## Cristiana de Sousa AKA Andorinha Atelierhaus Salzamt Linz, Dezember 2018

## Distance

Talking about the distance could take us for hours and we all know several artists have thought and worked about it.

Distance as a concept may well serve to better understand what proximity is and hence self-knowledge.

When I made my proposal for the artistic residency in Salzamt, I realized once again the necessity of leaving my home town to create more and better. "It is necessary to leave the island to see the island, we do not see each other if we do not leave ourselves," *Saramago* said. And it is this need to get out of myself that brought me to Linz.

It could not have come at a better time, a time when we're supposed to be together with all family and friends, a time when everyone returns to their home to spend their Christmas holidays, and also a time when the notion of "home" starts also to be questioned.

What is really our home? What does it mean?

Often when I call my closest friends, I usually say "I'm on my way home", home? But which "home"? Where is really my home when I truly feel at home in places far away from myself?

There are certain aspects that as an artist and as an enthusiast for other cultures I am constantly looking for, and this need to contact with other artists from other countries also leads to much reflection (sometimes too much).

Just the other day, I had the pleasure of talking to a German artist in Salzamt, who told me that in Germany they often say that we need to be outside the forest to really see the forest, and it is this (almost) universal form of thinking that we take a step forward in the face of self-knowledge.

It is by contacting other cultures that I learn more and more about my own culture and also about environment in which I am inserted.











