



CONDITION REPORT: MTM.2008.0010.0050

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TECHNICAL DETAILS

NAME: Mourish
EVENT: Cuca Macuca Lenheiras
REFERENCE: MTM.2008.0010.0050
DATE: 2008
STORAGE REF: C
TPOLOGY: puppet / direct manipulation / body puppet
HEIGHT: 1500 mm (4'11" in)
WIDTH: 330 mm (1'0" in)
LENGTH: 220 mm (0'8" in)
WEIGHT: 690 g (1.52 lb)

MATERIALS

body/volume | various fabrics
head | polystyrene
hair | plastic foliage
paint | acrylic paint

ARTISTS

DIRECTION: José Caldas
ART DIRECTION: enVide neFelibata
CREATION: enVide neFelibata
COSTUME: Patrícia Costa

DESCRIPTION

Its face has been traced as if it belonged to the firewood that gives rise to it, in this cloth-bodied figure. It is manipulated by the hands of the puppeteer, who also takes on the role of the firewood carrier, directly over the puppet's head, where we can see an exact fit and where the hand rests in an assumed manner.

The two artists, sculptor and costume designer, worked together so that on stage the figure is born from a belly-costume that the puppeteer wears, as if it were a womb. The long draperies give the figure a sense of immateriality, increase its dreamlike characteristics and allow it to conceal the body of those who manipulate it, further enhancing its legendary character as a moorish woman who enchants men with the secrets and riches of the mountain, but also with its dangers.

The foliage simulates hair and her eyes amplify this dimension of real and imagined figure, so populated in the identity of our territory.

CONTEXT

The fundamental search for a territory's identity led us to combine various narratives from the Gondomar region. It took us to S. Pedro da Cova mines and the mountains traveled by women carrying firewood, giving rise to the name of the creation to which this puppet belongs. This puppet was born from a combination of symbologies.

PROPER CARE - GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Objects must be shielded from direct sunlight at all times to prevent UV damage and fading.
- Maintain a stable environment; avoid exposure to high humidity or rapid moisture fluctuations.
- A strict no-touch policy is in effect for both the public and curatorial staff to prevent oil and acid transfer.
- Authorized handlers must wear appropriate archival gloves whenever contact is necessary.
- Visitors and staff are permitted to take photographs and videos for personal use only.
- The use of flash is strictly prohibited to protect light-sensitive materials.
- No captured imagery may be used to produce saleable goods, such as postcards, books, or merchandise.
- Wheels or casters attached to objects are for on-stage positioning only and are not for general transport.
- Objects must be moved using a secondary dolly or professional equipment rather than their own casters.
- No food, liquids, or smoking are permitted within the immediate vicinity of the objects.
- No cleaning agents, polishes, or dusters should be applied to the objects except by authorized conservation staff.
- Objects must be displayed on stable, level surfaces and secured against accidental tipping or vibration.
- Display areas must be monitored by staff or camera surveillance at all times during public hours.
- Any accidental contact, change in condition, or environmental spike must be reported to the lender within 24 hours.
- Maintain controlled temperatures between 18-22°C to prevent thermal damage to materials.
- Ensure adequate ventilation without direct air currents that could cause dust or environmental fluctuations.
- Conduct regular conservation inspections and document any changes in the condition of objects.
- In case of emergency, follow established evacuation and object protection protocols.