

MAAT

*Institutions of culture should be catalyst platforms to render discourse actionable and empower audiences to own their choices through the articulation of debate, the sharing of positions, and the formulation of knowledge. This is the museum as An Open Forum — A Stage — A School.*

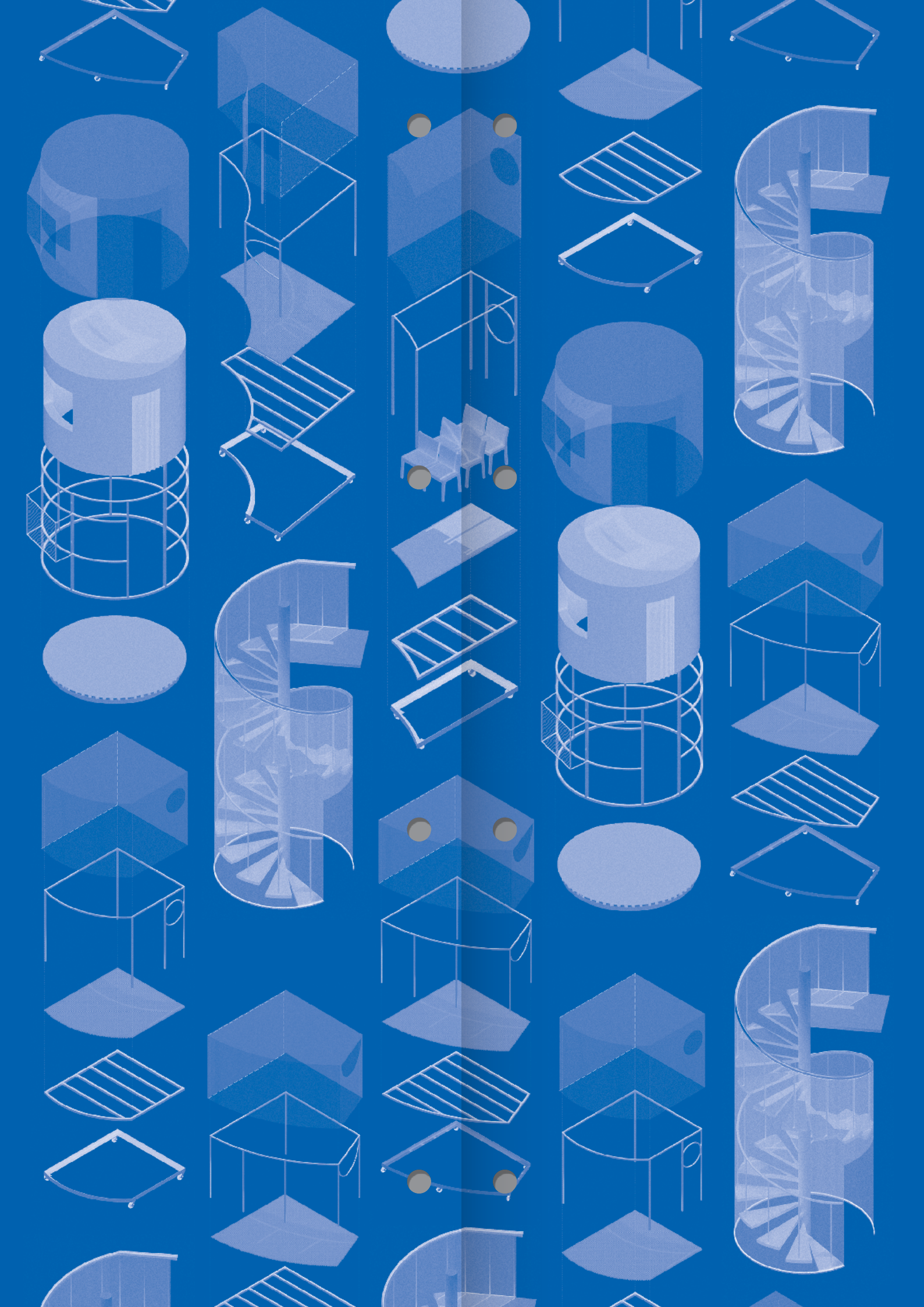
Beatrice Leanza,  
Executive Director, maat

maat 2020 programme begins with an open-ended exercise in prototyping this kind of museum — *maat Mode* is a 6-month long experimental participatory public programme of talks and events interrogating the role of cultural institutions in society and envisioning the future museum. Co-developed with a variety of international and locally-based practitioners, institutions and community groups, alongside the curators and creatives involved in the maat's future planning from February 2021, *maat Mode* is a transformative gesture that temporarily repurposes the museum into a poly-functional civic arena, where public life is debated, probed, challenged and possibly inspired towards a more inclusive and equitable construction of the future.

