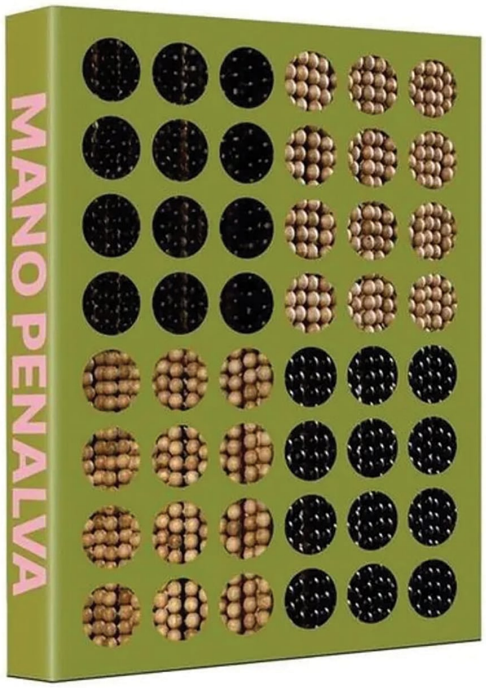
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Mano Penalva

By (artist) Mano Penalva

Text by Pollyana Quintella

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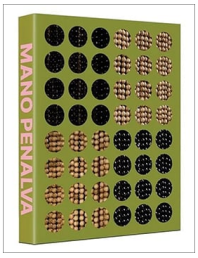
- The book ***Mano Penalva*** offers an overview of Mano Penalva's artistic production in the last ten years (2015-2024), standing out for its study of Material Culture, behavioural transformations and the impacts of globalisation
- Penalva explores the poetry inherent in the displacement of objects and the observation of everyday narratives, using a wide diversity of media, such as painting, photography, video, sculpture and installation
- With a critical text by Pollyana Quintella, who also conducted an exclusive interview with the artist

In the book ***Mano Penalva***, the artist emerges as a "watchmaker" who observes and reconfigures the fragmented world around him, transforming everyday life into a repertoire of rich narratives and cultural interpretations. Like a flâneur, Penalva collects objects from both the Street and the Home, removing them from their original contexts and recombining them to generate new arrangements and sociocultural readings. His works not only transform these objects but also reveal stories, weaving collective memory and cultural identity into each piece. Penalva explores the intersection between the handmade and the industrial, engaging with issues of consumption and globalization. Materials such as cane webbing, raffia, and wooden beads highlight his interest in capturing the cultural essence of objects while challenging the boundaries between high and popular culture, as well as between the public and the private.

This book invites readers to reconsider the role of everyday objects, accompanying Penalva on a journey that reveals the transformative potential of the ordinary and rediscovers the extraordinary within the layers of urban life.

Text in English and Portuguese.

Mano Penalva (b. 1987, Salvador, Brazil) lives and works in São Paulo. His artistic practice stems from the displacement of objects from their everyday contexts and reflects his interest in Anthropology and Material Culture. Working across sculpture, installation, painting, photography, and video, Penalva proposes new aesthetic groupings inspired by retail display strategies, his collection of stories, and observations of the space that exists between the Home and the Street. Through his work, Penalva emphasises the idea that the exponential proliferation of objects and images is not intended to train perception or awareness, but rather to merge us with them. His works are part of numerous public and private collections in Brazil and abroad, including the CIFO – Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation (USA), the Frédéric de Goldschmidt Collection (Belgium), the National Museum/UFRJ (Brazil), MAC Paraná – Museum of Contemporary Art of Paraná (Brazil), and MARP – Ribeirão Preto Museum of Art (Brazil). He holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Communication from the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (2008) and attended independent art courses at Parque Lage for seven years (2005–2011). He is currently part of Massapê Projetos, an artist-run platform for artistic thinking and production based in São Paulo, which he founded.



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