

PRESS RELEASE - Lisbon, April 13, 2026

O BANQUETE ⁽¹⁾

Group Exhibition & Open Call Programme

Galeria NAVE, Lisbon

May 7 - June 26, 2026

OPENING 7 MAY, 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Galeria NAVE is pleased to present *O Banquete*⁽¹⁾, a group exhibition bringing together **11 emerging Portuguese artists**, selected through an open call that received **96 applications**. The exhibition forms part of Galeria NAVE's broader commitment to supporting contemporary artistic production and fostering the international visibility of emerging artists.

Inspired by the idea of gathering, dialogue and multiplicity, *O Banquete*⁽¹⁾ unfolds through a simple yet structuring curatorial gesture: a continuous table runs across the gallery space, with each artist occupying a segment in which to present a work reflecting their individual practice. The table becomes both structure and metaphor - a shared ground where distinct artistic languages coexist on equal terms.

Bringing together works across multiple media, including sculpture, installation, drawing and photography, the exhibition proposes a non-hierarchical encounter between different sensibilities, trajectories and formal approaches. This curatorial device frames the exhibition as both a collective proposition and a space in which singular artistic voices remain fully legible.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

FRANCISCO PINTO DE ALMEIDA
BEATRIZ CAPITULÉ
MARIA INÉS GOMES
SEBASTIÃO CASTELO LOPES
JOÃO MARQUES
MARIA MÁXIMO
BEATRIZ NETO
LEONARDO QUINTANEIRO
ANDRÉ RODRIGUES
JOÃO CAMPOLARGO TEIXEIRA
ANDRÉ VAZ



Useful Device #1 (2025)
Maria Máximo

A PLATFORM FOR VISIBILITY AND INTERNATIONALISATION

O Banquete⁽¹⁾ operates as both an exhibition and a platform for artistic development, introducing the selected artists to a network of curators, collectors and institutional partners. Beyond the exhibition itself, the project has been conceived as a framework for visibility, professional exchange and international projection. This broader ambition is also reflected in the award structure associated with the programme.

As part of the programme, **three distinctions** will be awarded to three artists:

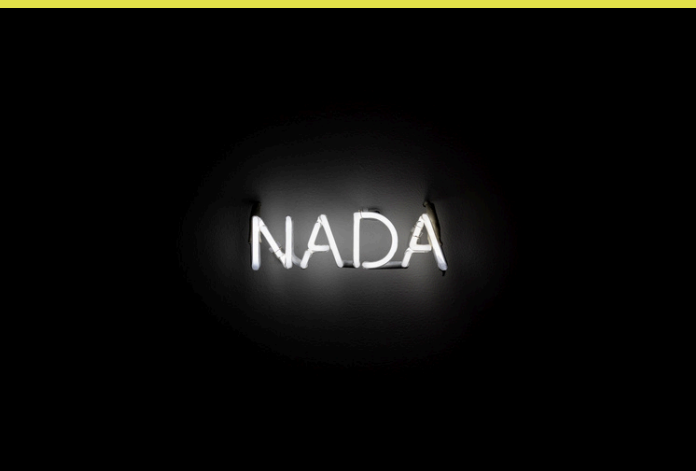
- A **one-month residency at GlogauAIR, Berlin**, within the legacy of the La Memoria Artística Chema Alvargonzalez, supported by the **Camões Institute in Berlin**;
- **The nomination of one artist for the Sovereign Portuguese Art Prize**, in collaboration with the **Sovereign Art Foundation**;
- An invitation from **Fundación Caja Castellón** for one of the selected artists to develop a **site-specific project** for one of the institution's exhibition spaces in the province of Castellón **during the 2027-2028 season**.

During **ARCOLisboa**, the exhibition will also be part of the gallery circuit, as NAVE takes part in the international art fair for the fourth consecutive year, expanding the project's visibility within Lisbon's wider contemporary art programme.

The award recipients will be announced on **June 15, 2026**.

CURATORIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Curated by Mercedes Cerón, the project is grounded in a commitment to critical exchange and transnational dialogue, embedded in both its selection model and wider programme structure. This is reflected in an international selection committee bringing together **Mercedes Cerón** and **Catarina Pedroso** (Galeria NAVE); artists **Arturo Comas**, **Elisabeth Sonneck** and **Tomaz Hipólito**; curators **Carolina Quintela** of MACAM, **Suzy Royal** of GlogauAIR, **Alfredo Llopico** of Fundación Caja Castellón, and **Howard Bilton** of Sovereign Art Foundation.



