

CULTURE

"Luso-Portuguese", René Tavares' new exhibition, arrives at Kunsthalle Lissabon

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René Tavares presents his new exhibition "*Luso-portugueses*", a deepening of research on identity, memory, cultural miscegenation and colonial legacy. Known for a language that combines painting, drawing, photography and textile elements to reflect on São Tomé and Príncipe, Portugal and the stories that bind them, the artist builds here a new critical chapter on the way we are seen, named and categorized.

The exhibition opens on December 10, 2025, at 6:00 pm, at the Kunsthalle Lissabon, where it will remain patent until February 28, 2026.

In "*Luso-Portugueses*", René Tavares starts from the irony contained in the prefix "luso" itself to question historical,

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Bairro Alto Theater

DA RODA QUE

Of the WHEEL THAT HAS NO END

Baquete Mulher Lisboa, Carolina Varela, Cláudia Sequeira, DJ Nervoso, Eloise Grace Winter, Frame Collective, Fema, Isabél Zúaa, Joãozinho da Costa, Joyce Simões, Mandi Kaibô, light matter, Moikana, Odete, Sara Figueiredo da Graça, Selma Mylene, Wura Moraes

(assembleia/dança/musical/performance)

identity and linguistic boundaries. The exhibition challenges the idea of who is, or not, considered "Luso" and reflects on how apparently neutral categories, names, accents or cultural designations can function as instruments of inclusion, but also of exclusion. Between painting, drawing, photography and textile elements, the artist summons processes of cultural miscegenation and Afro-diasporic narratives to reflect on how colonial heritages remain inscribed in the bodies, images and spaces we inhabit.

The works question not only how we are seen, but also how we are appointed and who holds the power to appoint. Between layers of color, gestures and historical references, the exhibition creates a space for visual reflection on belonging, circulation, memory and diaspora in a world marked by mobility and postcolonial tensions.

Luso-Portuguese also proposes a critical dialogue on identities built on the intersection between colonial histories and contemporary experiences, at a time when African and Afro-Diasporic artistic production occupies an increasingly central place in the Portuguese cultural panorama.

René Tavares was born in 1983, in São Tomé and Príncipe. Graduated in Fine Arts from the Dakar School of Fine Arts (Senegal), he later completed a postgraduate degree in Visual Arts, Painting and Photography at the School of Fine Arts of Rennes (France) and a Master's Degree in Art and Heritage Sciences at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon.

The artist has presented his work in institutions and events such as the Chaillot - Théâtre national de la Danse (France), afrOURban (USA), the Lisbon Museum - Pimenta Palace, the Biennale Architettura di Venezia (Italy) and the Art and Culture Biennial of São Tomé and Príncipe. In 2018, he was distinguished as Africa's Most Influential New Artistic Talent at FNB Art Joburg in Johannesburg.

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