

ANA JOTTA

pɔ:tju'gi:z'hændikraɪft

In 2014, Culturgest presented an exhibition of Ana Jotta (1946, Lisbon), entitled *The Conclusion of the Precedent*, which focused on the work she had produced since her retrospective at the Serralves Museum, in Porto, in 2005. The approach adopted at that time was decidedly fragmentary and unsystematic, dismissing either the criterion of chronological organisation or the principle of reconstituting the successive series of works through which her artistic practice had materialized during the period covered by the exhibition. Lying at the core of this exhibition was what the artist calls "footnotes", a paraphernalia of objects and printed matter that she has gathered together over the years and which, in different ways, but always with a generative role, play an important part in her creative process. The book published within the context of that exhibition, which brought together much of that printed matter, has unexpectedly given rise to this new exhibition. The book itself has been transfigured into another work (*Cassandra*), a visual and semantically saturated space that houses a number of highly eclectic pieces produced by the artist since the 1980s. The exhibition thus functions as a sound box for Ana Jotta's radically polymorphic work.

Ana Jotta was born in 1946 in Lisbon, where she currently lives and works. She studied art at Lisbon's School of Fine Arts (1965–68) and Brussels' School of Architecture and Visual Arts of the Abbaye de la Cambre (1969–73), before embracing a career in acting and writing for the stage and cinema in the 1970s. It was in the 1980s that she began to focus on the visual arts. She has been the subject of a retrospective show at the Museu de Serralves, Porto (2005), and solo shows at Culturgest, Lisbon (2016, 2012), 8 rue Saint-Bon (2015), and Level One, gb agency, Paris (2013).