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RUI SOARES COSTA

Lifeline Series

21th **SEP** to 18th **NOV**
TUE — **SAT 3pm / 9pm**



BAIRRODASARTES

The opening of the exhibition is part of the 8th edition of the “Arts Quarter”, an organization of the association Isto não é um cachimbo.

Check the complete program at www.bairrodasartes.pt

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GALERIA

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In “Lifeline Series” Rui Soares Costa presents his most recent drawings as if reproducing the movements of a seismograph. Yet, instead of recording earthquakes, these drawings display and register the biorhythmic variations of a human body, his own. Hundreds of lines, each a rendering of a certain moment in life, tend to come closer without ever touching one another, bringing out, when we observe the totality of it, a vibratory perception of the drawing. Portraits of particular moments in an apparent paradox between the abstract and the – in this case geometric – figurative.

There are countless relationships between Drawing and Philosophy that are supported by the intention of revealing the Essence. This intention is also present in the “Lifeline Series” and in the ways Rui Soares Costa approaches the artistic process and tries to make sense of the World, Man, and Humankind. The line, the simplest form of gesture, drawn with a pen of almost non-existent expression, the bodily behaviour we can read from that line, the tension between body and cognition, the thought underlying these almost straight lines, that are, by definition, looking for the shortest way, the time we sense was spent drawing, all these lead yet to other explorations of a more aesthetic, scientific or philosophical nature.

We borrow from artist Almada Negreiros to challenge the viewer to observe these “lines of life”: “The eyes are meant to see, and what the eyes see only the drawing will know.”

Ana Matos

September 2017

Rui Soares Costa

Rui Soares Costa (b. 1981) crosses in his academic and professional track, art and science, as he has had formal training as both a visual artist and scientist. He studied Painting at Ar.Co, in Lisbon, while he was doing a degree in Social Psychology. Later, he did his doctorate and post-doctorate between Portugal and the U.S.A. He has been working exclusively as a visual artist since 2013. He lives and works in Lisbon. Rui Soares Costa’s artistic work comes out of his training as a researcher in his field of expertise and his life-long interest in cognitive processes such as human perception and memory, as well as in the cognitive neurosciences. Rui Soares Costa brings into his artistic practice a set of concepts, tools, methods and devices from other area and fields of knowledge, and recombines them with influences from Literature, Film, and contemporary Music.

In 2016 he had his first solo exhibition, Sweet Series, at the Museu Nacional de História Natural e da Ciência (National Museum of Science and Natural History) in Lisbon.

www.ruisoarescosta.com

Original sound track of “Lifeline Series”: André Gonçalves