

# Portfolio of Maria Lusitano

Visual Artist



# Selection of Projects (2010-2023)

## Profile

I am [Maria Lusitano](#), a visual artist, born in Lisbon in 1971. I live currently in London, to where I moved in 2011. I hold a first degree in Medicine (University of Coimbra) a BA in Fine Art (Ar.co, Lisbon, Portugal) an MFA in Fine Art (2009, Malmö Art Academy, Sweden). In 2015 I concluded an arts-based Ph.D at the University of Westminster, London.

I have exhibited in international events such as [Manifesta 5](#), Photo Espana 6, 29th biennial of Sao Paulo, (2010), [Porto Photography Biennial](#) (2023) and others. My work was exhibited in art venues such as in [Moderna Museet in Stockholm](#), [Joshihi university, Tokyo](#) (2010), [Lewis Glucksman Gallery, Ireland](#) (2013), Portuguese National Museum of Contemporary Art (2018), MAAT Museum, [Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation](#) (2022), and various other museums and art galleries. I was awarded various scholarships, such as the Swedish Art Scholarship Edstranska Stiefeltse, Calouste Gulbenkian Scholarships and the Science and Technology Foundation scholarship.

My work is present in art collections such as Victoria and Albert Museum Artist Book Collection, Georges Pompidou's Artist Book Collection, [MoMA Artist Book collection](#), [MACBA Artist Book collection](#), EDP Museum, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, and various other private collectors such as Prof Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa (Current President of Portugal) and António Cachola.

I facilitate arts-based participatory workshops about imagination, empathy, dream work, the soul, ancient wisdom texts and practices, and other topics, in my studio, in Artist-run spaces, Museums, Universities (OMNES London School, Goldsmiths University). I curated two exhibitions about the artist-book.

In 2016, after various years of focused spiritual work, I had a profound experience of spiritual awakening that triggered a deep interest in themes of soul-based new economics, spiritual healing, expansion of consciousness, ancient wisdom, mysticism and how all this can be of practical use to the emerging soulful world of the future. I have explored these themes and others, previously, with work with video, video-installation, drawing, artist publications and also, more recently with participatory methodologies approaching soul based healing, expansion of consciousness, mysticism, dreams and others.

## Exhibitions

The Healing Colour (2023)

The War Correspondent (2012)

The laboratory of dreams (2019-2020)

Alchemical Cabinet of Desires (2017)

Queer Paper Gardens (2013)

## Artist Books (2011 - 2023)

**EXHIBITIONS**



### The Healing Colours, 2022-23

Installation, performance and film, Interpretative Centre, Coriscada, Douro Museum, Porto Biennial 23 Surnadal Billag, Norway.

The project resulted from a residency in a Portuguese village called Coriscada, as part of [Vivificar](#). In Coriscada, I worked with a local group of women, and explored the local festivities, to reflect the sacred and universal dimension of the human experience and the experience of union. During the residency, I developed a series of movement and voice workshops with a local group of women, over a series of 6 weeks. For the residency's final exhibition and opening, we developed a performance around a communal table, reinventing healing rituals. The theme of all the work developed was the strong local community's connection with the sacred dimension of the human experience. Performance done with help and collaboration of Luisa Saraiva Junqueiro.

### More information

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zAm\\_7N7m8vU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zAm_7N7m8vU)

<https://www.marialusitano.org/healing-colours>

<https://www.vivificar.pt/pt/artists/maria-lusitano>



The Healing Colours, View of installation, Interpretative Centre, Coriscada, 2022



The Healing Colours, View of installation, Interpretative Centre, Coriscada, 2022



The Healing Colours, View of performance, Interpretative Centre, Coriscada, 2022



The Healing Colours, workshop with sound and movement, Interpretative Centre, Coriscada, 2022



The Healing Colours, View of performance, Interpretative Centre, Coriscada, 2022

### Alchemical Cabinet of Desires, 2017-2018

Installation, film, artist books, 35 drawings, alchemical cabinet. **National Museum of Contemporary Art, Lisbon**

The alchemical cabinet of desires, is an art project inspired by the ancient tradition of alchemy and dreams. The project is the result of a 2 year investigation. In it I was able to weave my investigations of the inner world, with art practice. This led me to developed a very personal method of spiritual practice which included a dream diary using collage, drawing as meditation and bibliographic research about Carl Jung. Exhibited at the [National Museum of Contemporary Art in Lisbon](http://www.museuartecontemporanea.gov.pt/en/programacao/Genero-na-Arte-Corpo-sexualidade-identidade-resistencia), part of the exhibition "Gender in Art" its final result includes an alchemical cabinet, a dream diary, a collage dream-journal and drawing-herbarium, inspired by my dreams done through mixed media (collage, herbarium and drawing), and a series of 36 drawings illustrating the 10 phases of alchemical transformation.



