

Casa A. Molder Gallery
Rui Chafes
Permanent beginning

Opening: 28 May from 3.30pm to 7pm
From the 28th of May until the 2nd of July 2021

Rui Chafes (1966) is the artist featured in the third exhibition at the Casa A. Molder Gallery.

Início permanente [Permanent beginning] is the title of the iron sculpture that names the exhibition and was created specifically for the gallery's space. According to the artist, "**Permanent beginning** is that suspended time in which life and non-life, death and non-death find their source, their starting-point."

The iron sculpture lies on the wooden floor, in semi-darkness. It is the female form of the origin of the world, but now it is dark, heavy and we do not know if it carries life in it. It could be a rotting skull inside a suit of armour that emerges out of the earth, like a germinating seed, several days after the battle. There is hope that it might be a portal, a spectre that will take us to another world or, better still, that will bring us back to this one.

Rui Chafes' work is of this world. A work of fire and iron. This sculptor, who works in series that stretch across time and sees his pieces as shadows, believes that the origin of art was the tension between the sacred and the profane and that we must know what our destiny on earth is. With **Permanent beginning**, he brings us a new sculpture, and thus an expansion in the language of art.

The exhibition is open to the public on weekdays, during the shop's afternoon schedule, i.e. from **3h30pm to 7pm**; visits on weekends and holidays can be made by previous appointment. Access to the Gallery is through the shop.

The **Casa A. Molder Gallery** is a project by artist **Adriana Molder**, intended as a showcase for contemporary art that makes use of the exhibition space of Casa A. Molder, a historic stamp shop at the heart of Lisbon, on the third floor of 101, 1.º de Dezembro Street, its address ever since it was founded by **August Molder** in 1943.

The Casa A. Molder Gallery is a fully non-commercial project.
The Gallery is installed in the A. Molder stamp shop, on the **third floor of 101, 1.º de Dezembro Street**. For appointments, please contact info@galeriadacasaamolder.com.

The project Casa A. Molder Gallery is kindly supported by:
República Portuguesa – Cultura / Direção-Geral das Artes
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www.galeriadacasaamolder.com
<https://www.facebook.com/galeriadacasaamolder>

Covid-19

To enter the shop, mask-wearing and hand-sanitising are mandatory. Access to the gallery space is limited to three persons at a time.

Rui Chafes (Lisbon, 1966) lives and works in Lisbon. He has exhibited regularly in Portugal and abroad since late 1980s, having represented Portugal at the 1995 Venice Biennale and the 2004 São Paulo Biennial. In 2013, he was one of several international artists invited to exhibit at the Pavilion of the Republic of Cuba at the 55th Venice Biennale.

His work has been exhibited at institutions such as CAM- Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian (Lisbon), Fundação de Serralves (Porto), Museu Coleção Berardo (Lisbon), S.M.A.K. (Gent), Museum Folkwang Essen, Esbjerg Kunstmuseum, Kunsthallen Nikolaj (Copenhagen), Fondazione Volume! (Rome), Fundação Eva Klabin (Rio de Janeiro), and Fundación Luis Seoane (A Coruña), among others.

In 2018, he held an exhibition of large sculptures in various public spaces in the city of Bamberg, Germany. In the same year, he held an exhibition 'in dialogue' with Alberto Giacometti at the Fondation Calouste Gulbenkian in Paris. In 2004, he received the Robert-Jacobsen Sculpture Prize from the Stiftung Württemberg in Germany. In 2015, he received the Pessoa Prize, awarded by the *Expresso* newspaper.