

THIAGO BARBALHO

Kupfer is pleased to present Thiago Barbalho's first solo exhibition in the UK. Barbalho studied philosophy and started his career as a writer, having published short stories, novels and poetry, and founded the independent press Edições Vira-lata. After experiencing what he describes as 'a crisis in relation to the limitations of written language', the artist embraced pictorial language as his preferred means of expression. Working primarily with drawing, Barbalho produces extremely intricate yet unplanned compositions in which a multitude of images, symbols and colour fields merge into each other to create seamless vibrating surfaces. The artist is drawn to the immediacy of the medium both in material terms (as an art form that requires only pen and paper) and as a non-hierarchical and non-regulated space that allows him to articulate disparate references from history, high and low culture, philosophy and daily life in a sort of 'exploded literature' that emerges from fragmented narratives.

Thiago Barbalho (b. 1984, Natal, Brazil. Lives and works in São Paulo, Brazil) earned a degree in Law and Philosophy and holds an MA in Philosophy. As a writer he has published the short story collection *Um homem bom* ('A Good Man', Iluminuras, 2017), the poetry collection *Doritos* (Edições Vira-lata, 2013) and the novel *Thiago Barbalho vai ao fundo do poço* ('Thiago Barbalho Reaches Rock Bottom', Edith, 2012). He is the founder of Vira-lata, an independent press that has published several fanzines in collaboration with visual artists. Recent group shows include *Voyage*, curated by Alexandre da Cunha (Bergamin & Gomide, São Paulo, 2017) and *Rocamboles*, with Flora Rebollo and Yuli Yamagata (Pivô, São Paulo, 2018).



Untitled (Triptych), 2017
Pencil, ballpoint pen and permanent marker, and oil pastel on paper
120 x 225cm

Kupfer

www.kupfer.co
galler@kupfer.co

Arch 213 Ponsford Street
London E9 6JU



Untitled (Triptych), 2017 (Panel 1)

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Untitled (Triptych), 2017 (Panel 2)

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Untitled (Triptych), 2017 (Panel 3)

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Untitled (Triptych II), 2017
Acrylic paint, pencil, ballpoint pen and permanent marker, oil pastel and spray paint on paper
120 x 225cm

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Untitled (Triptych II), 2017 (Panel 3)

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Untitled (Triptych II), 2017 (detail)

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Untitled (Triptych II), 2017 (detail)

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Untitled (from the *Burst* series), 2018
Colour pencil, permanent marker, pencil, ballpoint pen and spray paint
29,7 x 21cm

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Untitled (from the *Burst* series), 2018
Colour pencil, permanent marker, pencil, ballpoint pen and spray paint
29,7 x 21cm

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