Alchemical Cabinet of Desires, view of Installation, 2017

### More information

<https://www.marialusitano.org/alchemical-cabinet-of-desire>

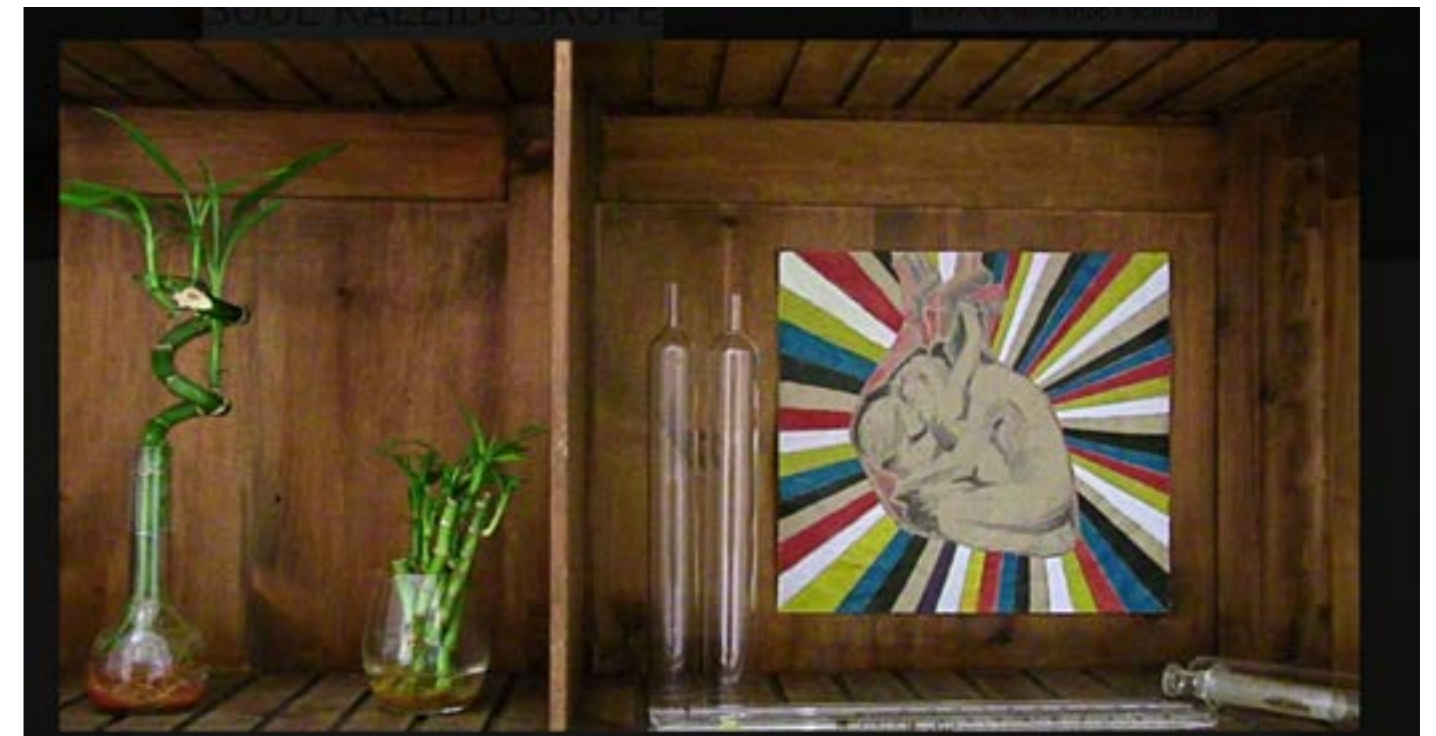
<http://www.museuartecontemporanea.gov.pt/en/programacao/Genero-na-Arte-Corpo-sexualidade-identidade-resistencia>



Alchemical Cabinet of Desires, drawings, 25x25 cm, gouache and collage over paper, 2017



Alchemical Cabinet of Desires, drawing, 25x25 cm, ink and collage over paper, 2017



Alchemical Cabinet of Desires, view of Installation, 2017



Alchemical Cabinet of Desires, view of Installation, National Museum of Contemporary Art, 2017

## The Laboratory of Dreams, 2016 - 2022

Workshop, participatory performance and exhibition. Nomadic School, Arrábida, Portugal, MAAT Museum, Lisbon, Goldsmiths University, London.

