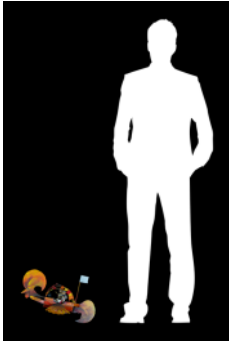




CONDITION REPORT: MTM.2016.0140.0080

REPORT CREATED: 2026-03-14 15:32:29



TECHNICAL DETAILS

NAME: Passarola
EVENT: COMPLAIN
REFERENCE: MTM.2016.0140.0080
DATE: 2016
STORAGE REF: M
TPOLOGY: animated form / indirect manipulation / rod
HEIGHT: 300 mm (0'11" in)
WIDTH: 450 mm (1'5" in)
LENGTH: 620 mm (2'0" in)
WEIGHT: 790 g (1.74 lb)

MATERIALS

volume | expanded PVC, wood
details | brass and cork characters covered in various fabrics
painting | acrylic paint
joints | hinges

ARTISTS

DIRECTION: Clara Ribeiro
ART DIRECTION: enVide neFelibata
CREATION: Migvel Tepes
BUILT SUPPORT: enVide neFelibata

DESCRIPTION

The Passarola is the design of an aerostat supposedly built between 1709 and 1720 and whose invention is attributed to Bartolomeu de Gusmão, a Portuguese priest and scientist. The Passarola is a symbol of freedom, and in this show it allows Don Quixote and Sancho Panza to fly over the walls of Europe in the hope that they can be torn down. It is a symbol of the realization of the dream and also of the liberty of the spirit and the passage to another state of consciousness. The flight symbolizes the attempt to fight against all forms of intolerance and persecution. Our version is inspired by the design of the Barcelos rooster, erected as the greatest symbol of Portuguese identity, although the contradiction remains between its interpretation as a genuine expression of national arts and crafts or as an ideological construct promoted by the Estado Novo.

CONTEXT

Performed in 1733, "The Life of the Great Don Quixote de la Mancha and the Fat Sancho Panza" was António José da Silva's first play, "The Jew". An ironic interpretation of the play criticizes justice and the "walls" that Europe erects.

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.