*maat Mode* features a strand of concurrent narratives running over 6 months, whose topics, contents and modes of public engagement are both tests and a prelude to future programming. Among many others, research areas include climate action, with a specific focus on the seas and marine culture, including collaborations with Portuguese and international institutions of culture and education. Also featured are workshops, screenings, talks and “schools”, which discuss and explore various issues concerning the politics of sustainability, scientific knowledge, urban and social transformations resonating across and beyond the Portuguese context.

Specific projects also address the EDP Foundation Portuguese Art Collection and Energy Heritage Collection through special presentations — *The Peepshow e Memovolts* — and newly created sound projects presented in dedicated audio stations located inside the museum dubbed *Sound Capsules*.

For updated information on our weekly talks, workshops, screenings and more, please keep an eye to our website and social media. All rules of participation and conditions will be updated there.



# BEELINE

## A museum-wide architecture intervention by SO – IL

*maat Mode* is activated within the major architectural project designed by NY-based studio SO – IL, and titled *Beeline*. This large temporary intervention, especially commissioned to host the programme, takes over the entire space of *maat*, opening a temporary new entrance facing the city through the loading door of the building, in addition to the existing entrance facing the river. “This transformation not only opens up the building to new perspectives, but also challenges the implied hierarchies of spaces in a traditional museum” state the architects.

The intervention turns the museum into a landscape of encounters and conversations, taking audiences through elevated pathways, stage areas, audio stations, workshop zones and a media room. *Beeline* also includes design strategies specifically developed to become permanent assets of the museum, namely an “open storage system” made of mobile pods and display tables that lends itself to multiple reconfigurations upon need.

Realised in partnership with ArtWorks.

### EXHIBITIONS

#### CURRENTS

*Temporary architectures by SO – IL*

#### THE PEEPSHOW

*Artists from the EDP Foundation Portuguese Art Collection*

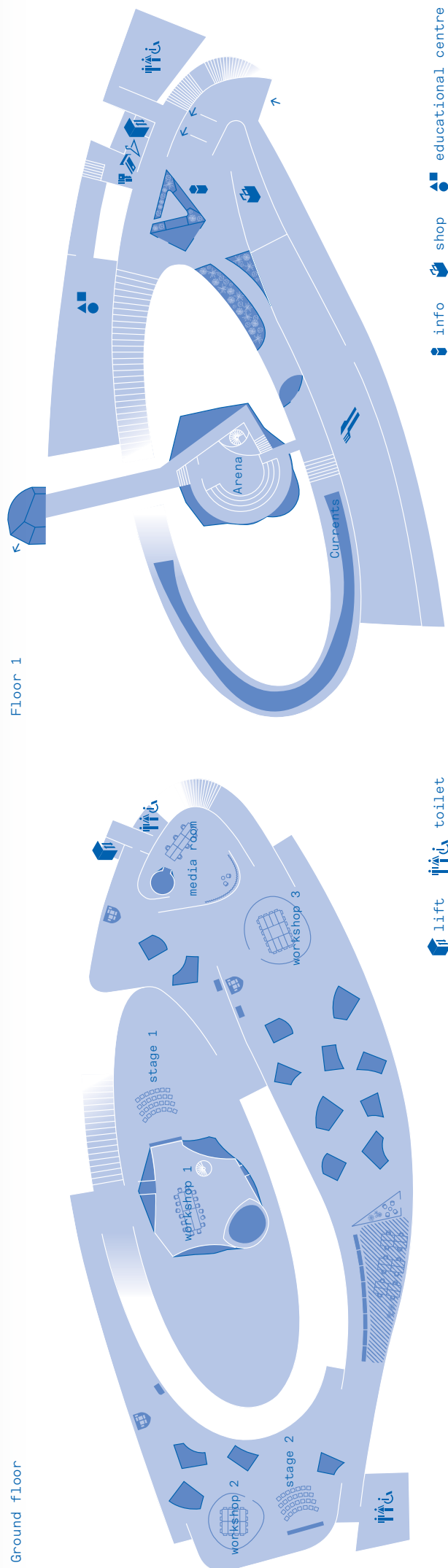
#### MEMOVOLTS

*Stories from the EDP Foundation Energy Heritage Collection*

#### SOUND CAPSULES

*Sounds from the EDP Foundation Energy Heritage Collection and Atypical Traditions*

Full programme:  
[www.maat.pt](http://www.maat.pt)





# CURRENTS

## Temporary architectures by SO – IL

Founded in New York in 2008, SO – IL is an architectural studio led by Florian Idenburg and Jing Liu that not only produces permanent buildings but also thinks about architecture in relation to time and duration. How long does something need to exist in the world for it to become architecture?