Series of workshops and participatory performances. We worked with dreams, using collage, conversation and meditation. The day long workshop and performance resulted from my decade long research about Dream Yoga, Dream Studies (mostly Carl Jung) , Social Dreaming, Dzogchen meditation and others. An [artist publication](#) (20 copies) is used as the basis for the workshop.



The Laboratory of Dreams, artist publication, Nomadic School, 2019



View of performance and workshop, Nomadic School, 2019

## More information

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ckQZLPvoATI>

<https://www.marialusitano.org/the-laboratory-of-dreams>



View of performance and workshop, Nomadic School, 2019



View of laboratory of dreams, Iklektik Art Space, London, 2016





### Queer Paper Gardens, 2011-2013

Installation, two films in two screens, artist books, collage salon, London South Bank University, 198 Gallery, EDP Foundation, Lisbon

Installation with video, mixed media collage salon, publications, drawings and archive, 2012- 2013. Workshop for Artists and Eucators Queer Paper Gardens was a project done by Maria Lusitano and paula roush, resulting from a three year research onto the study of collage, surrealism, gender and sexuality and the display of the unconscious. The main subject of our work were two collage books: Valentine Penrose's book Dons des Féminines (1951) and Max Ernst's roman collage Une Semaine de Bonté (1934). Both works, done by these two famous surrealists during the first decades of the XXth century, explored the display of the unconscious by working with poetry and collage. We researched as well Victorian photocollage and Mary Delany's paper collages done during the XVIIIth century. The exhibition consisted of a multimedia installation with two video essays entitled [Queer Paper Gardens](#) and Exchanging Gifts in the Orient, a collage salon, a large wall drawing, various scrapbooks, and an [artist book in five](#)



Queer Paper Gardens, installation, EDP Foundation, Lisbon, 2013

### More information

<https://www.marialusitano.org/queer-paper-gardens>

<https://www.msdm.org.uk/luisa-oliveira-queer-paper-gardens>



Queer Paper Gardens, installation, EDP Foundation, Lisbon, 2013



Queer Paper Gardens, installation, EDP Foundation, Lisbon, 2013, still of video essay

