

Rodrigo Matheus

Coqueiro Chorão

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Ibid.

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Ibid. is pleased to present its first solo show with London-based artist Rodrigo Matheus entitled *Coqueiro Chorão*. This will be his first solo exhibition in the UK.

The show's title comes from its central work, a large suspended potted bamboo plant. In Portuguese, *Coqueiro Chorão* is the meeting of 2 popular names of plants in Brazil. Coqueiro refers to the native coconut tree and Chorão is the nickname of the weeping willow tree, which was introduced by the Portuguese in the nineteenth century. In this context, *Coqueiro Chorão* (2014) proposes an interruption in this historical trading flux. A moment of suspension where the plants' travels stop, fictionally freezing the adaptation and development process. Its impossible circumstance forces its natural characteristics to adapt against the architecture and as a result of this non-grounded process it becomes a new hybrid. A hybrid of: fact and experiment; sense and nonsense; nature and civilization.

Placed in a different field of the space and continuing the theme of hybrids, *Ceiling Rose* (2014), combines painting and architecture, recalling the intertwined history of both processes. In the work *Portrait of a Portrait* (2014), the artist has remade a work by Baroness Elsa von Freytag-Loringhoven titled *Portrait of Marcel Duchamp*. The work is an amalgamation of wine glasses, assorted feathers, tree twigs, and other objects that closely mirrors the original photograph. The photograph is a remake of a readymade portrait made in the 1920's, itself a kind of remake. Both *Ceiling Rose* and *Portrait of a Portrait* are in editions, playing with the idea of originality and authenticity in terms of a hybrid.

Rodrigo Matheus' work embodies a topography of accessible, every-day technology that upends the construction of landscape, producing a sense of wonderment in spite of a framework of familiar technology and artificiality.

Rodrigo Matheus was born in São Paulo in 1974. He has a BA in Fine Arts from the University of São Paulo, BR (2002) and an MA in Sculpture from the The Royal College of Art, London, UK (2013). Recent solo shows include, *Handle with Care*, Galpão Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, BR, *Dream About Reality in a Single Universe*, Fundação Manuel Antonio da Mota, Porto, PT, and *Hollywood*, Galeria Silvia Cintra & Box 4, Rio de Janeiro, BR. Recent group shows include Vancouver Biennale, Shipbuilders Square, Vancouver, CA. *Imagine Brasil*, Musée d'art Contemporain de Lyon, Lyon, FR and *Champs Elysées*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, FR.

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