

Matheus Chiaratti (Brazil, 1988)

lives and works between São Paulo and Milan. The artist has a bachelor's degree in Image and Sound from Universidade de São Carlos (UFSCar). His practice takes place in different media and languages: from ceramics and embroidery to writing and painting. Chiaratti's practice departs from obsessive research of literary characters to build a production that accumulates images, unveils stories, maps fragments, "within a repertoire of extravagant forms, still-lifes and banquets where Sandro Penna has a tea with Félix Gonzáles-Torres" as suggested by curator Giulio Verago in the artist's most recent show at Edicola Radetzky, in Milan, 2022. His work has been included in group shows such as *Male Nudes: a saloon from 1800* to 2021, Mendes Wood DM, São Paulo. 2021, Palazzo Monti: Transatlantico, Mana Contemporary, USA, 2020, among others. Recent art residences include Viafarini-in-Residence, Milan. 2021-22, and Pivô, São Paulo, 2020.





PAU LAVRADO, 2022

Quadra, São Paulo, BR [solo] Curated by Ulisses Carrilho

Curiosity is a form of love. Anyone who visits *Pau Lavrado* can explore the artist's desire; to hypothesize as to what moved Chiaratti to return to the Biriqui of his childhood and adolescence, to his past, and to inscribe it in his present. Besides suggesting body and form right from the title of the show, he borrows an erotic element from the name of a rural neighborhood in the city where the artist was born and grew up. It is also the title of a book written by the artist, not yet published: a work that is to come. Exhibition and book, landscape and body part, people and thing, beast and divinity: everything is holy.

One must probe the recesses of his ceramics: these are an insistence by the artist, who, in several of his exhibition

projects, presents different configurations of his experimentation with this artistic language. We find in the flesh of this material a suggestion of the body, presences from his past, and present absences. While I find language and representation on the shell of the thing, I also find that which the artist allows to escape from the scheme of representation or narration, that which he has no pleasure in showing, preferring to suggest or hide in the recesses of a piece. (...)

What fantasies would lie behind the tree trunks, the bushes, the grasses? If we return to the quotes the artist cites from Whitman, Cocteau, Penna or Pasolini, there remains some kind of love.

Ulisses Carrilho





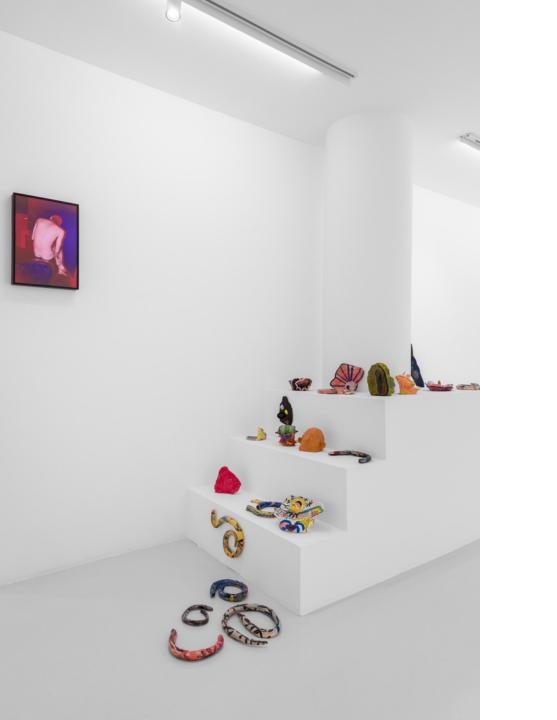


JAMBOLÃO (OS JARDINS DE PAU LAVRADO), 2022 Oil on linen 30 x 25 cm



TAQUARI (OS JARDINS DE PAU LAVRADO), 2022 Oil on linen 30 x 25 cm







COBREIRO, SAPEIRO, FERIDA BRABA / VAMOS POR ESPELHO (ABETARDAS), 2022
Glazed ceramics
Variable dimensions



OS POETAS-EM-FLOR, DO CERRADO (ABETARDA), 2022 Glazed ceramic $20 \times 20 \times 9 \text{ cm}$



VENUS DE CHACARITA (N.), 2013-22 Photography printed on Hahnemühle paper 45 x 30 cm Edition of 5 + 2 AP



NAHUEL EM TELO, 2013-22 Photography printed on Hahnemühle paper 100 x 150 cm Edition of 3 + 1 AP

Vai na Fé, 2022

Museu de Arte Sacra, São Paulo, BR [group show] Curated by Daisy Estrá, Thais Rivitti and Lucas Goulart



FRÊMITO (ABETARDAS), 2022 Glazed ceramics Variable dimensions



FRÊMITO (ABETARDAS), 2022 [Detail]

FORTUNA BALNEARIS. 2022

Edicola Radetzky, Milan, IT [solo show] Curated by Giulio Verago

Fortuna Balnearis. conceived especially for Edicola Radetzky, functions as a kind of "urban room", intimate but exposed to the gazes of passers-by; it is also a space for observation, a fantasy lab, erotic, a theatre of performative actions carried out by the artist in collaboration with the performer Stefano G.