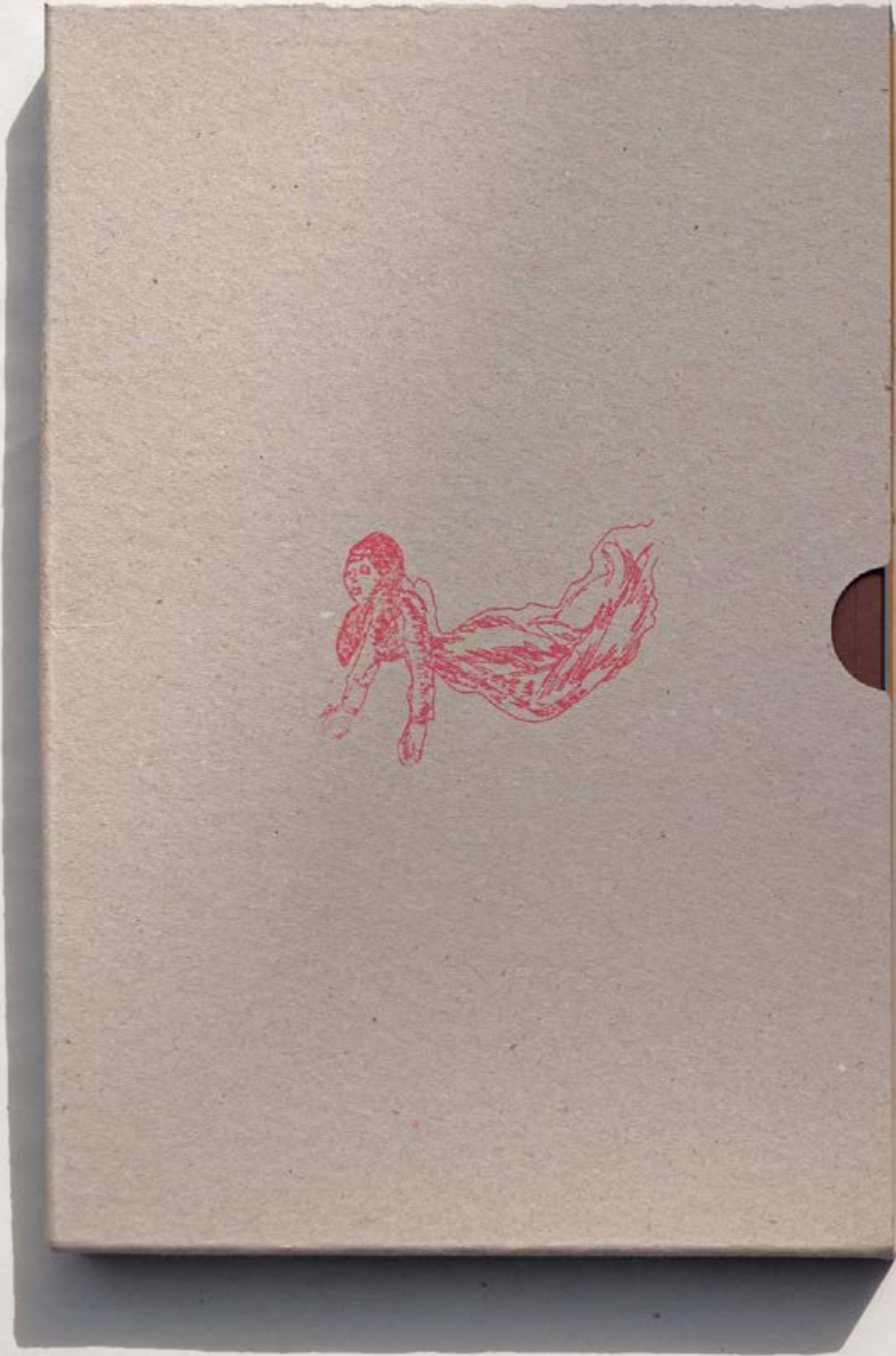


Queer Paper Gardens, installation, EDP Foundation, Lisbon, 2013



Queer Paper Gardens, digitisation of page of artist book in 5 volumes, edition of 200, EDP Foundation, 2013

**ARTIST BOOKS**



**Queer Paper Gardens, 2013**

Artist books in 5 Modules, Editions EDP Foundation, Lisbon

**SLIPCASE EDITION WITH SILKSCREEN PRINT**

Five softcover volumes, in a customised, numbered and signed grey board slipcase, with a numbered and signed silkscreen, book dimensions when closed: 21 cm x 29.7 cm, offset printed in munken pure paper 150 gr., edition of 200.



Queer Paper Gardens artist book, Five softcover volumes, in a customised, numbered and signed grey board slipcase, 2013



Queer Paper Gardens artist book, page of book, 2013

**Illuminations**

Artist book, 12 drawings 25X14 cm, Ink on paper 200gr. The Anti-Livro, Stolen Books, 2023



Artist book, 12 drawings 25X14 cm, Ink on paper 200gr. The Anti-Livro, Stolen Books, 2023



Artist book, 12 drawings 25X14 cm, Ink on paper 200gr. The Anti-Livro, Stolen Books, 2023

**The Herbarium of Dreams, 2018**

Artist book, 26x18 cm, leather cover, dried plants, watercolour and ink over tracing paper.  
National Museum of Contemporary Art, Lisbon



Page of artist book, 26x18 cm, leather cover, dried plants, watercolour and ink over tracing paper.  
National Museum of Contemporary Art, Lisbon