For SO – IL, temporary architectures — installations, pavilions, performances — allow practice to enter into dialogue with contemporary conditions, while the outcomes of their experimentations inform the studio's more permanent work. This exhibition has been specially produced to accompany the major architectural intervention, *Beeline*, the studio's largest ephemeral work to date and their first in Europe. *Currents* is a timely reflection on discreet but poignant gestures that interrogate the very nature of architecture as a cultural practice, both as agency and artefact.

Twelve of the temporary projects the studio has formulated over the past decade are organised in six thematic pairs, or “currents”, bringing subjects the studio explores in its work to the fore. The exhibition is installed along the elliptical ramp at the heart of the museum, where 1:1 mock-ups, ephemera, models, books, the architects' own voices and writings, critical texts penned by New York-based curator Beatrice Galilee and video contributions of past commissioners allow us “to meet the dynamic forces and soft transitions that ebb and flow in the life of one of the most exciting international architecture studios today”.

↵ Jing Liu and Florian Idenburg, SO-IL  
@Photo: Vincent Tullo

↵ “Pole Dance”, MoMA PS1, New York, 2010  
@Photo: Iwan Baan

↵ “L’air pour l’air”, Chicago Architecture Biennial, 2017  
@Photo: Laurian Ghunitoiu

← “Unravelling a thread”, 2019  
@Photo: Hadley Fruits

# THE PEEPSHOW

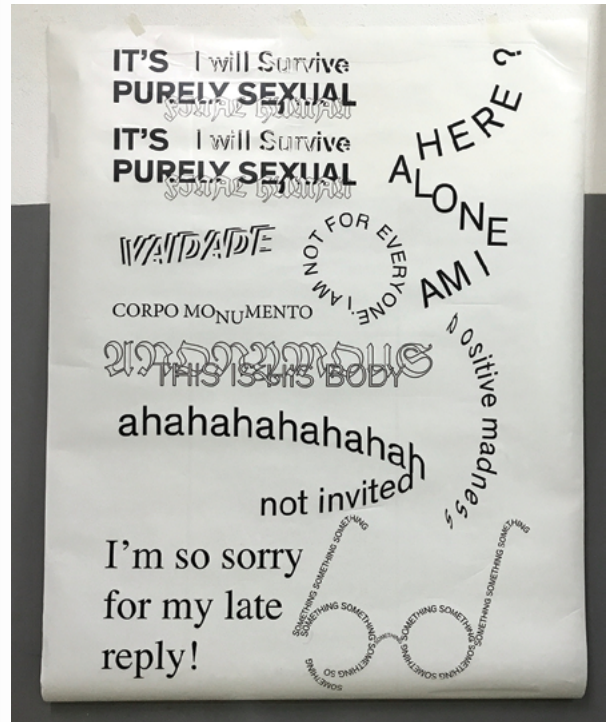
## Artists from the EDP Foundation Portuguese Art Collection

The EDP Foundation Portuguese Art Collection was started in 2000 and encompasses several generations of Portuguese artists from the 1960s until today, as well as various forms of artistic expression from painting and photography to video and installation. Constantly evolving, the collection today consists of approximately 2,400 artworks by over 330 artists.

The “open storage system” designed by SO – IL as part of its museum-wide installation, features 15 mobile units whose interior is visually accessible through large portholes. Scattered throughout the space of the museum, their contents, including actual storage materials from the collection, are collectively titled *The Peepshow*, an intriguing previewing of part of the collection. Among various crated and boxed works are small and provocative installations by Portuguese artists represented in the EDP Foundation Art Collection. These unique presentations have all been realised with the idea of revealing artists’ workings, methodologies, intimate moments of creation, and thus represent very personal sneak peeks into their private worlds.

Participating artists: Catarina Botelho, Paulo Brighenti, Tomás Colaço, Luísa Ferreira, Horácio Frutuoso, Mariana Gomes, Pedro Gomes, André Guedes, João Louro, Maria Lusitano, João Ferro Martins, Paulo Mendes, Rodrigo Oliveira, Francisco Vidal, Valter Vinagre.

