



Visita da Diputación de Zamora a Bragança





























VER MET

The work of the sculptor Zadok Ben-David (Bayhan, Yemen, 1945) is a celebration of humanity. Presented in countless exhibitions and materialized into monumental sculptural projects of public art all around the world, this exhibition is, retrospectively, the most extensive work ever shown in Portugal.

As an endless project, the work is a metaphor of the world's diversity and population. Together there are thousands of human figures representative of the plurality of ethnicities, languages, traditions, cultures and religions that mark the heterogeneity of the societies inhabiting our planet.

Based on the theorizing principle of sculpture in the extended field of Rosalind Krauss, the agglomeration of over four thousand silhouettes of men and women of all ages occupying the entire floor of the exhibition space, confers its dimension to the site-specific installation.

Zadok Ben-David is a collector of instants of life. Each sculpture results from the momentary and daily photographic record of hundreds of strangers who occasionally passed by him in the street. The people were captured during numerous trips that the artist made all over the world, people who Ben-David never got to interact with. Coincidentally, they became accidental participants of this gigantic work that places people of the most diverse ages and backgrounds randomly in the same space.

In this seemingly egalitarian set of generic or typified models, each figure is unique: carrying not only the morphological characteristics that distinguish it from others, but also, the imprint of the person's personal experience and own story.

The accumulation of this diversity of people also suggests the different ways in which we are always in relation to one another while at the same time so alienated. This explains why the work is also a metaphor for isolation and communication.

With a strong theatrical sense, the sculptures are conformed with the lines of a drawing, as if the traces were automatized from the surface, or had leaped from the sheet of paper into the architectural space. The land that anchors them functions as a collective ground in which we find ourselves.

Produced within the scope of the project "Terrais de Selavid", the current exhibition also presents the video work "Conversation Peace", carried out from the artist's most recent works and installations.

caça Morais