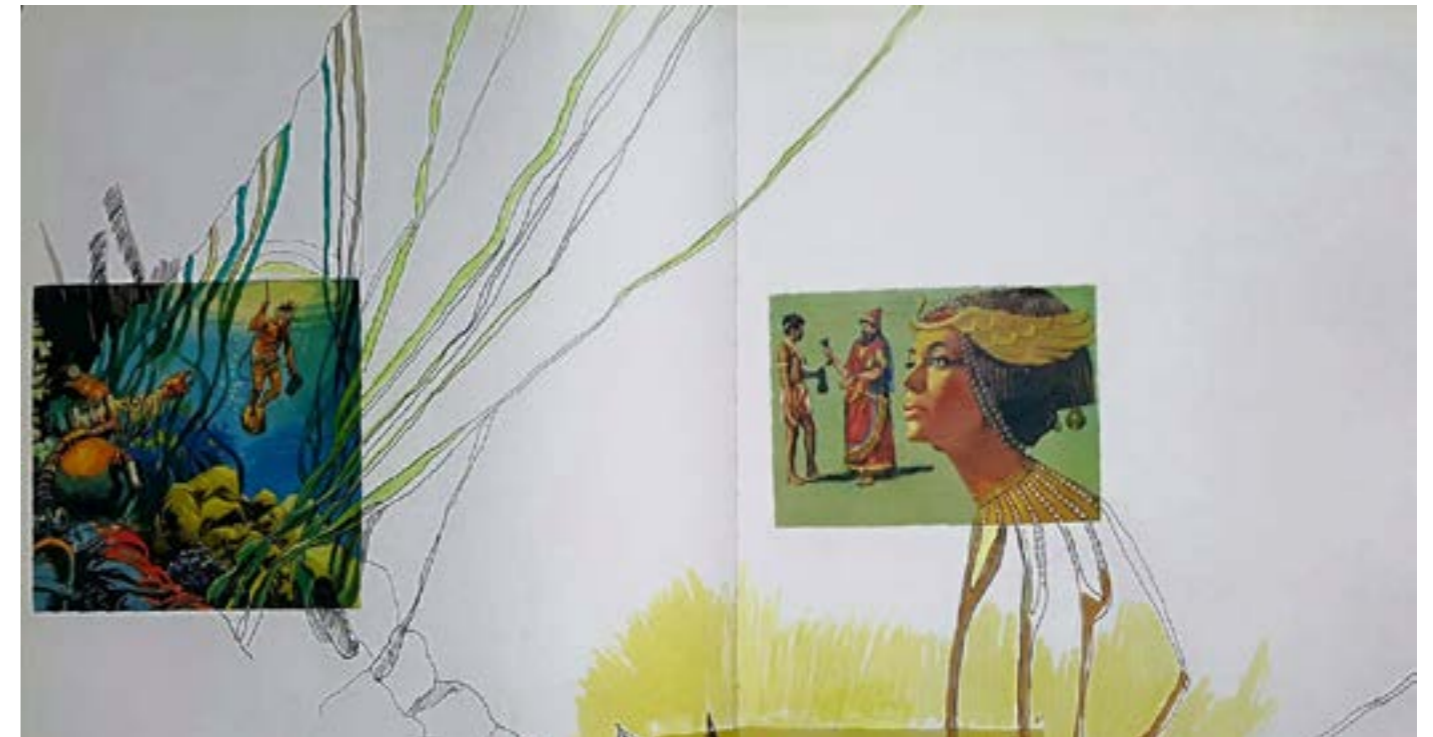
Page of artist book, 26x18 cm, leather cover, dried plants, watercolour and ink over tracing paper.  
National Museum of Contemporary Art, Lisbon

**Dreams Collage, 2018**

Artist book, 35x122 cm, collage, watercolour and coloured pens over 100 gr paper.  
Part of exhibition "Alchemical Cabinet of Desires", National Museum of Contemporary Art, Lisbon



Page of Artist book, 35x122 cm, collage, watercolour and coloured pens over 100 gr paper.



Page of Artist book, 35x122 cm, collage, watercolour and coloured pens over 100 gr paper.

**Field of Interconnected Realities, 2013**

A field (of interconnected realities), or, The week of mash-up goodness : roman, paula roush & maria lusitano. 5 newsprint volumes, colour, digital print, 29cm x 38 cm in a grey-board folio with DVD. HD, 34'45" colour, sound Edition of 10. London : msdm publica(c)tions, 2012. , Part of [MACBA](#). Artist Book Collection and National Art Library: V&A Museum London. NAL is a public reference library. NAL pressmark: 809.AP.0002



A field (of interconnected realities), or, The week of mash-up goodness, artist book 2013



A field (of interconnected realities), or, The week of mash-up goodness, artist book 2013

**Off the shelf, artist book exhibition, Iklectik, London 2015**

(curator Maria Lusitano and Teresa Paiva)

'Off the shelf: the eclectic in the artist's book' is an exhibition dedicated to artist's publications. It aims to bring together contributions from a variety of formats and editions that consider the eclectic in its essence.



A field (of interconnected realities), or, The week of mash-up goodness, artist book 2013



A field (of interconnected realities), or, The week of mash-up goodness, artist book 2013



*A miracle is always waiting to be born into the human will.*

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