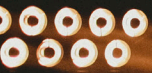




BLACK BOX

2018-19

COLLECTIVE OF LOVERS



Raquel André

Collection of Lovers

September 6–7, 2018

\$15: General

\$10: CAC Members, Students, 26 & Under

“...It is the performative process that makes this work so interesting, the tension between the ephemeral and the essential, and the almost unhealthy obsession of the collector.”

- Le Monde

Raquel André is a collector of rare things.

In Lisbon, Ponta Delgada, Rio de Janeiro, Loulé, Minde, Paredes de Coura, Sever do Vouga, Ovar, Manaus and Barreiro, she has collected over 137 meetings (until November 2017). People of all nationalities, genders and ages have agreed to meet her at someone's flat and, for an hour, construct a fictional intimacy to be captured in memory and photographs. In each city that the performance travels, it collects more lovers and accumulates new meetings. The photographs and details of these meetings are the contents of a performance that tells a story about what this collection of relationships may mean. Just what are we looking for when we meet someone? In the age of e-mail, Facebook, Instagram, Tinder, and Grindr, we have all become experts at faking intimacy.

We post what we eat, who we kiss, where we go, what we're thinking and reading, what we like and dislike – all translated into views, likes, and comments. Raquel's collection is the result of an obsessive fascination with the terabytes of information that exist in each minuscule movement of another person. It is a reflection on intimacy that is explored one-on-one and amplified for the stage, all real and all fake. Each time the door opens for a new lover, Raquel André dives into an abyss that is the other, and reality and fiction merge. Each encounter is real. The flirtation is real. The intimacy may feel more real than fiction. And Raquel, the obsessive collector, holds on to the moments of each meeting, the rare objects of her peculiar collection, ephemeral and infinite.

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