The choreographies of the impossible set the scene and unveil their full cast

The Fundação Bienal de São Paulo announces the full list of participants and the architectural design of the 35th Bienal de São Paulo

São Paulo, June 29, 2023 - The Fundação Bienal de São Paulo announces the full list of 120 participants of the 35th Bienal de São Paulo – choreographies of the impossible, curated by Diane Lima, Grada Kilomba, Hélio Menezes, and Manuel Borja-Villel, and the exhibit and spatial design, developed by the architects of Vão.

Full cast
The announcement of the full list of participants consolidates the curatorial collective’s intensive research on the urgencies of today’s world and unveils the different formats, movements and understandings of the title choreographies of the impossible. With 120 names confirmed, the complete list echoes the voices of diasporas and native peoples, broadening local and international dialogue.

According to the curators: “The participants in this Bienal challenge the impossible in its most varied and incalculable forms. They live in impossible contexts, develop strategies of circumvention, cross limits, and escape from the impossibilities of the world in which they live. They deal with total violence, the impossibility of life in full freedom, inequalities, and their artistic expressions are transformed by the very impossibilities of our time. This Bienal embraces the impossible, the choreographies of the impossible, as a politics of movement and political movements interwoven into artistic expressions. It is an invitation to move among artists who transcend the idea of a progressive, linear, western time. Impossibility is the guiding thread and the main criterion that guides the selection of these participants.”

For José Olympio da Veiga Pereira, president of the Fundação Bienal de São Paulo, the exhibition represents a new chapter and legacy for the institution. He emphasizes: “The 35th Bienal de São Paulo is a historic milestone that transcends the boundaries of the impossible. We are witnessing the convergence of exceptional artists, transformative ideas, and an incisive dialogue about the urgent issues of our time. This exhibition will become a lasting legacy, inspiring future
generations and redefining the boundaries of what is possible in artistic expression.”

Full List

- Ahlam Shibli
- Aida Harika Yanomami, Edmar Tokorino Yanomami & Roseane Yariana Yanomami
- Aline Motta*
- Amador e Jr. Segurança Patrimonial Ltda.
- Amos Gitai
- Ana Pi & Taata Kwa Nkisi Mutá Imé*
- Anna Boghiguian*
- Anne-Marie Schneider
- Archivo de la Memoria Trans (AMT)
- Arthur Bispo do Rosário
- Aurora Cursino dos Santos
- Ayron Heráclito & Tiganá Santana*
- Benvenuto Chavajay
- Bouchra Ouizguen*
- Cabello/Carceller
- Carlos Bunga
- Carmézia Emiliano
- Castiel Vitorino Brasileiro*
- Ceija Stojka
- Charles White
- Citra Sasmita
- Colectivo Ayllu
- Cozinha Ocupação 9 de Julho
- Daniel Lie*
- Daniel Lind-Ramos
- Davi Pontes & Wallace Ferreira
- Dayanita Singh*
- Deborah Anzinger*
- Denilson Baniwa*
- Denise Ferreira da Silva
- Diego Araúja & Laís Machado
- Duane Linklater*
- Edgar Calel
- Elda Cerrato*
- Elena Asins
- Elizabeth Catlett*
- Ellen Gallagher* & Edgar Cleijne
- Emanoel Araújo
- Eustáquio Neves
- flo6x8
- Francisco Toledo
- Frente 3 de Fevereiro*
- Gabriel Gentil Tukano*
- George Herriman
- Geraldine Javier*
- Grupo de Investigación en Arte y Política (GIAP)
- Gloria Anzaldúa
- Guadalupe Maravilla
- Ibrahim Mahama
- Igshaan Adams*
- Ilze Wolff
- Inaicyra Falcão*
- Januário Jano
- Jesús Ruiz Durand
- John Woodrow Wilson
- Jorge Ribalta
- José Guadalupe Posada
- Juan van der Hamen y León
- Judith Scott
- Julien Creuzet*
- Kamal Aljafari
- Kapwani Kiwanga
- Katherine Dunham
- Kidlat Tahimik

choreographies of the impossible
35th Bienal de São Paulo
The names followed by * have already been announced in the first partial list.

