

Maria Lucia Cattani

A point to the South

This artist's book is an integral part of a work entitled *Um ponto ao sul* (*A point to the South*), which consists of a unique bookwork placed in the rare books collection of the Biblioteca Pública do Estado do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, and an offset print version of the same book in an edition of 1080. The unique book was developed from an invented script which was laser cut onto 12 wood blocks. The page illuminations are based on fragments of the wall decorations in the Biblioteca.

The original book is hand bound with 24 pages of woodcuts, inkjet print and gold leaf on 90 g/m² Sumi-e paper, and measures 29 x 23 cm.

This offset copy contains a fragment from one of the prints in the unique book, thus making it also into a unique object.

One copy of this book has been given to every Public Library in each of the listed towns.

Fragment: woodcut on Sumi-e paper.

[Excerpt from the afterword.]

The musical composition *Um ponto ao Sul/Scattered Loves*, by Celso Loureiro Chaves is based on page five of the book and forms connections between the lines on the printed page and the various gestures and musical figures, merging them together into an intimate improvisation.

The work was exhibited on March 29, 2011 in the Biblioteca's Salão Mourisco, with an installation, the launch of the book *Um ponto ao Sul* and the first musical performance of *Um ponto ao Sul/Scattered Loves*.

[From DVD *Um ponto ao Sul/Scattered Loves*, Surreal Filmes, 2011.]

The following images depict some real size pages of *Um ponto ao sul*, author's edition, Porto Alegre, 2011, ISBN 978-85-905528-2-6, which was granted the Funarte Scholarship for the Support of Artistic Creation in Visual Arts. The author thanks the National Foundation of Art - Funarte, the Rio Grande do Sul State Public Library, Morgana Marcon, Tânia Evangelista and Nick Rands.

CAPTIONS OF ILLUSTRATIONS

The images in this article can be viewed in its original version in Portuguese.

Maria Lucia Cattani (1958-2015): Visual artist and Professor at the Arts Institute of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), where she taught at the undergraduate (1985-2013) and graduate (1999-2013) courses. Cattani holds a Bachelor of Visual Arts by UFRGS (1981), a master's degree by the Pratt Institute of New York (1990), a doctorate degree by the University of Reading, England (1998), and a postdoc by the University of the Arts London (2008). Her artistic research includes proposals in various means and media, including printmaking, painting, artist book and video.