

'Soft Brutalities'

Exploring different artistic expressions, Henrique Montagne takes a risk towards a broad possibility of languages that, observed together, can be understood as an unusual visual poetics, whose central subject is the approaches to the body, its identities and subjectivations, but not only. We can see an explanation of a generalized distressing loneliness so inseparable from consumer societies and their technologies, where the relationships themselves are crossed by the capitalist logic of ephemeral, disposable pleasures, fleeting experiences, momentary affections, fleeting loves.

The artist directs us to different versions of himself when he presents fictionalized autobiographies, or allegorical representations of authentic or imagined intimate desires, which confirm and, at the same time, denounce the symbolic constructions so blatant in a cisheterocentric and masculinist culture. Through the intersection between performance art, video, photography, painting, drawing, installation, object and writing, "Soft Brutalities" (Suaves Brutalidades) brings to light the way in which globalization produces and subjects the configuration of what we understand as masculine. through a wide circulation of images of bodies and models of masculinities in a cybernetic age, commenting on the massively disseminated, codified and incorporated corporeal archetypes, as well as the inevitable disappointments arising from the excessive demands imposed by the fanciful hegemonic constructs in their government practices over the bodies.

After all, the semantics of violence structures the imaginary about masculinity not only through the diffusion of virile bodies associated with absolute vigor, but also through the frustration it generates, even in individuals who inhabit the place of masculinity, because it is utopian and no one fulfills it. in its entirety.

And even if the hyper-exposure of desires imprisoned in the constructions admitted in a culture disciplined by corporeal conventions is blatant, they are not submissive to the moralities so typical of a power willing to censor everything that does not fit its very castrating rules. "Soft Brutalities" proposes an uninterrupted tension, a constant short-circuit between analogue and digital technology, between revival and the current, between the tactile/doable and virtuality, between tenderness, delicacy and violence.

Tales Frey

Curator of the exhibition 'Soft Brutalities'

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