

## CLAUDIA MATOOS BIOGRAPHY

From childhood to youth, she was a classical and contemporary dancer. Gradually, she replaced her ballet shoes with brushes. Among canvases, papers, pencils and paints, she graduated in Artistic Education, doing her master's degree on Schiller and Art. Like the philosopher Schiller, Cláudia believes that "the artist is the son of his time". PhD in Visual Arts, she developed a thesis on a generation of artists and intellectuals who maintained, for ten years, a Utopian Art Gallery, in years of repression in Brazil. She taught Arts for 21 years and was also a university teacher in Brazil. She was an invited teacher in the Drawing area at the Faculdade de Belas-Artes of Universidade de Lisboa, from 2013 to 2016, and she is a researcher at the Centro de Investigação e Estudos em Belas-Artes of Universidade de Lisboa, CIEBA-UL. She is a member of the Board of the Sociedade Nacional de Belas Artes de Lisboa.

CLAUDIA MATOOS is an artist who captures reality at every moment and expresses it through art. She develops the concept of Connection.

Cláudia has lived in Portugal since 2013, where she initially developed a series entitled "Connections with the landscape". The artist has dived into the pine forests, cork oaks and olive groves on the outskirts of her studio. The landscape is always in a continuous change made by man. Some changes were captured by Cláudia, in photos and filming. In her artistic process, she observes, photographs small details of nature, makes quick sketches and collects various local organic materials, to build her visual research archive. This series of paintings reflects the expression of Cláudia Matoos' metaphysical gaze, beyond the landscape. For her, the Mediterranean landscape is a "laboratory of creation".

In 2020, her artistic intentions were strengthened in the sense of a connection with the most striking reality. Cláudia focuses her gaze on environmental issues, such as deforestation. She is concerned with the preservation of the environment, with the Amazon forest, the indigenous people and their lands, as well as nature in the global world.

QUARANTINE - In times of COVID-19 pandemic, Cláudia started a new series of paintings that involve the concerns and experiences of everyday life in times of isolation. Now the virtual connections involve us. Cláudia Matoos questions how contemporary man can deal with real and virtual spaces, without losing the connection with himself. "Are we isolated or are we all really connected?"