

GALERIA PALÁCIO

Chiaki Mihara: *Contato Visual*

October 12 – December 21, 2019

Galeria Palácio is pleased to present *Contato Visual*, Chiaki Mihara's second solo exhibition with the gallery. Two digital animations and one drawing are presented to the public: *Contato Visual (Azul)* (2018–2019), *Contato Visual (Vermelho)* (2019), and *Estudo para Contato Visual* (2018).

Chiaki Mihara digitally developed the works *Contato Visual (Azul)* and *Contato Visual (Vermelho)*, which consists of two pairs of animated eyes, projected into the gallery's walls. With an incorporeal presence in the exhibition, the animated eyes move vividly under their emotional condition. Presenting constant changes of expression, the viewer is invited to confront *Contato Visual (Azul)* and *Contato Visual (Vermelho)*, face to face, in an attempt to understand the present emotional state in the works. Introducing an exercise of symbiotic empathy, the works communicate with the natural reaction of confrontation caused by the brain when an eye-to-eye contact is processed, in an attempt to perform an emotional state reading of the "other". In *Contato Visual*, the subject "other" are the digital animations.

In an interpersonal relationship, *Contato Visual (Azul)* and *Contato Visual (Vermelho)* are pending viewers for their complete existence, proposing a reflection on the existing social bond between the viewer and the works. The viewer's implicit point of view on the works has a compositional role, with the viewer actively participating in the construction of the meaning and existence of the works. The complete conjuncture of *Contato Visual (Azul)* and *Contato Visual (Vermelho)* is composed of the intention of the works and the individualized interpretation of each viewer.

With simple lines, the large, round, and brightly colored eyes are a direct influence of the Japanese descent of Chiaki Mihara, and her relation with anime. Intrinsically, the artist proposes a dialogue around identity and cultural issues. In *Contato Visual*, the viewer reflects his own socio-cultural identities on the works, in a process of recognition of the strange, producing a new interpretation and perception of his own socio-cultural identity.

One of the drawings made by Chiaki Mihara as a study for the conception of the digital animations *Contato Visual (Azul)* and *Contato Visual (Vermelho)* is presented framed. In *Estudo para Contato Visual*, several eyes, of multiple formats, under various emotional states, are figured disposing to the public understanding of the conception and construction of the digital animations.

Chiaki Mihara (1997, Porto Alegre, Brazil) lives and works in Porto Alegre.