

galeria nara roesler

**frieze london 2019**

raul mourão

booth g21

**october 3–6**

regent's park london uk



cover Raul Mourão, *Gelo [Ice] # 3* [detail], 2018

As a result of almost a decade's worth of research on Rio de Janeiro's buildings' security fences, which physically separate Brazil's people, supposedly protecting some from others – shielding but also jailing, preserving but also fragmenting communities – Raul Mourão developed an investigation into the idea of opposition. In the artist's words, 'We are living in a moment of opposition, of the good versus the bad, the poor versus the rich, the left versus the right - there is no middle ground'. In his work, the artist has found fences, which are so common and so intrinsic to the urban architecture of his hometown, to embody the fundamental aspects of these opposites. The works which will be on view at Frieze are deviations and re-adaptations of these fences, a re-interpretation of contemporary socio-political division, balanced so as to also instigate a contradicting feeling within us. They create a desire to touch and engage with the work, all while triggering an inevitable fear of their fragility.

Raul Mourão chose to show these large, almost monumental sized sculptures next to his smaller works, as a way to scale his *oeuvre*. He believes his large sculptures do not fit into human dimensions, they are not part of our everyday. His small pieces intertwine his work with the mundane – a beer, a glass of water, a brick – those are items that are within the proportions of the everyday, and thus, infusing the ordinary with what he calls the toxic polarization of our era.



***Gelo [Ice] # 3***, 2018  
corten steel  
210 x 180 x 100 cm







**Brick**, 2018  
carbon steel with synthetic resin and bricks  
46 x 50 x 37 cm







***Eu e cidade (to Marcelo)***, 2019  
carbon steel with synthetic resin and glass  
38,5 x 25 x 25 cm







***Seta [Arrow]***, 2018  
corten steel  
280 x 200 x 100 cm











**4 beers (to Guto Lacaz), 2019**  
carbon steel with synthetic resin, glass and wood  
46 x 50 x 25 cm







*Bang Bang #1, 2017*  
digital video and stereo soundtrack  
5'38" loop  
[Click here](#) to watch the video



**Rosa + Laura + Cabelo**, 2019  
carbon steel with synthetic resin and glass  
33 x 35 x 15 cm







***Gelo [Ice] # 8***, 2019  
corten steel  
250 x 250 x 150 cm

*Once I was a cube (to Barrão)*, 2019  
carbon steel with synthetic resin and glass  
55 x 40 x 35 cm









**House**, 2019  
carbon steel with synthetic resin and glass  
42 x 25 x 20 cm



40407  
**Mockups shelf Valendo #1**, 2019  
corten steel  
240 x 146 x 53 cm









**Casco**, 2019  
corten steel and bottle  
38,5 x 50 x 15 cm







***Cachaça, coin and beer***, 2019  
carbon steel with  
synthetic resin, glass, nickel  
19 x 20 x 10 cm





# raul mourão

Born in 1967 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where he lives and works

Inspired by the urban surroundings of Rio de Janeiro, Raul Mourão combines fragments of urban construction and abstract forms in his mobile sculptures, drawings, videos, and performances. Using meticulous, seemingly architectural drawings as his starting point, he creates minimalist abstract sculptures and assemblages that focus on the tension between the raw chaos of the city and its controlled geometry, incorporating metal railings, security systems, fences, and objects reminiscent of trolleys and stalls in his works. Since 2010, the artist has been working on kinetic sculptures comprised of simple geometric forms and structures, made out of modular forms. In many ways, Mourão's most recent production combines the violence implicit in his previous works with a formalist preoccupation with structural balance.

## permanent collections [selected]

- Instituto Itaú Cultural, São Paulo, Brazil
- Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Niterói (MAC-Niterói), Niterói, Brazil
- Museu de Arte do Rio (MAR), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- The Arizona State University (ASU) Art Museum, Tempe, USA

## main recent solo exhibitions and projects

- Museu da República, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2018)
- Plutschow Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland (2017)
- Museu Brasileiro da Escultura e Ecologia (MUBE), São Paulo, Brazil (2016)
- Bronx Museum, New York, USA (2015)

## main recent group exhibitions

- *Alegria – A natureza-morta nas coleções MAM Rio*. Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro (MAM Rio), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2019)
- *Brasil, Beleza?!*, Museum Beelden Aan Zee, The Hague, The Netherlands (2016)
- *Artistas comprometidos? Talvez*, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon, Portugal (2015)
- Vancouver Biennale, International Pavilion, Vancouver, Canada (2014)

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**private view**

thursday, october 3

**public hours**

friday, october 4 – sunday, october 6

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