

For the twelfth edition of the ongoing exhibition programme dedicated to Nature, Abreu Advogados, in partnership with Carpe Diem Arte e Pesquisa, presents a series of works by the artist Inês Mendes Leal.

Inês Mendes Leal

Inês Mendes Leal (b.1997) is a multidisciplinary artist living and working in Lisbon. Her installations combine photography, video, sound, sculpture, drawing and found paraphernalia in an exploration of the effect of action on materiality and the material representation of action, fixing on two main questions: How does an external gesture affect an image? Conversely, how can an act be materialized?

Curiosity and observation lead to discovery and then to understanding which leads to action.

By exploring the invisible, the artist deconstructs images to reveal what is buried within them - what is burnt, torn, frozen or hidden from plain sight. Through the repetition of the image, Mendes Leal dissects notions of stativity, signaling a rigorous, rhythmic pace that involves us incessantly. Her series unfold in subtle yet vibrant passages in a seemingly choreographic, bodily and performative display. Mendes Leal is also interested in the inverse process of the transformation of an external action into an image, wanting to bridge the intangible of a natural act and its materialization. In her most recent works, the artist speculates on how to represent the wind within an exhibition space, evolving into increasingly immersive and multisensory proposals.

Her entire practice is shot through by an attraction for the void - a desire to delve into what is not directly offered to us - a desire to reveal, feel and integrate the invisible into the visible.