



***Mycorial Theatre*, project curated by Paulina Ołowska and Milovan Farronato**

September 1st-7th

Pivô presents, inside Pivô Research Program, the project *Mycorial Theatre*, curated by Polish artist Paulina Ołowska and curator Milovan Farronato. The project is a partnership with Fiorucci Art Trust (England) and supported by Culture.pl (Poland).

The first edition of *Mycorial Theatre* was held in 2014 in a country house in the Polish city of Rabka-Zdrój. Selected by Paulina Ołowska and Milovan Farronato, a group of artists were involved in a series of activities taking Mycology (the study of fungi) as a starting point. These experiences included expeditions in the woods, camping on the mountains, mushroom-hunting, and a series of rituals and talks. The house and its surroundings were presented as a work in progress, shaped according to the coexistence and interventions of the artists. *Mycorial Theatre*'s format is inspired by the Black Mountain College, an education center founded in the 30's in USA – its core was an art school and the headquarters were located outside the city, isolated in the countryside.

In its third edition, *Mycorial Theatre* migrates from Poland to Brazil, from a small town in the forest towards a megalopolis like São Paulo. All the editions share in common the intense relationship between a group of artists and Ołowska and Farronato's research on Mycology, which will guide the guest artists, from Brazil and abroad, in their collective activities. Some of the confirmed artists in the Brazilian edition are: Anna Bella Geiger, avaf, Augustas Serapinas, Justyna Gorowska, Daniele Milvio, Delia Gonzalez, Georgina Starr, Giulio Delvè, Honorata Martin, Lucia Koch and Paloma Bosquê. During a week, they will live near Pivô in central São Paulo and use the intstitution's exhibition space as a laboratory to unfold their artistic processes. On September 7th, Pivô opens its space to the public, sharing the group's research, a hybrid between exhibition, performance, event, artistic residency and symposium.

Some of *Mycorial Theatre*'s guiding concepts are the Polish culture, Jerzy Grotowski's theater and Mycology: the activity of seeking selecting and collecting mushrooms is somehow a metaphor for the artistic process. Mushrooms adapt, spread and yet retain the specificity of their original place. Regarding *Mycorial Theatre*'s migration from Poland to São Paulo, Paulina

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Olowaska considers the metropolis as another form of nature, bringing the city characteristics closer to those of the fungus.

About Paulina Olowaska

Paulina Olowaska was born in 1976 in Gdansk, Poland. Among her main exhibition are: “The Mother An Unsavoury Play in Two Acts and an Epilogue”, Tate Modern, London (2015); “Needle/Nadel”, Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Germany (2015); “The Spell of Warsaw”, Zacheta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw (2014); “Au Bonheur des Dames”, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2013); “Alphabet”, The Museum of Modern Art, New York (2012) and “Accidental Collages”, Tramway, Glasgow (2010), among others.

About Milovan Farronato

Milovan Farronato is Director and Curator of the Fiorucci Art Trust, developing the residential itinerant project *Roadside Picnic* and the yearly festival *Volcano Extravaganza* in Stromboli. With Paulina Olowaska he initiated the symposium *Mycorial Theatre* in Rabka, Poland, which this year will move to Pivô – an independent art space and non-for profit, based in Edifício Copan in downtown São Paulo. He conceived *The violent No!* as part of the public programme of the 14th Istanbul Biennial, 2015. Previous positions held include: From 2005 to 2012 he was director of the non-profit organisation Viafarini and curator at DOCVA Documentation Centre for Visual Arts, Milan. From 2006 to 2010 he was Associate Curator of the Galleria Civica di Modena. He was also professor of Visual Cultures at CLADEM, University IUAV, Treviso, Venice from 2008 to 2015. Recent exhibitions curated by Farronato include *Prediction* at Mendes Wood, DM Sao Paolo, 2016; Peter Doig’s solo exhibition at Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa, Venice, 2015; *Intim Im Team* by Lucy Mckenzie and Josephine Reisch at White Cubicle, London, 2015; Christodoulos Panayiotou’s solo show at Kaleidoscope Project Space, Milan, 2014; and *Arimortis* at Museo del Novecento, Milan, co-curated with Roberto Cuoghi, 2013.

About Pivô

Pivô is a Brazilian non-profit space. Located at a 3500m² space inside the famous Copan building, a modernist icon projected by Oscar Niemeyer in São Paulo. Founded in 2012 as a space for experimental and process-based art, Pivô devotes more attention to the peculiarities of each project and provides a range of opportunities for artists and invited curators to develop their research in a very specific context.

The program of PIVÔ is comprised of exhibitions, new commissions, special projects, workshops, residencies and educational activities. The mission of the space is precisely to rethink the visual arts institutional model in Brazil – which, while ensuring creative freedom for artists, undertakes

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responsibilities with its surroundings, in an attempt to extend this autonomy of thought to the visiting public. From 2012-2016, Pivô was visited by more than 40.000 people, held partnerships with several institutions both local and international and made possible almost 40 projects, hosting over 200 artists from 20 different countries, among them: Cildo Meirelles, Mario Garcia Torres, Haroon Mirza, Erika Verzutti, Lenora de Barros, Lucas Arruda and Tunico Lemos Auad.

About Fiorucci Art Trust

The Fiorucci Art Trust was founded by Nicoletta Fiorucci in 2010 to promote contemporary art in conventional and unconventional ways. Since its inception, Milovan Farronato has been Artistic Director of the Trust, which has its headquarters at 3 Spear Mews, London. The Trust produces artists' commissions, publications, residencies and workshops every year in London as well as offsite including; the annual Volcano Extravaganza, an artist-led programme on the volcanic island of Stromboli, Aeolian Islands, Italy; Mycorial Theatre, a weeklong and roaming quasi symposium, conceived with Paulina Olowaska, that has taken place in Poland (2014, 2015) with the next edition in São Paulo (2016). The Trust collaborates with Serpentine Galleries on both the Magazine Sessions (2016) and Park Nights series (2014-2016), has contributed to the Public Programme of the Istanbul Biennial (2015) and runs a programme of artists' residencies in London, Stromboli (Italy) and Li Galli (Italy).

The Fiorucci Art Trust distinguishes itself from the collection of its founder.

About Culture.pl

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Service

“Mycorial Theatre” – curated by Paulina Olowaska and Milovan Farronato

Public presentation: September 7th | (hours TBD)

Free admission

Pivô: Edifício Copan – Av. Ipiranga 200, Bloco A, loja 54, Centro – São Paulo

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