



Press Release

Rita Barros new exhibition "**Displacement 2**" will open **March 15, 6PM, at Loja da Atalaia**. The show consists of 40 photographs, 12 videos, and a collection of handmade books.

Barros has been living at the landmark Chelsea Hotel in NYC since 1984. In the summer of 2011, the hotel was sold and closed to transient guests. The long time residents (about 80 people) have been fighting for the right to keep their homes under the threat of eviction, facing constant harassment, and living amid the debris of demolition.

Started on Labor Day weekend 2012, the series "Displacement 2" focus on how the artist deals with the process of deconstruction not only of the hotel but also of her daily life. The Beckettian world of absurdity and the senselessness of the situations are portrayed in short actions. The bricks of the rooftop garden (which was destroyed) play a major role in the creative process. They are, not only the background but also the subject. They function as a metaphor for the home that is being demolished and they carry the weight of the memory of the place.

Rita Barros lives in NY since 1980 and teaches photography at NYU (New York University). She has a MA in 'Art in Media: Studio Art' from New York University/International Center of Photography. She is the author of the book "Fifteen Years: Chelsea Hotel" Camara Municipal de Lisboa, 1999.

Her work has been shown in numerous group and solo exhibitions: at PS 1, Briggs & Robinson Gallery, Exit Art, (all in NYC); Center for Photography at Woodstock, (NY), Wilfredo Lam Contemporary Art Museum (Havana, Cuba); Encontros De Coimbra

and Museum de Água (both in Lisbon, Portugal), São Paulo Contemporary Art Museum (Sao Paolo, Brazil), Photo España 07 (Emerging Talents) at the Museo de Arte Contemporanea (Madrid, Spain), Flash Art Fair (Milan, Italy), at Paris Photo 2009 and 2010 with Galeria Pente 10, and at Fundação Gulbenkian, (Paris).

Rita Barros is represented in national and international public collections: Coleção BESart, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Serralves, Fundação Gulbenkian, Portugal Telecom, Centro Português de Fotografia, Fundação PLMJ, Museu da Cidade de Lisboa, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de São Paulo, New York Public Library, Wilfredo Lam Contemporary Art Museum and Casa de Las Americas, Havana.

Loja da Atalaia

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Cais da Pedra a S. Apolónia 1950 - 376 Lisboa
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Opening: Friday, March 15th, 6-9pm

March 15 through April 15, 2013
Tuesday through Saturday 2-8pm Metro: S. Apolónia

Guided visit to the exhibition by the artist March 20th at 3pm