

PRESS-RELEASE
(12th of June 2007)

Julião Sarmento

Film Noir (*part 2*)

Opening Thursday 21st of June at 10 pm
Until July 28th

GALERIA PEDRO OLIVEIRA
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Tuesday to Saturday: 3 pm to 8 pm

Carrying on from a recent series of works presented for the first time at the Christopher Grimes Gallery (Santa Monica, California, USA) in October 2006, Julião Sarmento is now presenting us with “Film Noir (*part2*)”.

Paintings, drawings and sculptures now populate the space of the Pedro Oliveira Gallery in a mixture of tension and secrecy that is suited to the genre (*Film Noir*).

The relationship with the universe of the cinema is obvious, and, as we know, it is often recurs in this author’s work, but Julião Sarmento here points us in a clear direction – that of the peculiarities intrinsic to the *noir* genre in what it precisely possesses as darker.

It is through the combination of drawing, collage, photography, text, objects, the body and light, but above all in the spaces left empty between all these elements, that Julião Sarmento convokes the spectator’s imaginary and his field of expectations, granting him only with clues for this purpose.

If in the first exhibition the references to determined films and above all to determined actresses and female characters were explicit, here the universe of references becomes consciously fictional ... The clues are more and more vague, and their efficacy is increasingly called into question.

In this exhibition Julião Sarmento maintains the fragmentary composition that are so characteristic of his work (this is what we are talking about when we talk about clues), and with them, he once again calls upon the spectator’s capacity to raise up a determined idea of strangeness, seduction, desire and shuddering.

Here they are added to by a component that reinforces the latent tension from which the author’s works always seem to emerge – the presence of the body in its most primary understanding, in the violent and tense fulfilling of a determined action – the mark of blood.

Ana Anacleto (June 2007)

For pictures or more information, please contact Nuno Lapa on the Galeria Pedro Oliveira contacts.