The setting for the choreographies of the impossible: architectural design
For the development of the architectural design of the 35th Bienal de São Paulo, the renowned team at Vão was invited. With an outstanding track record, Vão is known for its innovative and award-winning approach in the field of architecture.
The firm’s partners Anna Juni, Enk te Winkel, and Gustavo Delonero are highly regarded for their ability to create spaces that provoke interaction and reflection.

For the design of the 35th Bienal de São Paulo, Vão proposes an innovative look at the choreography of the Ciccillo Matarazzo Pavilion, exploring the relationship between the exhibition space and the visitor’s experience. The group took on the challenge of facing the modernist conceptual and structural conventions of the building itself, in order to create a different flow of movement in the relationship between artworks and people.

The architectural design developed by Vão promises to offer a new experience for visitors to the traditional Ciccillo Matarazzo Pavilion at the 35th Bienal de São Paulo, inviting the public to explore the space in a new way: the central opening of the Bienal Pavilion will be closed for the first time in history.

For the architects, the proposal goes beyond a new look at the iconic Pavilion: “From the very beginning, we sought a design that would place itself between the desire not to re-enact the existing spatial choreography and, at the same time, not to impose a different choreography, totally disconnected from its internal logics. To this end, we would have to dance with the existing and with the available. That is, in addition to the attention given to reusing materials left over from the old exhibitions, we aimed to create spaces from the constructive elements that constitute the Pavilion.”

Press conference and pre-opening for professionals
The accreditation period for the press and cultural sector professionals for the pre-opening of the 35th Bienal de São Paulo began on June 7. The press conference will be held in person, at the Bienal auditorium, on September 4, from 9am to 10:30am, followed by the pre-opening of the exhibition especially for the press, until 4pm. On September 5, from 10am to 7pm, the pre-opening of the exhibition will take place for sector professionals, professors and guests, which accredited journalists may also attend.

Press accreditation can be obtained here. Accreditation for cultural sector professionals can be obtained here.

About the Fundação Bienal de São Paulo
Founded in 1962, the Fundação Bienal de São Paulo is a private, nonprofit institution with no political or religious ties, whose actions are aimed at democratizing access to culture and fostering interest in artistic creation.
years, the foundation holds the Bienal de São Paulo, the largest exhibition in the Southern Hemisphere, and its itinerant exhibitions in several cities in Brazil and abroad. The institution is also the custodian of two Latin American artistic and cultural heritage assets: a historical archive of modern and contemporary art that is a benchmark in Latin America (Arquivo Histórico Wanda Svevo), and the Ciccillo Matarazzo Pavilion, the listed building designed by Oscar Niemeyer which is also the foundation's headquarters. The Fundação Bienal de São Paulo is also responsible for the idealization and production of the Brazilian representations at the Venice Biennales of art and architecture, a prerogative granted to it decades ago by the Federal Government in recognition of the excellence of its contributions to Brazilian culture.

35th Bienal de São Paulo – choreographies of the impossible
Curators: Diane Lima, Grada Kilomba, Hélio Menezes, and Manuel Borja-Villel
September 6 – December 10 2023
Tue, Wed, Fri, Sun: 10am – 7pm (last entry: 6:30pm); Thu, Sat: 10am – 9pm (last entry: 8:30pm)
Ciccillo Matarazzo Pavilion
Ibirapuera Park – Gate 3
Free admission

Press conference: September 4, from 9am to 10:30am
Pre-opening for the press: September 4, from the end of the press conference until 4pm
Press accreditation:
https://link.bienal.org.br/35-credenciamento-imprensa

Pre-opening for cultural sector professionals: September 5, from 10am to 7pm
Accreditation for professionals:
https://link.bienal.org.br/35-credenciamento-profissionais

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