

May 1, 2008

Luiza Interlenghi
Diretora da Escola de Artes Visuais do Parque Lage
Rua Jardim Botânico, 414
Jardim Botânico
Rio de Janeiro - RJ - Brasil
CEP 22461-000

Alison de Lima Greene
Curator
Contemporary Art &
Special Projects

Dear Professor Interlenghi,

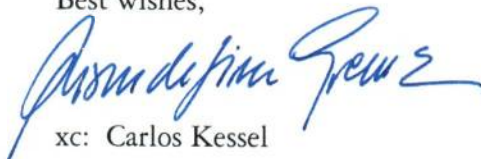
Carlos Kessel at the Ministério das Relações Exteriores, Palácio Itamaraty, recently gave me your name, suggesting that I write to you about a special artists' residency program we host through our school at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. As you can see from the enclosed catalogue, this program has just celebrated its 25th anniversary. Artists have come to us from around the world, and in the past we've had successful exchanges with other schools in Britain, Holland, France, and Argentina. It would be great if we could find a way to open up exchanges with institutions in Brazil as well. Carlos thought that perhaps you might be able to advise us on how best to promote this opportunity.

Knowing that such endeavors take time, I would first encourage artists and art writers to apply to our Core program independently. Ultimately, however, it would be great if we could create an exchange that could also welcome artists from our program to Brazil. We have places for 8 artists each year and we can invite up to 3 critics or art historians. The application procedures are outlined on our website: <http://www.core.mfah.org>.

Unfortunately, the deadline for this year's applications has already passed. But I would appreciate it profoundly if you and your colleagues could help create interest for next year. Typically we are looking for artists and writers who have already completed their master's degrees (or equivalent) and who are able to work independently. And while Spanish is the second language of Houston, I would say that an ability to speak English is essential.

As you may know, the MFAH already has a strong commitment to Latin American art (and in summer 2009 we are hosting a major exhibition dedicated to Cildo Meireles). I think it would be brilliant if we could find a way to extend our reach to younger artists. Please let me know if this seems feasible to you; I can be reached by email at agreene@mfah.org.

Best wishes,



xc: Carlos Kessel