The inaugural performance on Wednesday, 13 July was also performed on successive Wednesdays, always at 7pm: 20 July, 27 July and 3 August.

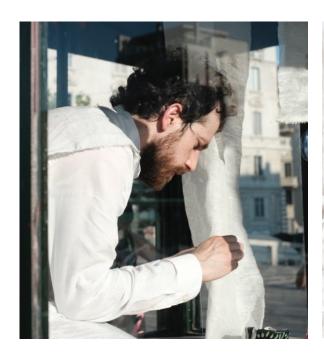
The scenic action is based on the repetition of the ancient gesture of embroidery with references to Penelope waiting for Ulysses; or the tension between the finished and the unfinished, between the desire for presence and the projection

of absence. The scene is completed and enriched by ceramic elements of varying dimensions, some suspended in space, containing small inscriptions (sometimes ironic) on their surface. Besides Penelope, the artist adds to the references the cult of saints and their sometimes hidden symbologies, pointing to queer implications as in the case of Saint Sebastian. In ancient Rome, Fortuna Balnearis was the deity of the public baths; places of relations, theatres of seduction and violence. These apparently disparate references become associated images in a stream of thought and poetry that the artist also distils in his podcast *Pivote* – an ideal sound accompaniment for this project.

Giulio Verago





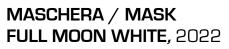












Glazed ceramic 22 x 26 x 5 cm





ABETARDA (PENNA), 2022 Glazed ceramic 13 x 27 x 19 cm









ABETARDA (PALAMEDES / DICES), 2022 Glazed ceramics 6 x 16 x 14 cm





NIGTHS VANITAS, 2022

Artland, Milan, IT [solo pop-up sow]

In the show, there were three round paintings: a still life (Vanitas); a portrait of artist and poet Jean Cocteau (1889-1963), and a large round canvas that looks like a tabletop with elements from an ordinary artist's studio: book pages, scissors, tape, pencil markings, everyday objects in a sort of archeology, which brings a presence and suggest a narrative.

In one of the round paintings, the portrait of Jean Cocteau, an image of a handwritten letter is on a small orange table. The viewers can not read it as the letter is in a hasty, barely decipherable scrawl. The original one is present in the show, though: it is a 1958 letter by Cocteau from the artist collection in which, in a lyric and delicate way, Cocteau underlines: "[A poem] has to be felt – just

like the mysteries of nature which amaze us and which are not made to amaze – but whose real necessity escapes us". Cocteau assumes a spectral, phantasmagoric presence, and his letter seems to guide the viewer in this intricate (even spooky) journey through Chiaratti's works.

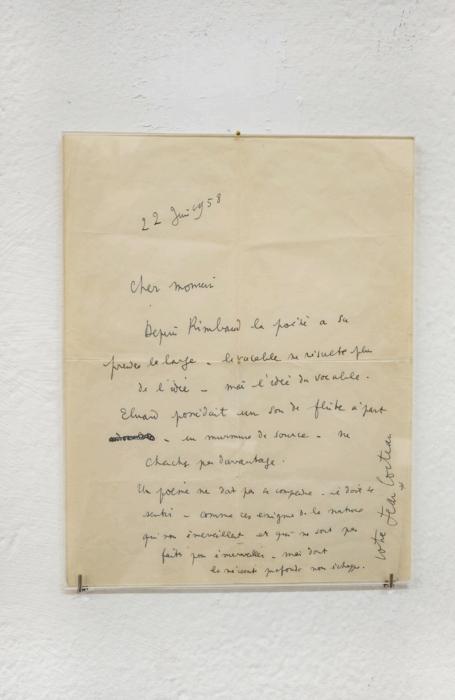




a poet lays out his night upon the table (cocteau), 2022 Acrylic on canvas 80 x 80 cm Dear Sir,

Since Rimbaud, poetry has taken off. The vocable is no more a consequence of the idea, but the idea comes from the vocable. Éluard had his own flute sound – the whisper of a source. Do not go further. A poem must not be understood – it has to be felt – just like the mysteries of nature which amaze us and which are not made to amaze – but whose real necessity escape us.

