Curatorship and content production
Casa Fernando Pessoa

Concept and installation
atelier-do-ver

Scientific consulting
Fernando Cabral Martins

Selection of fragments
Participatory process and Casa Fernando Pessoa

Construction
Ambienti d'Interni

Multimedia
Semente

Podotactile floor
Electrosertec

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(English translation of excerpts from *The Book of Disquiet*)

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Casa Fernando Pessoa
LUGAR DE LITERATURA

EXHIBITION · GAME

GAME OF DIS QUIET

Somewhere in the maze of who I really am

EGEAC

concept and installation **atelier-do-ver**

Game of Disquiet – somewhere in the the maze of who I really am is a temporary exhibition conceived by Casa Fernando Pessoa to mark the 40th anniversary of the first edition of *The Book of Disquiet* by publisher Ática.

The exhibition is composed by three elements: a touchscreen where the context of the book´s writting process is presented; a display case highlighting Ática´s edition – the *princeps* edition; and a table-game board with excerpts from *The Book of Disquiet* that challenges the visitor to read and reorganize the texts

The Book of Disquiet is composed by more than 500 prose excerpts. Fernando Pessoa left them loose and only later the publishers organized them into a volume. This instalation-game couldn´t include the whole work. Thus, we decided to call for the active participation of the readers, suggesting them to select, refering the chosen edition, the excerpts that would be part of the exhibition. An online form collected the participant´s answers and, adding our preferences, we gathered a set of 126 texts, 18 of them transcribed into braille and the remaining 108 were duplicated in portuguese and english.

234 slots are now available: printed snippets in transparent sheets can be combined in a big maze in a constant change as each visitor-reader passes.

The Book of Disquiet is one of the most enigmatic piece of work Fernando Pessoa left unsolved. Play the *Game of Disquiet*.

Casa Fernando Pessoa

Access the exhibition contents

For the last 40 years, *The Book of Disquiet* has been fascinating readers, drawing researchers´s attention and inspiring creators. *The Book* has been the creative starting point of countless artistic expressions. When Casa Fernando Pessoa challenged Atelier-do-ver to conceive an exhibition to mark the 40th anniversary of the first edition of *The Book*, a real disquiet took place. Such prose enriches our imagination with places, landscapes and sensations, that no better images could be drawn than those given by *The Book*. The idea – a game – of creating the shape – a maze – arose from the invisible structure, fragmentary essence of the texts and experience of poetic wandering. A word maze that invites the visitor to find his own way or, simply, to let himself loose in his own *Book of Disquiet*.

atelier-do-ver

As a masterpiece of the modern literature in portuguese language, *The Book of Disquiet, composed by Bernardo Soares, assistant bookkeeper in the city of Lisbon* only finds the right tone and path in 1929, in the beginning of the last stage of Fernando Pessoa´s life. It´s when the the narrator-author Bernardo Soares accomplishes his complete definition. Later, in several passages, *The Book* reveals evident contact points with topics addressed to the heteronym Álvaro de Campos. One thing, though, is clear, the position of Bernardo Soares in the work of Pessoa is in the diametrically opposed pole to the Álvaro de Campos´s. One is related to dream, the other to inebriation. One is apollonian, the other is dionysian. It´s not possible to find such a vivid polarity as in these two characters and, the simple fact of Bernardo Soares embodying the apollonian dream pulse, in a radical opposition to the dionysian Álvaro de Campos, completes, in a way, the architecture of Pessoa´s work.

Fernando Cabral Martins