OPAVIVARÁ! Rede Social 2017 / 2019

Textile, rope, plastic, people Rattles designed and made in collaboration with Marcos China Courtesy of the artists and A Gentil Carica Gallery #opavivara #redesocial

Rede Social offers up a space with a different rhythm to the controlled and regulated pace of normal life. In this communal hammock OPAVIVARÁ! have created the ultimate, analogue social network – a place to meet, relax and share, suspended from everyday reality.

The hammock itself, adorned in colourful rattles designed in collaboration with musician Marcos China, blends together aspects of Brazilian culture. The *rede* (hammock) is a ubiquitous presence in Brazilian life, from its role in indigenous culture and practice, through to its position as everyday space of rest and respite. The plastic rattles inject a soundtrack to the *Rede Social* – a gentle, recycled version of the chocalho, or shaker rattles, that are part of the percussion beat of Brazil.

OPAVIARÁ! Paje Curumim 2018 / 2019 Wood, glass, herbs, water, people Courtesy of the artists and A Gentil Carica Gallery #opavivara #pajecurumin

Paje Curumim consists of three communal tea stations which provide a platform for interaction and conversation through a shared experience – the simple action of making a pot of tea. Each table is identical, seating 8 people and comprising 24 dried herbs. When blending their tea, visitors can select from well-known herbs, such as chamomile, green tea and peppermint, to the more unusual, such as yerba mate, mugwort and devil's claw. *Paje Curumim*, like many of OPAVIVARÁ!'s works, disrupts and shifts the expectations of the gallery space – challenging conventional art gallery behaviours and giving audiences a crucial role in 'completing' the artwork through participation.

Please see gallery staff for further instructions and a tea cup; please see the Tea Guide for information on each tea, including health and safety warnings.

OPAVIVARÁ! SeaSystem 2019

Nylon, plastic, metal fixings, people Rattles designed and made in collaboration with Marcos China Courtesy of the artists and A Gentil Carica Gallery #opavivara #seasystem

The plight of our oceans in the face of a mounting tide of plastic is a global concern. In *SeaSystem*, OPAVIVARÁ! make direct reference to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, a large area of accumulated plastic and floating rubbish located in the North Pacific Ocean.

While the challenge of issues such as environmental degradation and pollution can often feel overwhelming, *SeaSystem*, with its cheerful rattles made of recycled plastic waste, immerses the viewer into a joyous soundscape of music and movement. This tension is subversive - the artists drawing a parallel with events such as Brazilian Carnival, a space of pleasure and excitement that also operates as an important social platform for protest and dissent.

Please note - *SeaSystem* is also intended to be performed by groups of people in public spaces. Please enquire at reception if you are interested in taking part in a Net Walk performance.