various audiences to seek working models that promote the conception, discussion and critical reflection of the visual arts in an inclusive manner.

The exhibition cycle *In the Present Now*, developed for 2023 and 2024, is based on a discussion supported by Ítalo Calvino's book *Six Proposals for the Next Millennium* (1998). Contrarily to what is expected, without illustrating or rebutting Calvino's ideas and aspirations, this cycle focuses on debating other forms of thought that, also in six moments, problematize, question and reflect on the present time.

The present is based on a state of permanent change, calling for a volatile gaze that does not fix itself. Diluting Cartesian logic, the exhibitions operate in the connection of the individual to the world, crossing the past and the future to problematize the present time. With no intention of concluding, but rather of finding approaches to existence in movement, the exhibitions have the opposite as a complement and uncertainty as evolution.

The exhibitions are conceived in a collaborative mode, promoting the development of mostly new works, based on a dialogue between artists, curators and exhibition spaces. Each exhibition is accompanied by a bilingual catalogue, in which the work produced is deepened and documented, also occasionally presented outside Portugal.

Three exhibitions are planned for 2023:

- *Rizoma / Rhizome* explores the formulation of knowledge, crossing different origins and expertise. This exhibition problematises actions that aggregate, horizontalise and deconstruct a hierarchy of wisdom.
- *Oxímoro / Oxymoron* investigates the reference of place, questioning the ideas of space and existence. Embracing paradox, this exhibition questions clarity and crosses the notions of fable, reflection and inversion.
- *Relatividade / Relativity* speculates on the expression of the event. Attentive to the elasticity of the creative process and the perception of the observer, the exhibition questions duration and the linearity of time.

The first exhibition debates the nature of knowledge, the second the place of the event and the third the course of action.



Kindred Spirit  
Exterior View



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Oxymoron	24 May - 06 July	2023	Lisbon, PT
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**Press Release**

*Oxymoron* is the second exhibition of *In the Present Now*, a series inspired by the ideas developed by Italo Calvino in *Six Memos for the Next Millennium* but focused on examining the present moment. Commenting on the notion of exactness, which according to Calvino is closely linked to the purpose of rigor and sharpness, the second exhibition revolves around the concept of oxymoron and engages in a dialogue between the Portuguese artist Henrique Pavão and the Danish artist Joachim Koester.

An oxymoron is a figure of speech which expresses the existence of a contradiction within what is asserted. Something and its opposite, breathe within the same entity and make sense in the apparent antagonism that arises from there. However, within an apparent duality, sometimes supposedly Manichean, there lies the ability to generate a third path that is, in itself, an act of openness and expansion. The artworks comprising this exhibition depart from this same path, where something and its opposite complement each other to express a certain nature.

Joachim Koester (1962, Copenhagen) approaches his artistic practice by examining how we delineate the factuality of things or, in the words of Hal Foster, “pursuing something that traverses the border between documentary and fiction.” Henrique Pavão (1991, Lisbon) combines the use of photography, sculpture, sound, and moving image to create immersive installations, where the artworks explore the boundaries of dream and reality.

The exhibition opens at 7 PM May 24<sup>th</sup>, and runs until 7PM on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July, 2023, at Kindred Spirit Projects, located at 54 Rua da Boavista, Lisbon.

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**Joachim Koester & Stefan A. Pederson**

*The Meditation Tapes*

Museum of Modern Art, Department of Eagles:  
Patterns, Shimmers, Scenes, 2016 (21'00", in continuous loop)

