

Exposição Montparnasse, vingt ans après (solo exhibition)- João Paulo Racy

Montparnasse, vingt ans après - João Paulo Racy

This solo exhibition by João Paulo Racy began to be gestated at the moment in which he realized himself in the position in which Andreas Gursky, 20 years before, had photographed the Mouchotte building in Montparnasse, Paris. It is no longer a question of simulating a continuous façade, but of showing, as he finds it, the internal perspective of a window before so many others, invariably interrupted by the splicing of the glass pane. The photographs redo the elegant formality of the exterior observation, but now in an environment of renewal between the old use, of an apparent office, of the forgotten cold coffee, and the unknown that will begin to be assembled. The interest is to register, as an intruder, that the interiority does not lose its privileged perspective on what happens outside, and that, even filled with old uses, it does not need to hide itself.

I imagine Racy as in a scene from Fassbinder's *A Year of 13 Moons*. He is hiding in the recently abandoned floor that awaits the first initiatives of a renovation. He can see from one of the windows, of what used to be an office, the immense Mouchotte building. The perspective resembles that of Andreas Gursky's photograph. It is through it that he allows himself to infiltrate. That continuous perception is impossible for him. It would be like answering why he is there. The passage of time evokes all sorts of encounters: between colours and reflections, the cork of appointments and the sockets without mobile phone chargers, between the marks of an intervention draft and the small fragments of activity that come loose from the passing bodies, like plastic cups, pins and pens. It is there to resist the complete mismatch between inside and outside, common to places that have undergone so many changes, for this it offers an outside full of obstacles and an inside full of small consolidations.

Cesar Kiraly