



um quotidiano / an everyday

“What speaks to us, seemingly, is always the big event, the untoward, the extra-ordinary (...) How should we take account of, question, describe what happens every day and recurs everyday: the banal, the quotidian, the obvious, the common, the ordinary, the infra-ordinary, the background noise, the habitual?” Georges Perec

“um quotidiano / an everyday” is a participatory mobile photography project, carried out during the artist residency of Cláudio Reis, organized by Porto Lazer, at the arts venue Av. Espaço Montepio, Porto, Portugal, from March 30th to May 7th. We are all photographers this day and age, we all carry along in our pockets a camera camouflaged as a phone. Above all, we all have a unique gaze over things surrounding us. “um quotidiano / an everyday” aims to materialize this gaze, collecting pictures from everybody, assembling a collective wall composed of photographs taken, and shared by the public.

“um quotidiano / an everyday” has gathered 659 pictures, from 123 participants, 29 countries in total. The project is a first practical endeavor of an investigation provisionally entitled “Ubiquitous spectacles: deciphering mobile media photography as an emergent art practice.”

Facing the incommensurable amount of pictures surrounding us, a set of crucial (and complementary) questions rightfully emerges: How is photography evolving in nature regarding its digitally ubiquitous presence? More precisely, how are camera-enabled mobile communication devices mediating and influencing both photographic practice and its exposure? Bridging the gap between high and low art, how can traditional curation strategies be successfully transposed and critically engaged toward the specificities of mobile photography? Furthermore, and following the present day spirit of curatorial democratization, how can the multiplicity of practices within mobile photography be more adequately categorized, displayed and exhibited?

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