- Maria Lusitano
- Horácio Frutuoso
- Paulo Mendes, “Répétition avant le crime (troisième version) travail en cours”, 1996/2018
- ➔ Luísa Ferreira, da série “Há quanto tempo trabalha aqui?”, 1994



# MEMOVOLTS

## Stories from the EDP Foundation Energy Heritage Collection

Founded in 1990, the EDP Foundation Energy Heritage Collection gathers around 3,500 items and a vast collection of documents relevant to the history of energy and electricity dating back to the old companies that gave rise to EDP and that span the entire 20th century. In the collection can be found domestic, personal and industrial items, including machinery and equipment — measuring devices, home appliances, lighting and lab equipment — as well as advertising leaflets, photographs and catalogues.

This vast and valuable museological repository is the object of *Memovolts*, a special preview of the collection specifically developed for the occasion. The presentation takes place on display structures designed by SO – IL.



RCA (Radio Corporation of America) television set, 1957. EDP Foundation Energy Heritage Collection

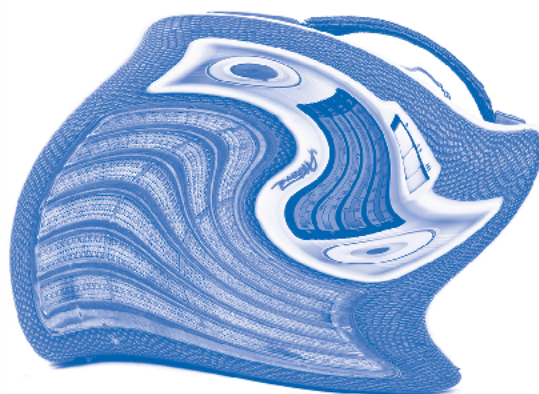
# SOUND CAPSULES

## In collaboration with ETIC and Discrepant

Three audio stations have been plugged in the spaces of the museum to host a sequential series of curated sound proposals and specially produced contents.

Integrated by studio SO – IL inside *Beeline*, the *Sound Capsules* act as extended platforms through which contents of the *Memovolts* programme generate resonances within a special collaboration with ETIC (School of Technologies, Innovation and Creation, Lisbon). Students from the Sound Design for New Media Production course were challenged to work on concepts related to the seven thematic moments devised by the museum team.

These intersect with commissioned playlists curated by Gonçalo F. Cardoso, featuring selected works from the Discrepant record label catalogue that explore the themes of Alternate Realities and Atypical Traditions, broadcast following a set of live performances on *Beeline's* Stage 2.



# EXTINCTION CALLS

by Cláudia Martinho

## LISTENING AS A MODE OF RECONNECTION TO THE ENVIRONMENT

While environments are radically altered by humans, ecosystems are highly affected. Biodiversity loss is one of the major challenges of today. In response to human agency disturbances, species are moving, changing, disappearing. Birds' populations are shifting rapidly and drastically declining.

*Extinction Calls* is a special commission to the artist Cláudia Martinho that utilizes archival field recordings of extinct and critically endangered bird species to create a path of multiple sonic encounters. Listening to this diversity of calls and songs, with its rhythmic variations and tonal richness, is an invitation to reconnect with the enchantment of birds' communication. It is an act of reclaiming the invisible powers of the language of nature, deeply rooted in human beings.

The soundscape is spatialised in resonance with maat's acoustic space and *Beeline* intervention designed by SO-IL to create a diversity of points of listening and thus enable different sensory experiences. From a sonic activism that highlights the global ecological crisis to close interspecies vibratory encounters, this work calls for a shift in the way we relate to our environment, towards an ecological intimacy and our innate ability of attunement to the voices of non-human beings.



Cinclodes palliatus (White-bellied Cinclodes). Pasco, Peru

# MEDIA ROOM

A Media Room set up inside the museum for the duration of *maat Mode* will be co-run by the museum team in collaboration with various cultural and news outlets, universities, and contributors.

Follow our social media channels to get involved.

### Notes:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

# MAAT x COVID-19

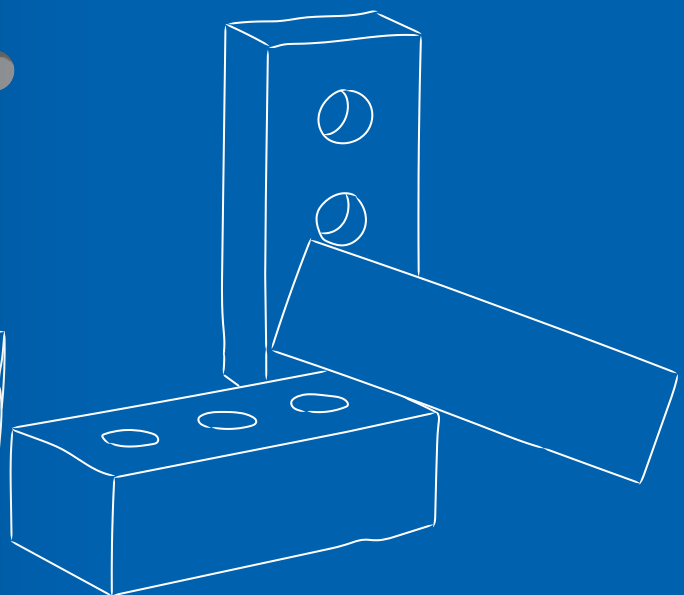
In these special times, and for your safety, we kindly ask you to comply to this simple set of guidelines when in the museum and taking part in our activities.

