

MMIPO OPENS JOINT EXHIBITION OF SCULPTOR ALBERTO GIACOMETTI AND PHOTOGRAPHER PETER LINDBERGH



The joint exhibition of works by surrealist artist Alberto Giacometti and photographs by renowned fashion photographer Peter Lindbergh is already open to the public. The exhibition has only been presented in Paris, at the Giacometti Institute, and now it is Porto's turn.

The Giacometti Foundation invited Peter Lindbergh. The fashion photographer, accustomed to photographing models and actresses, was already an admirer of the sculptor's work and accepted the challenge. The exhibition that brings together Giacometti's sculptures with Lindbergh's photographs was born.

"It was like putting a child in a toy store. Lindbergh chose all the works by Giacometti that he wanted to photograph and gave them a perspective never seen before," says Serena Bucalo-Mussely of the Alberto Gia Foundation.

It was in 2019 when Peter Lindbergh came to Porto as curator of the exhibition. He was here for two days. However, he sadly passed away and it fell to Benjamin Lindbergh, the photographer's son and director of the Peter Lindbergh Foundation, to oversee the editing and be at the opening curating of the exhibition. **"My father was used to photographing people and he photographed the sculptures with the same prism. Capturing the invisible means just that, that the photographs, much of them large-scale, reveal more than we can see in Giacometti's sculptures."**

The exhibition showcases **110 originals, including photographs, bronzes and drawings, some of them unpublished. We invite the entire community to attend and witness this collaboration that brought together two great artists from different times and styles**", says António Tavares, Purveyor of Misericórdia do Porto, owner of MMIPO.

If Lindbergh is a modern contemporary, Giacometti left a little before, in 1966. He is one of the great names of Surrealism and stood out in the post-war period for his work on proportions and the elongation of forms, creating a very expressive and even poetic language. Known mainly for his slender sculptures, Giacometti's list of works is much broader - which can be perceived in this exhibition.

For Alberto Giacometti it was important to capture visual perception, the way we see people, rather than the actual features of the figures. In portraits, the irregular surfaces help portray human fragility. For his part, Lindbergh was fascinated by this analytical work and used photography to reveal, through a very realistic representation of the sculptures, the depth of the soul.

Giacometti and Lindbergh both attach great importance to the human figure, with emphasis on the gaze - the gateway to the model's personality. Lindbergh's portraits of models or actresses trigger a melancholy by capturing the apparent fragility of the subjects. Giacometti's portraits are also a pretext for capturing the character behind the gaze.

These are interpretations that visitors will be able to absorb through viewing the important Lindbergh and Giacometti collection displayed room by room.

For lovers and connoisseurs of Lindbergh's most iconic photography, there is also room to display some of the most iconic portraits from the fashion photographer's career, including those starring Naomi Campbell, Uma Thurman, and Julianne Moore.

At the end of the exhibition, visitors are invited to enjoy a glass of Taylor's Port wine at the Rooftop Flores, in the museum's garden. The garden provides a view from a different angle than usual, looking down on the Cathedral, and with a reserved and welcoming atmosphere.

The exhibition is organised by the Giacometti Foundation, with the collaboration of the Peter Lindbergh Foundation and MMIPO - Museu e Igreja da Misericórdia do Porto, and is curated by Serena Bucalo-Mussely (Fondation Giacometti) and Peter Lindbergh. The initiative is supported by the Port wine brand Taylor's and Commissioner Charlotte Crapts.

The exhibition ends on 24th September. Tickets can be bought directly at the museum ticket office.

For more information:

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About MMIPO:

The MMIPO - Museu e Igreja da Misericórdia do Porto is located in the heart of the historic centre, in Rua das Flores, in the building that was the headquarters of the institution from the mid-16th century until the year 2013.

Over the centuries, the building has undergone several changes, the most recent being its adaptation for museum functions.

The Museum presents itself with the dual objective of making the history of Santa Casa da Misericórdia do Porto and its institutional purposes known, as well as divulging its art collections, through the provision of a set of resources that translate the memory and identity of this organisation, projecting it into the future.

A visit to the Museum is also an opportunity to learn more about the past and present of this area of the city.

The museological tour includes the Misericórdia Church, a 16th century construction which received a major intervention in the 18th century led by Nicolau Nasoni, and the Benefactors' Gallery, an example of the city's iron and glass architecture. MMIPO won the best Portuguese museum award in 2016 and was nominated for the EMYA 2019 - European Museum of the Year Award.

More information at mmipo.pt

About the Giacometti Foundation:

Created in December 2003, the Giacometti Foundation, Paris is a private institution, officially recognised as a non-profit organisation. Its aim is the protection, dissemination and promotion of Alberto Giacometti's work. A unique legacy of Annette Giacometti, the artist's widow, the Foundation has the largest collection of Alberto Giacometti's works in the world. It comprises more than 350 sculptures, 90 paintings, 2,000 drawings and the same number of engravings, a collection charged with preserving, restoring and enriching. The Giacometti Foundation has at its disposal remarkable archives of photographs, documentation and correspondence of the artist. The Foundation also preserves the artist's manuscripts and notebooks, copper plates and a large part of Giacometti's personal library: magazines, books, exhibition catalogues, newspapers, some of them having been used as support for notes and drawings.

The Foundation is directed by Catherine Grenier.

The mission of the Foundation:

The Giacometti Foundation is dedicated to the preservation and dissemination of its collections (drawings, paintings, engravings, plasters and bronzes) and works to promote Alberto Giacometti's work internationally. Its activities include: the presentation to the public of Alberto Giacometti's work through the organisation of monographic and thematic exhibitions in French and foreign museums, the creation of a catalogue of authenticated works by the artist, the organisation and participation in various cultural events, the publication and participation in the publication of research on Alberto Giacometti's work. The Foundation

organizes the committee for the authentication of the artist's works and takes care of the protection of his work in France and the rest of the world.

About the Giacometti Institute:

In June 2018, the Giacometti Foundation opened the Giacometti Institute: a public space dedicated to exhibitions, research and pedagogy. It permanently presents the Alberto Giacometti studio and four temporary exhibitions per year.

Christian Alandete, Artistic Director

About Taylor's:

Taylor's is the most illustrious Port wine producing house and drinking its wines constitutes the most sublime of experiences. Established over three centuries ago, in 1692, Taylor's is one of the oldest Port houses, dedicated exclusively to the production of Port and particularly to its finest styles.

Above all, Taylor's is an independent company in which some members of the family play leading roles in all areas of activity. The long and uninterrupted family tradition of the company has allowed it to provide continuity and clarity of mission, both essential attributes of any great Port house. It has also allowed the skills and knowledge necessary to produce the finest Ports to be honed, which are constantly refined in the light of experience that is passed down from generation to generation.

Taylor's is also respected as a producer of wood-aged Ports and holds one of the largest stocks of rare cask-aged Ports, from which the distinguished aged Tawny Ports stand out. The house is also known as the creator of LBV (Late Bottled Vintage), a style in which the company pioneered and of which it remains the leading producer.

Successive generations, with their experience, have strived to refine their knowledge and ability to produce ever-better Ports.

More information at taylor.pt