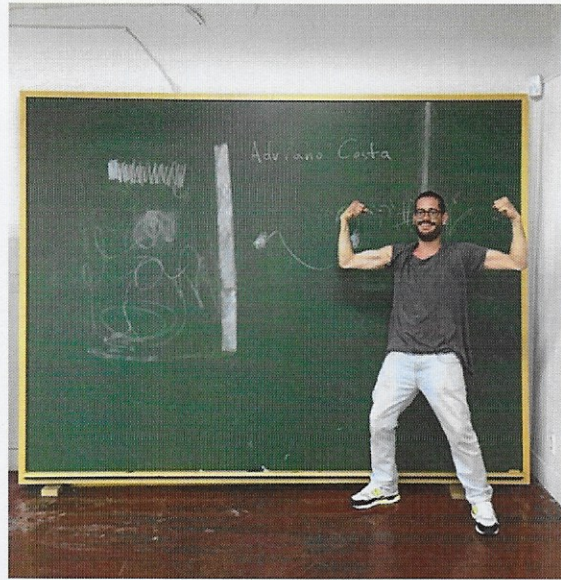


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5 Questions with Adriano Costa

We caught up with the Brazilian artist ahead of his joint show in London

Written by SAMIRA LAROUCI



Adriano Costa is renowned for his assemblages of everyday objects: from tea-towel tapestries to ladders and concrete blocks. His work explores the beauty that lurks underneath the mundane and commonplace.

His last solo exhibition in London entitled *Touch me I am geometrically sensitive* at Sadie Coles included a number of floor works, including a pile of bricks with a pair of Nike trainers and a tambourine on top of it, which was a contemporary homage to the minimalist American sculptor Carl Andre. The piece is an example of Costa's continued interest in commodity culture.

As part of a new group exhibition, entitled *What separates us*, four Brazilian artists came together at Sala Brazil, the Embassy of Brazil in London, to explore ideas around international trade from a cultural, social and economic perspective. Curated by H&S Projects, the exhibition includes an installation by Costa that makes a humorous play on how Ayahuasca has become a pseudo-spiritual recreational drug, as well as pieces by Rodrigo Matheus, Tonico Lemos Auad and Matheus Rocha Pitta.

We caught up with Costa ahead of the exhibition to ask him five quick questions.

Where did you grow up and where do you live now?

I was born in the São Paulo suburbs, Brazil. I'm still there and will die there. I feel that hahahah
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What was your first experience with a work of art?

I was a boring kid from a crazy conservative (but MAD) family. My best connection with the world is DRAWING the whole day. That's the start. Professionally it was just a couple of years ago. I was too fed up and too critical about the art world. So, I lost the party for many many years.

What's your morning ritual?

I wake up at 6:30am. Coffee, Cigarettes, Coffee, Biking and then I go to the studio. Obviously when I'm high I do anything and eat terrible food for the whole day.

What do you listen to in the studio?

It changes. Now: Brian Eno.

Where are you your happiest?

On the dancefloor, sex, drugs, Christmas.