- Wear your own mask — it is mandatory to access the museum.
- Wash your hands at the entrance of each building.
- Respect social distancing — 2 meters between people.
- Follow respiratory etiquette measures: sneeze or cough into your arm/elbow and avoid touching your face, mask or any surface.
- Purchase your tickets online or through the kiosks available at Praça do Carvão (near Central).
- Circulate through the exhibitions following the suggested route.
- Stay in the museum as long as you wish, but just remember others are waiting too in order to ensure a smooth circulation inside the spaces.



# A TRIDIMENSIONAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM by Sam Baron

We have entrusted to the designer Sam Baron the realisation of a communication system to aid visitors' return to the museum in respect of regulations. This tridimensional, low-tech system permeates the sites of the museum with a gentle yet unique design language made of reconfigurable modules using common bricks and reflective surfaces. "The challenge of creating an effective and still subtle solution adapting to maat's mission without overlapping with its contents, forces us to think about an apparently simple but catchy solution that has also to be easily implemented, modified or enlarged" says Baron.

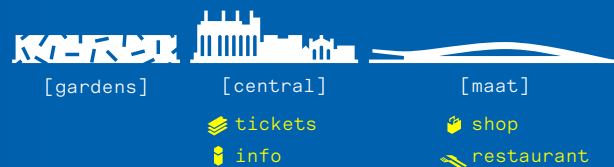
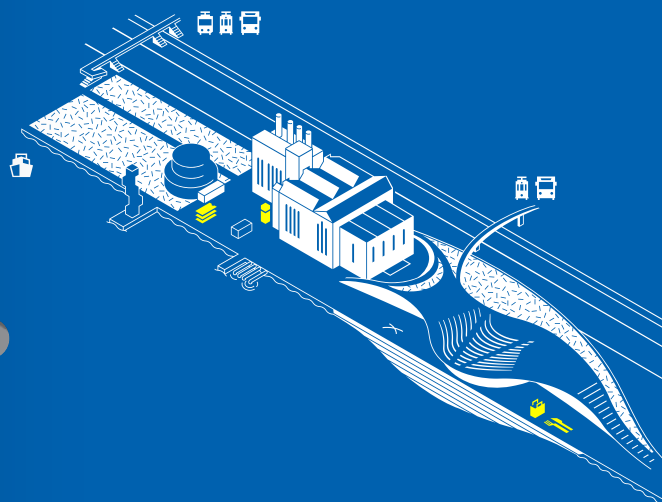


# MUSEUM OF ART, ARCHITECTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

Launched in October 2016 as part of EDP Foundation's long-lasting commitment to cultural patronage, the Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology (maat) is an international institution dedicated to fostering critical discourse and creative practice that inspire new understandings of the historical present and an empowering engagement with the common future.

Located on the riverfront of the historic district of Belém, in Lisbon, the EDP Foundation campus covers an area of 38,000 square metres and comprises a repurposed power station — the Central Tejo, an iconic example of industrial architecture originally built in 1908 — and a newly built complex designed by the London-based architecture studio AL\_A (Amanda Levete Architects). Both buildings house exhibitions and events programmed by the museum and are connected by a landscape project by Lebanese architect Vladimir Djurovic.

Drawing upon the layered history preserved in its architectural and artistic heritage, maat advocates for the museum as a catalyst platform to render discourse actionable and empower audiences to own their choices through the articulation of debate, the sharing of positions and the formulation of knowledge. With the aim of encouraging an open-ended and transformative relationship between cultural institutions and societal change, the museum simultaneously interrogates and celebrates the intellectual ambitions and the creative means through which we imagine (with art), inhabit (with architecture) and create (with technology) the world we live in — that is, the ways in which we constantly redesign our collective undertakings in respect of the planetary ecosystem we belong to.



maat – Museum of Art, Architecture and  
Technology  
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[www.maat.pt](http://www.maat.pt)  
[@maatmuseum](https://twitter.com/maatmuseum)

Open Wednesday to Monday  
11.00 → 19.00

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fundação *edp* **maat**

maat Mode 2020

Prototyping the museum

MAAT