

DECEMBER 2008: RESIDENCIES | EXHIBITIONS | EVENTS

Desenho Livre and **Chinese Whispers** are two projects by Daniel Melim and Rachel Cohen running simultaneously at Drawing Spaces between the 3rd and the 21st of December. During the residency both artists will produce drawings based on interactions with the public. Daniel Melim will produce images according to the audience desires and Rachel Cohen will invite members of the public to participate in drawing sequences which start from an original drawing and in which participants only access the image produced by the previous participant. In order to participate, the public can book a place by sending an email to drawingspaces@gmail.com or by visiting **Drawing Spaces** from the 3rd to the 17th of December, Wednesday to Saturday, from 7pm to 11pm.

Desenho Livre Daniel Melim

Daniel Melim proposes to research the authors role as a useful convention/mystification thus exploring the artist vulnerabilities while detaching himself from the market rationale of selling/buying articles.

Investigating the images desired by the audience, the artist and the participant will discuss verbally the construction of an image, and the production of the drawing will aim at following exclusively the wishes of the visitor. Sitting in front of the artist, the visitor communicates his desires for a particular image and answers questions about the desired drawing. The questions posed by the artist are merely aimed at understanding the visitors wishes. The artist uses all his skills and references to produce the desired image. At the end of the dialogue the visitor leaves with his desired drawing.

Chinese Whispers Rachel Cohen

Rachel Cohen invites visitors at Drawing Spaces to take part in the latest phase of her Chinese Whispers Generative Drawing Project. Chinese Whispers is a game of faulty communication usually played with words. In this version we play with drawings. The first drawing is made by the artist. It is copied by a participant whose drawing is then copied by another participant, and so on. Even though each person copies the drawing as faithfully as they can, the image mutates gradually and soon becomes unrecognizable. It is a game that mimics processes of evolution in nature and in culture. The outcome, displayed in the gallery space, will be a complex sequence of drawings that spread and branch in different directions.

Rachel's research to date, in collaboration with a psychologist and a computer scientist, has focused on the relative stability of certain subjects and details in the drawings and on the influence of words on our ability to read the resulting indeterminate images.

Drawing Spaces is an autonomous space located at Fbrica Brao de Prata, Lisbon, which seeks to promote investigative practices related to the subject of drawing. Through an annual program of events, occurring between October 2008 and September 2009, this project aims to support collaborations between artists and researchers from Portugal and artists and researchers from abroad. **Drawing Spaces** involves 12 artistic residencies and exhibitions; a series of lectures and debates; and various activities related to the subject of drawing.

For further information about residencies, artists and speakers please go to:
<http://drawingspaces.weebly.com/>

Program

Open Residency: **3 17 December 2008, 19 23h**

Exhibition: **3 21 December 2008**, Wednesday Saturday, **19 23h**

Opening+ Presentation: **18 December 2008, 19h**

Activities opened to the public: **throughout all the period of residency**

18 Dezembro, 19h, Presentation + Opening, Sala Visconti

19h Teresa Carneiro + Lus Filipe Gomes: Drawing Spaces

19.10h Daniel Melim: *Desenho Livre*

19.30h Rachel Cohen: *Chinese Whispers*

19.50h Angela Rogers: *Conversational Drawing* [3 Drawing Lesson]

20.20h Debate

21h Opening: *Desenho Livre + Chinese Whispers, Drawing Spaces*

Daniel Melim

Daniel Melim works mostly with painting and drawing. He graduated with a BA in Fine Art from the Faculdade de Belas Artes da Universidade de Lisboa in 2006. Daniel has participated in group exhibitions such This is not a flower! at Galeria Mdulo (2007) and Construction and deconstruction at Formadarte (2006). In 2007 he had a solo exhibition called Wall Drawings at Fbrica Features which resulted from a collaboration with the Atlas Group Drawing Project. He had two solo exhibitions with works of painting at Galeria Mdulo The House in 2006, and Love" in 2008. In 2007 he was selected for the EDP Award through which he participated in an exhibition with a group of 136 drawings which he developed during a period of three years and a half. Part of these drawings were produced in collaboration with other people. Currently, he experiments with different ways of having many people creating the same drawing or having one of his drawing originating from several people.

Rachel Cohen

Rachel Cohen works with drawing and painting, photography, animation, sound, and text. She creates events and art works that invite public participation and that take place in other settings as well as galleries.

She has a BA in Art History from university of Sussex, Post Graduate Diploma in fine art from University of Brighton and an MA in Museum and Gallery Education from Institute of Education, London. She teaches at Phoenix Studios in Brighton.

Rachel's current drawing research began with a game of visual 'Chinese Whispers' and has led art/science collaborations with neuroscientists at Sussex University. She is working on experiments with psychologist Ben Dyson using the Chinese Whispers drawing game as a way to generate stimulus for research into visual perception.

She was selected for the Jerwood Drawing prize show in 2005 and has had recent solo shows at Burslem School of Art, Stoke on Trent and Chapman Gallery, Salford. She is also currently working on a series of photo interventions at public libraries.

<http://www.hyperlounge.com/rachel-cohen/Site%203/chinese%20whispers.html>

Drawing Spaces, Fbrica Brao de Prata, Lisbon, Portugal

Wednesday Saturday, 19 23h