

Landscape

Marina Nazareth

*I've seen lands of my land
Across other lands I travelled
But what remained branded
In my weary eyes
Was the lands I invented.*

This stanza from the beautiful poem “Testamento”, by Manuel Bandeira, has been coming back to me, persistently, since I started the series “Paisagem”, re-introducing our ‘mountainous and abyssal lands’, as recited by Carlos Drummond de Andrade.

All along this process, other fragments of poems joined those by Manuel Bandeira:

This is what Cecília Meireles states:

*Always the same
Always another one
But
Always high
Always far away
But inside everything.*

And T.S. Eliot:

*Time present and time past
Are both perhaps present in time future
In the rose garden where the blackbird sings.
Time past and time future
What might have been and what has been
Point to one end which is always present*

These quotes were reproduced according to the way they are recorded in my memory; therefore any inconsistencies or alterations add a new meaning to the ephemeral tissue of the poetic imagery in its present urgency.

These paintings reflect the experience of what is real, visible, filtered by my sensory organs, in this way building a unique alphabet – my pictorial language.

I believe that creative work and the exercise of freedom are capable of broadening the boundaries of our minds and lead us to a deeper and real perception of Life, to a *poiesis* in its original meaning of “condensation”. Poetry is still today the most effective way of expressing what cannot be said of the mystery around us.

Intuition, as we steer our artistic experience, will always be on our side in the unceasing quest for the truth. In the heart of the matter, “Far away but inside Everything”, is the conjunction of unicity and transcendence with its power to lend meaning and direction to time in our human journey.