Text: Joachim Koester / Sound: Stefan A. Pedersen

Installation with sound piece, various materials

Variable dimensions

Courtesy Gallery Jan Mot





**Henrique Pavão**

*Moonshine*, 2023

Silver extracted from 35 mm film

10 x 20cm

Bio	Artists
<b>Henrique Pavão</b>	<p>Henrique Pavão (Lisbon, 1991) lives and works in Lisbon. His work focuses on issues of entropy, loss, anachronism, story-telling and temporality, reflecting an interest and use of the archaeology of conceptual movements, connected to a sophisticated, poetical and cinematic use of processes. His work circles through different media (sculpture, film / video, photography, sound and performance) often with a concern for each medium's specific processes and mechanisms, taken as the mark of its temporality or even its history.</p> <p>Pavão obtained his Masters in Fine Arts from the Malmö Art Academy in 2016 (Professor Joachim Koester). He received several awards of which we highlight the The Marcelino Botín Foundation (2021) and the nomination for the 13th edition of the EDP Foundation's New Artists Award (2019)</p> <p>His work has been recently exhibited at FRAME Section of Frieze NY (NY), MAAT – The Museum of Art Architecture and Technology (Lisbon), SE8 Gallery (London), Anozero (Coimbra Biennial), Culturgest Porto (Oporto), among others.</p> <p>Pavão's work is represented in institutional collections such as CACE – The Portuguese State Art Collection; MAAT / EDP Foundation Collection; EGEAC/CML Collection, FLR – Leal Rios Foundation and António Cachola Collection – MACE / Elvas.</p>
<b>Joachim Koester</b>	<p>Joachim Koester (Copenhagen, 1962) weaves fact and fiction, reality and myth, focusing on occurrences of mysticism and the occult as well as the more surreal moments from our cultural and social histories, Koester examines events in time that have become more than the sum of their parts. Attempting to capture traces of what once was, Koester's work documents the past as well as poignantly comments on what happens to the places that are left behind. Questioning narrative and identity, Koester uses photography and film to explore the ways in which our shared histories are established, and in the process to question how these mediums are, ultimately, ambiguous.</p> <p>He has notably exhibited at the National Gallery of Denmark (Copenhagen), Bergen Kunsthall (Bergen), Turner Contemporary (Kent), MCA (Chicago), Musée d'art Moderne de la Ville de Paris (Paris), PS1 (New York) and Astrup Fearnley Museum (Oslo), amongst others. In 2005, Koester was included in the Danish Pavilion as part of the 51st Venice Biennale. In 2013, he was granted the Camera Austria prize for photography.</p> <p>His work can be found in international collections, including MoMA (New York), Centre Pompidou (Paris), KIASMA Museum of Contemporary Art (Helsinki), S.M.A.K. (Ghent), M.N.C.A. Reina Sofia (Madrid), Carnegie Museum of Art (Pittsburgh), and the Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York) among many others.</p>



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Bio	Curator
<b>Sérgio Fazenda Rodrigues</b>	<p>Sérgio Fazenda Rodrigues (Lisbon, 1973) is an architect, curator and publisher. He was university professor at the University of the Azores (2005-2012), at Escola Universitária Vasco da Gama (2013/14) and at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon (2019/20), and is currently dedicated to dissemination, criticism and curating of visual arts. He is a member of the International Association of Art Critics (AICA) having participated in 2015 in its direction, in Portugal.</p> <p>He is author of the book <i>A Casa dos Sentidos</i> (Ed.Uzina, 2013) and co-founder of the <i>Palenque</i> Editorial Project (2016). He was guest editor of the visual arts magazine <i>Contemporânea</i>, for which he still writes regularly, and of <i>Colégio das Artes-Universidade de Coimbra</i>, in the book <i>Desenho Incerto</i> (Ed.Colégio das Artes, 2022).</p> <p>Together with Celina Brás, he is the director of the company <i>Making Art Happen</i>, which brings together the art magazine <i>Contemporânea</i> and the independent space <i>Kindred Spirit</i>, which he directs in Lisbon.</p> <p>He was permanent cultural adviser to the Regional Government of the Azores/Regional Directorate of Culture, and between 2010 and 2012 he was responsible for the management of the Contemporary Art Collection of the Regional Government of the Azores and the programming of exhibitions at Arquipélago - Contemporary Arts Center. He has been part of various support juries of the Portuguese Government / General Directorate of Arts, Regional Government of the Azores / Regional Directorate of Culture, Ágora - Culture and Sports / Porto City Hall, EGEAC-Municipal Galleries of Lisbon (Atelier-Museu Júlio Pomar), and the Luso-American Foundation for Development.</p> <p>His work is carried out independently, in collaboration with institutions, galleries, collectors and independent spaces in Portugal, Spain, Belgium and England.</p>

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Bio	Writers
<b>Nicolas de Oliveira &amp; Nicola Oxley</b>	<p>Nicolas de Oliveira and Nicola Oxley are London-based curators and writers who co-direct SE8 Gallery and the imprint Mulberry Tree Press, which produces artists' books and vinyl records. Their books with major publishers include <i>Installation art</i>, and <i>Installation art in the New Millennium: Empire of the Senses</i>, two seminal international surveys of the practice, and several monographs on Hans Op de Beeck (Belgium), Stefan Brüggenmann (Mexico) and Patrick Jolley (Ireland), the result of close working relationships with artists and galleries, as well as short fictions.</p> <p>Their curated exhibitions span 200 individual and collective projects and installations with artists such as Christian Jankowski, Hans Op de Beeck, Patrick Jolley, Phyllida Barlow, Mariko Mori, Gary Hill, Andrea Büttner, Stefan Brüggenmann, Hollis Frampton, João Onofre, Luis Paulo Costa, Henrique Pavão, John Wood &amp; Paul Harrison, Rui Toscano, Francisco Tropa, Julião Sarmento, Daniel Silver, Tristan Perich, Helena Almeida, Anthony McCall, Mohau Modisakeng, Matt Mullican, Hugh Locke, and Ugo Rondinone, among others, as well as numerous collaborations with UK and international institutions.</p>