Nada (2025)
João Campolargo Teixeira

Reflecting on this first edition, Mercedes Cerón, Director of Galeria NAVE, states:

“As Director of Galeria NAVE and initiator of this open call, it has been both a great honour and a genuine joy to receive nearly 100 applications from Portuguese artists, all of an exceptionally high standard. This level of engagement confirms the vitality of the contemporary art scene in Portugal and reinforces our commitment to creating further opportunities for the internationalisation of Portuguese artists.”

For a first edition, the immediate understanding of the project and the support shown by several institutions, both Portuguese and international, give us real confidence that we are moving in the right direction. For this reason, Catarina Pedroso, the project coordinator, and I believe this initiative should continue and establish itself as a regular programme.”

Addressing the curatorial and relational dimension of the exhibition, **Alfredo Llopico**, Cultural Agent at Fundación Caja Castellón and member of the selection committee, adds:

“For me, one of the most significant aspects of *O Banquete*⁽¹⁾ is its ability to operate as a space of relation rather than one of individual affirmation: a structure in which diverse practices are activated through dialogue and generate connections that extend beyond the exhibition itself, unfolding into other contexts and new forms of collaboration.”

Regarding the Berlin residency, **Patrícia Salvação Barreto**, Cultural Counsellor at the Camões Institute in Berlin, notes:

“Contemporary art transcends borders, sharpens critical thinking, and expands the ways in which we engage with the complex reality we inhabit. An artist residency that allows one to benefit from Berlin’s vibrant and plural environment broadens perspectives, fosters creativity, and brings out the full potential of artistic talent.”

This institutional framework reinforces the project’s ambition to create meaningful bridges between local artistic production and international platforms for visibility, mobility and professional development.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING

A public programme will unfold throughout the duration of the exhibition, developed in dialogue with partner institutions. This programme will include moments of encounter, exchange and engagement with different audiences, as well as the announcement of the programme’s distinctions.

Further details will be shared in due course.

ABOUT GALERIA NAVE

Founded in Lisbon in 2019, **Galeria NAVE** is dedicated to the promotion of **emerging and established artists**, fostering artistic development beyond the conventional models of the art system.

The gallery works across a wide **range of contemporary practices**, including installation, sculpture, photography, contemporary textile art, and painting, encouraging experimental and transdisciplinary approaches.

Since 2021, NAVE has developed a strong line of international projects, creating new exhibition contexts for Portuguese and international artists through collaborations with institutions, galleries, and independent spaces. This model has contributed to the **international circulation and professional growth** of both represented and invited artists. With a **regular exhibition programme and participation in international art fairs**, Galeria NAVE positions itself as an active platform for research, dialogue, and visibility within the contemporary art landscape.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Opening: May 7, 2026, 6:30 PM GMT

Exhibition dates: May 7 – June 26, 2026

Location: Galeria NAVE - Travessa do Noronha 11B, Lisbon

Gallery Hours: 12:00 pm – 7:00 pm (Monday to Friday)

Other visiting hours available by appointment.

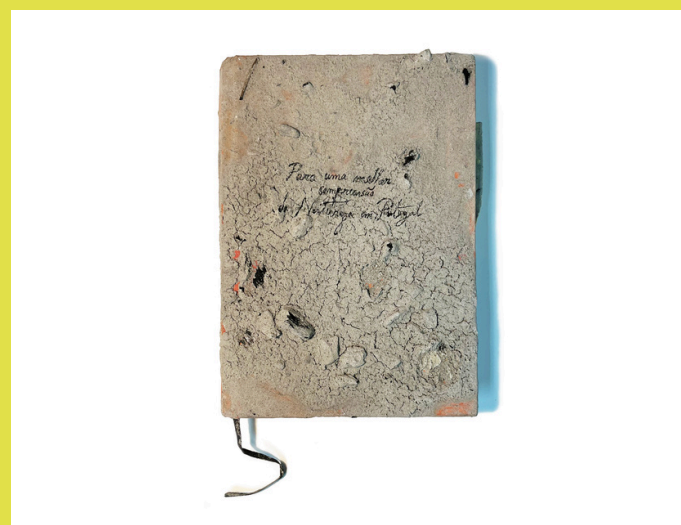
Free admission

PRESS KIT

PRESS CONTACTS

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Para uma melhor compreensão da Natureza em Portugal (2026)
João Marques