

Press Release

apexart - São Paulo, Brazil

The Day Before the Fall

Organized by **Clarissa Aidar**

Opening: **Sunday, May 9, 2021 16:00**

On view:

May 9 - June 6, 2021, Wed. - Sun., 12:00 - 19:00

Location:

**Rua Conde de São Joaquim, 332 - Bela Vista,
São Paulo, Brazil**



Castiel Vitorino Brasileiro, *Quem é você para deitar na minha cama/ Who are you to lay on my bed*, 2020

Featuring work by:

**Castiel Vitorino Brasileiro - Lucyfer Eclipsa - TRANSÄLIEN - Bruna Kury -
Ana Raylander Mártis dos Anjos - Vulcanica Pokaropa**

Postponed for a year, this exhibition opens amidst the sanitary, economic, institutional, ethical and aesthetic crisis that reigns in Brazil. We realize the future has dreadful contours, and yet we remember that it still is—and will always be—a site in dispute, and affirm the importance of autonomous spaces of creation and exchange where alliances are formed.

The exhibition brings together six new installations produced by artists who identify as *travestis** and live or have lived in São Paulo. TRANSALIEN creates an optical instrument of revelation that challenges the impulse of categorization. Invested in her vulnerability, Bruna Kury constructs weapons against violence and exploitation. Castiel Vitorino Brasileiro penetrates the invisible in order to fertilize the grounds of life. Lucyfer Eclipsa exhibits ludic creatures marked by signs of transience and mutability. Ana Raylander Mártis dos Anjos investigates traces of time and memory on the borders. Vulcanica Pokaropa unifies the sacred and the profane in a series of paintings and oratories.

Invoking metamorphosis as a collective strategy of survival, *The Day Before the Fall* questions what will we transform ourselves into tomorrow. And with us, the territory: what kind of transformation awaits the center of São Paulo? A battleground of contradictions lay before us: of encounters and emptiness, celebration and tragedy. Emerging between the ruins and the proliferation of showrooms, we find a space of LGBTQ+ life and resistance. The center is a territory of cracks, and it's precisely on these breaches that we forge the impossible.

**Travesti* is a transfeminine gender identity rooted in Latin-America.

The Day Before the Fall is an apexart International Open Call Exhibition. For more information please visit <https://apexart.org/aidar.php> or email elizabeth.larison@apexart.org.

Clarissa Aidar is an artist, writer and community organizer from São Paulo. Her work is concerned with queer comradeship and the creation of shifting identities and alliances to deceive state vigilance and the commodification of subjectivity.

apexart's program supporters past and present include the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, the Buhl Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Spencer Brownstone, the Kenneth A. Cowin Foundation, Epstein Teicher Philanthropies, The Greenwich Collection Ltd., William Talbott Hillman Foundation/Affirmation Arts Fund, the Fifth Floor Foundation, the Consulate General of Israel in New York, The Puffin Foundation, the Trust for Mutual Understanding, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, public funds from Creative Engagement, supported by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and administered by LMCC, funds from NYSCA Electronic Media/Film in Partnership with Wave Farm: Media Arts Assistance Fund, with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, as well as the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

#TheDayBeforetheFall

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