

Tomas Spicolli and Subterrânea at LOGO

Palmeras de Humo

The exhibition *Palmeras de Humo* [*Palm Trees of Smoke*] is an interdimensional bridge for the not-yet-catalogued realities of Tomas Spicolli. Paintings, collages, silkscreens, sculptures, videos, songs and artist's zines/books are blended, with techniques and visual languages that move from one support to another, orienting and disorienting this new graphic storm by Spicolli. The artworks occupying Room 1 of LOGO include never-before-shown collages from the *Espiritus Alados* [Winged Spirit] series, enlargements from notebooks that the artist used in the last 15 years and new audiovisual experiments, materialized through the performance of his musical project Tilda Flipers and the projection of the video-collage-animation *Version Tiniebla* [Darkness Version].

Born in Zarate, in the province of Buenos Aires, Argentina, the artist and musician Tomas Spicolli is a true entity of the cultural underground of his country, as well as in Brazil, especially in São Paulo, where he has also shown and played intensely since the late 1990s. His expression runs in a graphically chaotic and sonically strident flow that can be accompanied through zines, albums, shows, clothing, videos, urban interventions, exhibitions and artworks. Spicolli distorts different techniques for the reproduction of images, manipulating the imperfection of photocopying, stenciling, silkscreen and the carbon copy to add noise to his paintings, drawings and collages. His consistency and voracity gives rise to a continuously exploding parallel universe, where everything vibrates and flies through the air, including airplanes and winged creatures.

Spicolli's aerial disasters or his presentations of creatures, as on collector's cards, which mark many of his other works, are capable of arresting the viewer's attention in their own right. His work, however, reveals the roots of the skateboarding and punk cultures, with echoes of the art of Jim Phillips and Raymond Pettibon, of brands like Zorlak and Blockhead, of the

magazines *Cerdos y Peces* and *Thrasher*, of bands such as Crass and Agnostic Front, and many others. Cultures which, in Latin America, are themselves marked by Tomas Spicolli's work, as exemplified by the album covers he made for the mythical Argentinean band Fun People, or the visual density of his musical projects, such as Delmar, 7MAGZ and Tilda Flipers. Since 1997, Spicolli has regularly exhibited and played in cultural centers, art galleries and invaded houses. In 2011 his first monographic book, entitled *Bazofia*, was released by the Argentinean publishers Tren en Movimento, who with the labels Unilover and Sucio y Desprolijo have also just released the new CD/DVD by Tilda Flipers.

Instâncias do Desenho

Occupying rooms 2 and 3 as well as the basement at LOGO, the exhibition *Instâncias do Desenho* [Instances of Drawing], in its third edition, brings to São Paulo a sampling of the production by Atelier Subterrânea, an independent artistic space active in Porto Alegre, in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Besides featuring the works of individual members, the exhibition presents the initiatives carried out by the independent artist collective. The actions, drawings, photos and sculptures, as well as their processes, run against the trend of the spectacle, seeking to underscore an original dimension of drawing as a support and concept. In its first edition the show was presented at Galeria Augusto Meyer (Casa de Cultura Mário Quintana, Porto Alegre), and it was recently held at the Escola de Artes Visuais do Parque Lage (RJ).

“The substance of the autonomy achieved by drawing is found where something is traced and materialized, not only in the question of the line – in the traditional sense of drawing – nor in the sense largely adopted by a part of the contemporary artists who call any painting on paper ‘drawing,’ though it can be considered painting on paper. In the case of these six artists, however, there is a larger sense of drawing, of tracing some paths,

tracing something. [...] The fact that these artists participated in the same artist collective – Atelier Subterrânea – allows their works, otherwise unordered, to exchange influences and reverberations, and consequently new instances and appropriations about drawing become apparent.”
(Excerpt from the critical text *O desenho como variável*, by Felipe Scovino.)

The Associação Cultural Atelier Subterrânea (Av. Independência, nº 745/Subsolo - Porto Alegre/RS, Brazil) is an independent artistic space managed by the artists Adauany Zimovski, Gabriel Netto, Guilherme Dable, James Zortéa, Lilian Maus and Túlio Pinto, in which they seek to activate a network of artists, critics, professors and the public interested in art, with the aim of creating, producing and reflecting on contemporary visual arts production. Since 2006, Subterrânea has produced exhibitions, conversations with artists, courses, video exhibitions, performances, book releases, lectures and artist residencies, always seeking to forge a closer relationship between artistic production and the public.

Palmeras de Humo – Tomas Spicolli (Room 1)

Instâncias do Desenho – Atelier Subterrânea (rooms 2 and 3, and the basement)

Opens June 16, Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.)

Runs from June 16 to July 7

Tuesday through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

galeria LOGO

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