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When "all was said and done"¹- in the paradigms of the Contemporary Art critique, it seems no longer important to go on trying to engage in difficult concepts...

I just want to return to the basics and explore the *grammar*: that means the freshness of life experience; the abstraction of movements; the gestures, the memory and the time. These *teardrops* are dedicated to my good friend Bartolomeu Cid dos Santos and the Portuguese Sailors who had the courage to travel in great Oceans for new discoveries...

Barto showed me not to be afraid of boundaries, men, life, lies, secrets, truth and, specially, friendship...he showed me that I could trust and that I was able to take care of the importance and treasure of trusting.

Until our last breath there is always a memory that stays in our mind and that is part of our history, it is the reason why we create. Our perception about the world and life is made through a *material* and *visual* world where we find the only way to communicate and feel part of it.

Being Portuguese is also carrying a cultural heritage that has both a long story and deep meaning. These *teardrops* are also dedicated to all the women who lost their man in the Sea and to all the Poets whose poems rest under the stairs...

These *teardrops* are also a celebration of freedom, autonomy, presence, life, emotion and existence...my favorite *grammar* of what is the basic in Modern Art.

Like Theodor W. Adorno wrote "(...) The aesthetic behavior should be defined like the capacity of felling certain quakes, like if it was the skin of the chicken the first aesthetic image".²

Finally I can express my feelings about the world...and I feel a lot of pain, a lot of carelessness about the closest human person, animal, nature...there is a sensation, this feeling of being forgotten. These are moments when people just feel indifferent about death, about love, about nature, about suffering, even about happiness. It seems everyone is losing faith in the near future. Apathy.

"For today I am a child".³

Jyväskylä, 28th February of 2010,

Rita Vargas

1 **BENJAMIN, Walter** (1936); *The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction*, Penguin Books, Great Ideas 56, 2008, pp. 80.

2 (trad. from Portuguese, R.V) **ADORNO, Theodor W** (1970); *Experiência e Criação Artística, Paralipómenos à "Teoria Estética" / Aesthetische Theorie. Paralipomena. Frühe Einleitung* (Original Title), *Arte e Comunicação, Edições 70*, Lisboa, February, 2010, pp.120.

3 **JOHNSONS, Antony and the** (2005); Music Composer, Album: *I am a bird now*; Track N. °4: *For today I am a boy*.