

SECONDARY RESIDENCE

Synopsis > part II - AUG 23

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INTRODUCTION

We are at the end of June, 2023. The **Lisbon Secondary Residence** project, *Waiting Room*, expected to be carried out in less than a month, was impossible to develop: the structures present in **Martim Moniz Square**, which would support the artistic intervention, were removed from the public space.

As far as we could make out, this decision was taken by the Lisbon City Council, eventually based on prior requests from the Parish Council, and was related, immediately, to the possibility of the Square receiving, between 31 July and 6 August, part of the pilgrims who will travel to the city to attend the **World Youth Day**, during which Pope Francis will visit the city and the country.

This is one of the biggest events that Lisbon has ever hosted and, in recent months, it has been much discussed:

On the one hand, one questions the need and pertinence of high investment by the local and national administration in the various moments of the World Youth Day. Faced with the particularly difficult period that the country is currently going through, there are those who argue that this money should support projects aimed at ensuring the most basic and urgent needs of the population.

On the other hand, there is no lack of people who highlight the opportunity that this represents for Portugal to have a multitude of people contributing to the economy, as well as the prestige gained in organizing this world event.

Meanwhile, prices for short-term rentals for this week are skyrocketing, retailers are preparing for the surge in customers and many residents choose to go on holiday at this time to avoid the predictable constraints. The city, the services, the different agents, the public space, everything is organized to receive, in a week, about one and a half million visitors (there are estimates that point to 2 million).

Faced with the possibility of breaking the city's capacity to accommodate everyone, several locations, chosen due to their size and amplitude, are being prepared to receive informal camps. Martim Moniz Square is one of them and structures are being removed in this context.

PROPOSAL

Lisbon changes constantly. The city and its machine are bigger than us. We were caught in the middle of this movement. The structures where we planned to install our work are no longer in public space, but on a landfill belonging to Lisbon City Council. Our proposal, *Waiting Room*, will not go forward.

During the Secondary Residence in Mouraria, we, Artur, António and Pedro, followed the tracks of our interaction with the Mouraria neighbourhood. We reflected together and proposed a work for the public space that would take advantage of pre-existing and deactivated elements to create spaces that could be appropriated (or not). We intended to contribute to the theme of the Residence: *Use and abuse of public space*, as well as thinking about the present and future of that place and those who inhabit it.

Thus, we propose to continue exploring the same theme and the same space, investigating how the use and abuse of the concrete space of Martim Moniz Square will manifest itself in

the face of the need to adapt to the uses imposed by the World Youth Days and the movement of people this involves.

It is with this urgency that I intend to document the square and my interaction with it, filming, writing, acting, with the aim of producing various types of records: a multiple body of Image, Sound, Text, Performance.

This second look remains connected in various ways to the Secondary Residence that we developed and, in this case, it seems to make sense to contemplate the possibility of reactivating the Lisbon logbook, to receive this new layer.

Also during this period, the trio of residents would remain in daily contact, continuing to develop the relationship started during their stay.

DEADLINES

This project will take place between 31 July and 6 August 2023.

PRODUCTION NEEDS

The following are some needs that I foresee, but this list is not at all exhaustive:

- Daily monitoring of the Videographer
- Image editing support (also Alesandro)
- Travel of the Photographer as required for recording (3 times per week scheduled)

- Poster Printing
- Printing in other formats – Publication

- Posters Placement
- Distribution of leaflets