Sources and references in the Utopian Work of Bartolomeu Cid dos Santos

António CANAU1

(1) Researcher CIAUD, FA Lisbon University, Departament of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Architecture Faculty, Lisbon University, Lisbon, Portugal.

Abstract

Bartolomeu Cid dos Santos was an artist that found in printmaking a privileged means of expression.

His work took shape by the combination of drawing and the expressive particularities of printmaking, learned and developed at the Slade School of Fine Art, as well as the artist's strong cultural background, being his work sources and references of scholarly nature, mainly based in the areas of literature and cinema.

"I am two" the artist use to say. One that looked inside, and another one that looked outside. The part of his work in which he looked inside, reaches themes of metaphysical character. The part in which he looked outside approached reality, with works of political and and social intervention nature. His work had as recurring themes, Space, Time and Memory.

In the works of metaphysical nature we found thematics of an utopian character that morphologically take the form of pyramids, labyrinths and architectural interior spaces of monumental scale.

In this paper we will discuss the sources and references of the thematics of utopian nature in the work of Bartolomeu Cid dos Santos, trying to be as comprehensive as possible.

Keywords: Bartolomeu, Printmaking, Utopia, Influences, Labyrinths