

GALERIAS MUNICIPAIS – GALERIA QUADRUM
Palácio dos Coruchéus
Rua Alberto Oliveira, 52
1700-019 Lisboa

Tuesday to Sunday: 10am–1pm and 2pm–6pm
Free entrance

Guided tours by appointment
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www.galeriasmunicipais.pt

MANUEL SANTOS MAIA

Galeria Quadrum

Curated by
João Sousa Cardoso

11.01–
20.04.2025

NAMPULA MACUA SOCIALISMO

CIRCLES OF HEALING AND UNDERSTANDING

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The entire team at Galerias Municipais

IN PARALLEL

12 February, 6.30 pm

Cinema Fernando Lopes

Conference Nampula Macua Socialismo
with Manuel Santos Maia

Screening of *alheava* – filme, 2006, 35'

Included in the cycle Great Artists on Campus at
Universidade Lusófona.

8 April

Galeria Quadrum

Conversation with João Sousa Cardoso

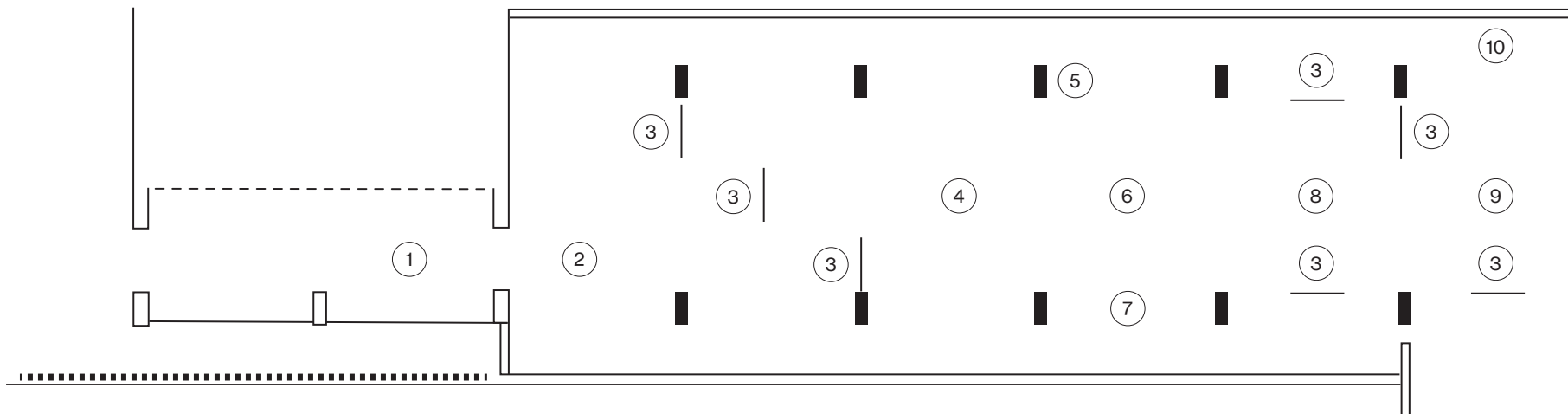
With the exhibition *Nampula Macua Socialismo*, Manuel Santos Maia concludes 25 years of research into his family's relationship with Mozambique (where the artist was born in 1970) and with African cultures, particularly the Macua culture.

Since 1999, Manuel Santos Maia's *alheava* project has revisited the issues of colonialism and post-colonialism in the construction of contemporary Portuguese culture through visual narratives of intimate and domestic history. With dozens of exhibitions, performance actions and publications, *alheava* illuminates blind spots in the relationship between Mozambican society, the Portuguese who came from Africa, and the critical and constructive perspective of a shared collective past.

In *Nampula Macua Socialismo*, we sought to bring together collections of images from albums from the colonial period, contemporary photographic records of the city of Nampula, but also from a recent trip by the artist to the region (Angoche, Ilha de Moçambique, Chocas, Mossuril and Marrere), textile work (one of the pieces in dialogue with the architect Pancho Guedes), a bronze model of the 'house of first affections', objects from his private life, popular sculpture and music, as well as umbila wood planks dismantled from crates on the journey back to Europe during the decolonisation process.

At the opening of the exhibition, Manuel Santos Maia presents *A Chave da Casa* (Key to the House), a performance created for the opening, in which he embodies his paternal grandmother who lives in Nampula, a tutelary figure in the artist's upbringing in terms of sentiment and a worldview based on harmony.

In the year in which we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Mozambique's independence, against all forms of whitewashing of colonial memory and silencing, *Nampula Macua Socialismo*, located somewhere between visual anthropology and aesthetic essay, aims to contribute to a reflection on regimes of domination and conflict, cultural transits and hybridisations, the incessant processes of socialisation to which we are all heirs. It thus seeks to reconnect us with the cyclicity of time, the circularity of knowledge, the need for healing rituals that give us back an enlightened view of understanding the world and the ability to listen.



①

alheava_a mortificação e queda no já-dito e já-lido, 2023
Dye sublimation on fabric, 12x1,60m

②

Nampula Macua Socialismo, 2014–2025
Slide show with 109 digital cell phone photos, 13'
Furniture with Indo-Portuguese decorative motifs, umbila wood, plants, variable dimensions

③

alheava Nampula, 2005
IPrint on paper, 156x205 cm (each)

④

A chave da casa, 2025
Installation with text, music stand, plates, pot, saffron, wheelbarrow and sculpture molds, variable dimensions

Music: Eyuphuro, Nifungo (A Chave da Casa), 1990, Real World Records, 7'13"

⑤

Balalaica, 2019
Capulana, 80x80 cm

⑥

alheava_o poeta da arquitectura, 2016
Dye sublimation on fabric, 12x1m

⑦

Nampula Macua Socialismo (Nampula, Angoche, Ilha de Moçambique, Chocas, Mossuril e Marrere), 2014–2025
Slideshow with 109 tablet digital photos, 13'

⑧

alheava_a casa dos primeiros afetos – introdução, 2025
Bronze sculpture, 13,5x23x15 cm

⑨

alheava_a sociedade matrilinear no sonho das Mamãs Maconde, 2017–2025
Installation with bricks, umbila wood planks, variable dimensions

Merina Amade, Mama, 2014
Matope sculpture, 36x14x18 cm

⑩

alheava Nampula, 2000–2025
Photographs, slide shows, variable dimensions

All works are courtesy of the artist