

**Press Release**

**Allan Weber at Nottingham Contemporary**

Sun 2 Feb – Sun 4 May 2024



Image credit: Allan Weber, Untitled, from the series Dance Day, 2021. Installation view at Parque Lage, Rio de Janeiro. Tarp on Building. Courtesy the Artist.

Nottingham Contemporary is excited to present the first institutional solo exhibition of Allan Weber. The exhibition will feature existing works, alongside ambitious new site-specific commissions and has been co-curated by Pablo León de la Barra, Curator at Large, Latin America at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and Foundation.

Weber is a multi-disciplinary artist born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (1992), where he currently works and resides. Working across a range of mediums including assemblage, installation, sculpture and photography, Weber's practice acts as a vehicle to deconstruct the realities of daily life within the favelas of Rio de Janeiro.

His work incorporates material and visual elements he views as synonymous with life in the favelas. This includes tarps used at funk parties, common architectural features such as water tanks, razor blades used to create popular hairstyles, as well as elements that relate to the work life of those active in phone app bicycle and motorcycle food delivery. Questioning the traditions and legacy of Brazilian Constructivism, Weber appropriates these elements into compositions that transform their social meaning.

During a month-long residency in Nottingham, Weber has immersed himself in the food delivery network in the city, capturing daily deliveries on discarded 35mm point and shoot cameras and video footage shot by friends. This process of connecting to this community relies on the informal exchanges and associations he has made, furthering Weber's social practice and his interrogation of economic systems and structures. Social negotiations play an important role in Weber's work, and in 2020 he established the Galeria 5 Bocas in Rio de Janeiro. The gallery looks to platform the work of local artists, generate economies for them and inspire young people through encounters with art. The creation of the gallery's own youth football team and art project, Cinco Bocas FC, provides an alternative route out of crime and violence for young people in the neighbourhood. This relationship between art and football as vehicles for social mobility is being explored during Weber's residency in Nottingham.

For more information about Allan Weber and other exhibitions at Nottingham Contemporary, please [visit our website](#).

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#### **Notes to Editors:**

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This exhibition is generously supported by:

The Commissioning Circle: Nissreen Darawish, Carlo Solari and Paula del Sol, Gabriela Galceran, Hamza Serafi

The Allan Weber Exhibition Circle: Galatea, Daniella Raimundo, Erica Roberts

The exhibition is co-curated by Salma Tuqan (Director, Nottingham Contemporary), Pablo León de la Barra (Curator at Large, Latin America at the Salomon R. Guggenheim Museum and Foundation) and Katie Simpson (Curator of Exhibitions, Nottingham Contemporary).

The exhibition is co-commissioned with De La Warr Pavilion (Bexhill-On-Sea) and will open there in June 2025.

Allan Weber's residency in Nottingham was hosted by Primary.

## About Allan Weber

Allan Weber was awarded the Prince Claus Fund SEED Award (2024). His exhibitions include: *Allan Weber: Novo balanço* (Solo, Galatea/Central Galeria/IAB, São Paulo, 2024); *The Disagreement: A Theatre Of Statements* (Group, Neuer Kunstverein Wien, Vienna, 2024); *Funk: um grito de ousadia e liberdade* (Group, Museu de Arte do Rio – MAR, Rio de Janeiro, 2023); *Fazer o moderno, construir o contemporâneo: Rubem Valentim* (Group, Inhotim, Brumadinho, MG, 2023); *Histórias brasileiras* (Group, Museu de Arte de São Paulo – MASP, São Paulo, 2022). His work can be found in public collections such as: Instituto Museu Nacional de Belas Artes (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) and Museu de Arte de São Paulo Assis Chateaubriand - MASP (São Paulo, Brazil).

## About Nottingham Contemporary

Nottingham Contemporary is one of the leading centres of contemporary art in Europe. Since opening in 2009, we have welcomed over 2 million visitors – with free admission for all – to our highly ambitious programme that has featured hundreds of artists and cultural practitioners from across the globe.

Our programme champions international art and artists who invite us to imagine the world in new ways, and empower different perspectives into the most pressing cultural, social, and political questions of today. We support artists at different stages of their careers – from first-time solo shows in the UK to surveys of renowned or overlooked figures – and regularly present significant thematic exhibitions and major artist-curated projects. Nottingham Contemporary was shortlisted for Art Fund Museum of the Year 2019. Nottingham Contemporary is supported using public funding by Arts Council England and regularly funded by Nottingham City Council and through our partnerships with the University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University.

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