



TEATRO NACIONAL D. MARIA II

**D.M<sup>II</sup>** TEATRO NACIONAL D. MARIA II

## Open Essay: Invasion, Immersion and Suspension

1 April 2023 | Guimarães - Portugal | Teatro Jordão

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### Context

The Open Lab took place during the Cenários programme, one of the pillars of Teatro Nacional D. Maria II's year-long Odisseia Nacional - during which the theatre tours around Portugal and hosts performances and events in partnership with local theatres. At the end of each quarter in 2023, a major think-tank event evaluates the project and highlights the work done at a local level. The city of Guimarães in the North of Portugal was chosen as the location for the first think tank.

In the STAGES Open Lab, new directions for culture and for the performing arts in particular were envisaged at this gathering, through the reflection upon the interaction that this industry can establish with the concept of sustainability.

## OPEN LAB CONTENT

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Artist Rogério Nuno Costa and scientists Aida Estela Castro and Miguel Bogalheiro will share a moment of exchange as part of the research process Costa has been developing with the European Union STAGES - Sustainable Theatre Alliance for a Green Environmental Shift project, in association with the Teatro Nacional D. Maria II.

Following the baseline challenge posed by the STAGES project, this experimental laboratory was the first public opportunity to share a research process concerning the intersections between Art, Science, and Technology, coordinated by Rogério Nuno Costa with the collaboration of researchers Aida Estela Castro and Manuel Bogalheiro.



Aiming at the speculation and future incubation of a project-prototype that could present itself as an ecologically sustainable alternative to the creation and presentation of shows in the broad field of performing arts, we suggested a critical reflection on the relations between theatre, place, and ubiquity in the light of an expanded understanding of media studies and theory.

With this discussion, which was participatory and inter(in)disciplined, we aimed to explore the ecological impact of digital culture in its connection with theatre and beyond, based on binomials such as materiality/immaturity and «pure»/mediated presence.

## BIOGRAPHY OF THE ARTISTS:

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**ROGÉRIO NUNO COSTA:** PERFORMER, WRITER, CURATOR AND TEACHER. LIVES AND WORKS BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND FINLAND. DEVELOPS ARTISTIC WORK AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH, CREATING PERFORMANCES, CONFERENCES AND CURATORIAL, EDITORIAL AND DOCUMENTARY PROJECTS THAT EXPLORE THE FIELDS OF THEATRE, DANCE AND LITERATURE. ACADEMIC BACKGROUND IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND ART HISTORY. WORKS WITH VARIOUS ARTISTS AND COMPANIES AS A PLAYWRIGHT. COLLABORATOR OF NÚCLEO DE INVESTIGAÇÃO EM ESTUDOS PERFORMATIVOS (UMINHO). ASSOCIATE ARTIST OF O ESPAÇO DO TEMPO.

## BIOGRAPHY OF THE SCIENTISTS:

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**ESTELA AIDA CASTRO:** ARTIST, RESEARCHER AND PROFESSOR. PH.D. IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCES: COMMUNICATION AND ARTS FROM THE FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES OF THE UNIVERSIDADE NOVA DE LISBOA (FCSH UNL), WITH A GRANT FROM FCT - FUNDAÇÃO PARA A CIÊNCIA E TECNOLOGIA (FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY). MASTER'S DEGREE FROM FCSH UNL AND DEGREE IN PLASTIC ARTS FROM THE FACULTY OF FINE ARTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PORTO (FBA.UP). CURRENTLY SHE IS A TEACHER IN THE MULTIMEDIA SECTION OF FBA.UP, INTEGRATED MEMBER OF ICNOVA AND COLLABORATOR OF I2ADS. SHE IS COORDINATOR OF (DE)MONSTRAS: IMAGINARIES, CORPORALITIES AND AMPHIBIOUS MATERIALITIES (2023, ICNOVA) AND, WITH CRISTINA MATEUS, OF VIDEO DREAMS: PRACTICES OF IMAGINARIES (2022, FBA.UP). SHE HAS BEEN WORKING WITH MARIA MIRE IN AN ARTISTIC DUO SINCE 2017.

**MANUEL BOGALHEIRO:** PROFESSOR AT UNIVERSIDADE LUSÓFONA AND A GUEST PROFESSOR AT FCSH-UNL. HE HOLDS A PHD IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCES WITH A THESIS ENTITLED "MATERIALITY AND TECHNICALITY: RESEARCH ON TECHNICAL OBJECTUALITY". HE IS AN INTEGRATED RESEARCHER AT CICANT AND MEMBER OF THE PHILOSOPHY OF COMMUNICATION SECTION OF ECREA. HE HAS EDITED CRÍTICA DAS MEDIAÇÕES TOTAIS - PERSPECTIVAS EXPANDIDAS DOS MEDIA (DOCUMENTA, 2021), EXPRESSÕES VISUAIS DISRUPTIVAS NO ESPAÇO PÚBLICO (EDIÇÕES LUSÓFONAS, 2021), WITH ISABEL BABO AND JOÃO SOUSA CARDOSO AND EVALUATION OF DESIGN-DRIVEN RESEARCH (2022) WITH EDITE ROSA.

UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) LINKED TO THE OPEN LAB

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