



**ciclo**

BIENAL'19  
FOTOGRAFIA  
DO PORTO

16 MAIO / 2 JULHO

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"Adaptation and Transition"

16 MAY/  
2 JULY

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## ***Ci.CLO BIENAL'19***

### ***ADAPTATION AND TRANSITION***

From 16 May to 2 July, the city of Porto will host the first edition of Ci.CLO Bienal Fotografia do Porto. ADAPTATION AND TRANSITION, the title of the first Ci.CLO Bienal Fotografia do Porto, has its programmatic and conceptual orientation focused on sustainability. The Bienal supports innovative approaches to visual representation that contribute to a greater critical awareness of the ecological and social vulnerabilities we face. Ci.CLO develops a continuous research and experimentation in collaboration with curators and artists, questioning its own methodologies and proposing narratives, both utopian and dystopian, motivated by cultural and environmental changes.

Under the artistic direction of Virgílio Ferreira, the Bienal is supported by Direcção Geral das Artes and Porto Municipality as well as international reference partners such as the Europa-Ásia Foundation and Triennial of Photography Hamburg.

Ci.CLO Bienal program of nuclear expositions and satellite projects with works by 53 national and international artists is exhibited in 15 historical, cultural and artistic institutions throughout the city of Porto. Along with the artists, 11 curators were invited to develop mostly unpublished projects by national and international artists.

After the Bienal in Porto, some works will be selected to tour nationally and internationally, extending visibility to various audiences.



Curators Virgílio Ferreira, Krzysztof Candrowicz, Diogo Bento, Eduarda Neves, António Rodrigues, Miguel Paiva, Luísa Fragoso, Susana Lourenço Marques, José Maia, Pedro Leão Neto, and Pablo Berásegui Lozano. Krzysztof Candrowicz, artistic director of the Triennial of Photography Hamburg, will curate the exhibition "Stories on Earthly Survival" at Centro de Português de Fotografia. The exhibition gathers seven international artists, including UK's Mandy Barker who will present *Soup, Sand, Beyond Drifting: Imperfectly Known Animals*, a dialogue between photography and scientific research that explores the problem of plastic waste in the oceans. Curated by José Maia, the Mira Forum will exhibit "o exílio da paisagem", where Chana de Moura and Dinis Santos, artists selected at Ci.CLO Open Call, will present works produced and designed exclusively for the Ci.CLO Bienal'19. Starting from an artistic residence and a regular accompaniment process, the exhibition "Adaptation and Transition" will take place in Jardins do Palácio de Cristal. Curated by Virgílio Ferreira, 9 national and international artists, such as Jayne Dyer, artist, art critic and Australian academic who has worked on issues such as the identity, waste and (dis)functionality of urban and natural environments. At the Bienal Dyer will exhibit "This Savage Garden", an artistic intervention in five locations of Jardins do Palácio de Cristal.

The Ci.CLO Bienal program includes a series of workshops and a symposium, as well as the edition of the Portugal Green Guide. The aim is to stimulate debate and discussion, as well as encouraging artists and community to contribute through the arts in raising awareness on sustainability.

Ci.CLO Bienal'19 establishes important intercultural collaborations between Portugal and other countries, carried out through programs of artistic residencies, exhibitions, public forums and creative projects.



## ***THEME - ADAPTATION AND TRANSITION***

Being both a constructive and destructive force, humans are drastically changing the structure of the planet. It is an unavoidable challenge to adapt to a changing and increasingly uncontrollable environment, where all forms of life negotiate their survival. We are facing a time of transformation and ecological and social vulnerabilities, but we continue to promote unsustainable habits and practices. It is increasingly difficult to find solutions and other ways of understanding and feeling. How can we contribute to transitioning towards a better adapted and more sustainable society? How can thought and artistic practices creatively expand discourse around these issues and translate thinking into action? How can artistic practice - an exhibition, a photograph - have the impact or power to raise awareness? How can artists, curators and institutions contribute to this discussion? «Adaptation and Transition» is the title of the first Ci.CLO Biennial Photography of Porto. The goal is to support innovative approaches to visual representation that contribute to a greater critical awareness of the ecological and social vulnerabilities we face.

In an era of massification, popularization and, consequently, banalization of images and information, we are increasingly immune and insensitive to these images or events. Hence the need to create opportunities for action; it is urgent to rediscover other ways of thinking and looking at the diversity of life in a renewed and participatory way. To continue on this evolutionary journey of adaptation and transition it is critical we reorganize our knowledge and perceptions, and explore new interactions and daily practices, to create symbiotic relationships between humans, other living beings and the earth. That is, establish alternative social, political and economic values that are ecologically sustainable.



"Artistic practice becomes important precisely because of its capacity for creativity and imagination, capable of bringing or interconnecting new levels and interpretations of problems. Sometimes they are not really tangible or concrete proposals, but things that are more anchored in an artist's subconscious, imaginary or individual concern, and which can suddenly give rise to another vision, question or formulation; always with the perception that it cannot simply be one more strategy, one more image. I believe that each artist can contribute with something different, something that provokes. This idea of renovation is important for Ci.CLO Bienal Fotografia do Porto ", concludes Ferreira.

### ***WHAT IS CI.CLO?***

Ci.CLO is an independent platform for dialogue and reflection on the viability of the visual arts to be proactive and future-thinking. Ci.CLO celebrates artistic practice and supports continuous research and experimentation. Starting from photography and its transdisciplinary relationship with other artistic fields, curators and artists question their own methodologies and propose approaches and interpretations, both utopian and dystopian, motivated by the awareness of unexpected and imperative cultural and environmental changes.

"The experience Ci.CLO proposes is to provide a space for debate, research and creation where may emerge works that propose a renewal and stimulate the questioning and the creation of new visions and perspectives" says Virgílio Ferreira, director of the Ci.CLO Bienal Fotografia do Porto.



Ci.CLO has developed a program of artistic residencies, workshops, symposiums and exhibitions, establishing collaboration projects with various centers and cultural institutions in Portugal and abroad. These programs are designed to support and encourage artists to develop an experimental, structured and conscious artistic practice. By fostering collaborative and networked work, Ci.CLO encourages contact and dialogue between artists, curators and cultural agents, promoting the national and international circulation of their work through the creation of new opportunities and partnerships within the current artistic panorama. "In addition to creating a platform for visibility of the work carried out in the framework of the Bienal, the aim is also to open the possibility of exploring new paths, new methods of creating and thinking about artistic practice and production", adds Virgílio Ferreira.

### ***ARTIST RESIDENCES***

Ci.CLO Bienal Fotografia do Porto has developed an artist residency program that brings together artists, curators and national and international researchers. This initiative promotes dialogue, experimentation and artistic creation and supports the development of art works specifically conceived for the Bienal. Designed to stimulate dialogues between artistic production and the multiple perspectives on the central theme, *Adaptation and Transition*, the Ci.CLO residences innovative and experimental methodologies contribute to a greater critical awareness about the ecological and social vulnerabilities that we face. The process, supported by a curatorial approach, seeks to develop innovative and operative methodologies, contributing to the reformulation of perspectives and new critical conceptions.



Ci.CLO residences include students and alumni of three art schools - Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Porto, Porto Superior Artistic School, and Soares dos Reis Art School; two artists from Open Call Ci.CLO; curators and national and international artists; and the artistic director of Ci.CLO Bienal Fotografia do Porto, Virgílio Ferreira. Based on a roaming program developed by Ci.CLO, a significant part of the work produced in artistic residencies is exhibited in national and international cultural projects and institutions.