Yours. Jean Cocteau





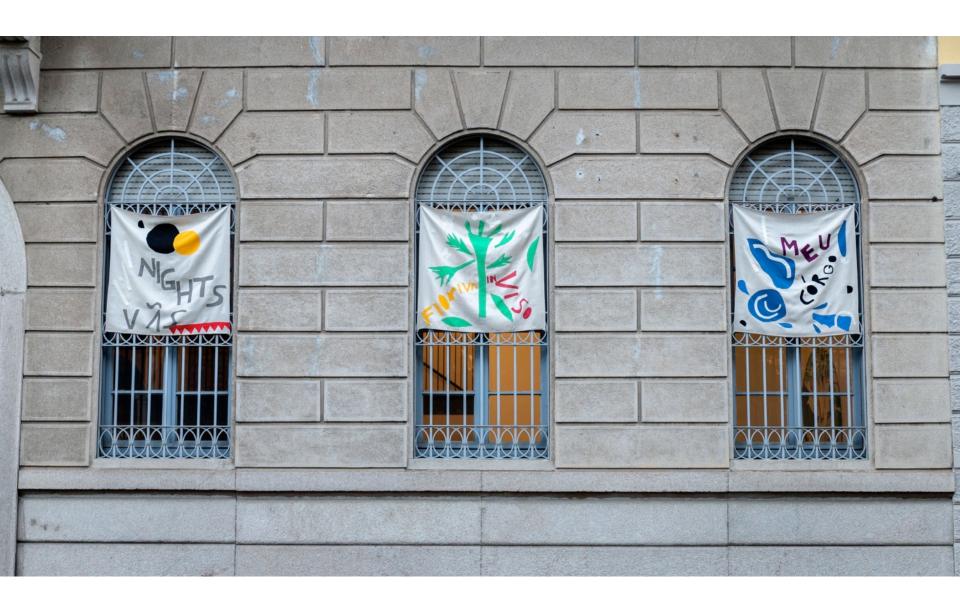












VERTIGO FLAGS, 2022 Cotton and linen 4 pieces | 100 x 100 cm each

ANONYMOUS colpito EROTIC, 2021

Viafarini-in-Residence, Milan, IT [residency]

In *Abetardas* ceramics, the artist mixes figurative and abstract drawings as narrative fragments on the pieces that pretend to be artefacts, erotic objects, and memorabilia.

The largest piece is the bust of the French poet and filmmaker Jean Cocteau, which has, drawn on its back (or inside his head), two characters identified as Raymond Radiguet and Édouard Dermit, central figures in the artist's creative and homo-affective life. The drawings are also accompanied by loose inscriptions such as phrases, years, and symbols, in order to build a small labyrinth with biographical inscriptions that are not always decipherable. In another piece, there is a face drawn next to the phrase "Il sole in faccia"

the title of a book about the life and work of Vincent Van Gogh, another character who also reappears in other ceramic pieces.

The mixture of references suggests a set of vases that borrow from the classical mythological representation on amphorae – a porous world, permeated by imaginations, memories, and anecdotes, dealing with desire, eroticism, classicism, the contemporary, the tragic, and the romantic.







ABETARDAS, 2021, Glazed ceramics, Set of 12 pieces, Variable dimensions







Piece 1: 15 x 22 x 13 cm, Piece 2: 3 x 16 x 10 cm, Piece 3: 17 x 12 x 10 cm





Southern Poet, 2020

Villa Lena Foundation, Palaia, IT [residency]

For my stay at Villa Lena, I invoked the presence of the American gay poet Frank O'Hara (1926-1966).

The readings of his "Lunch Poems" guided me on a private and religious journey. The studio, where natural light came in quietly, reminded me of a small chapel with a central white wall leading the viewer to a kind of unfinished altar.

After placing the paintings, objects, photographs, and sculpture installation, the feeling of calm overwhelmed me.

The object on the floor, piled with stones and fragments, generated a new curiosity. I realized that it simulates a reliquary, containing the presence of a body as an appeal to the state of purest grace and delight. The shirt *O Poeta do Sul* is perhaps the more obvious work because it personifies the poet O'Hara and indicates

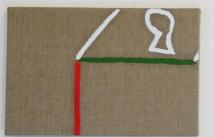
his presence all day in the space.

The paintings and objects on the wall create a constellation around the photograph of the poet. They are abstract forms of consecration: an old jar, a statue outlined only with lines against the raw linen, a colourful and very gestural composition that I called "angel's head". Lastly, they are all fragments that invoke and love a life.























POETA DO SUL, 2020 Acrylic on artist's shirt and marble 155 x 60 x 24,5 cm



LUNCH POEMS, 2020 Soft-ground etching, rolled colour 56 x 40 cm Edition of 30 + 5 AP

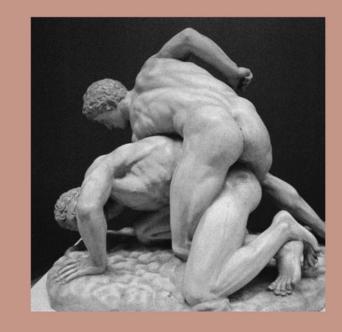
In collaboration with
Il Bisonte printmaking, Florence, Italy

PIVOTE, 2020

Pivô, São Paulo, BR [residency]

For the online residency research process in the first cycle of 2020 at Pivô, I created Pivote, a bi-weekly podcast containing homoerotic poetic writing exercises recorded and edited by me, eventually followed by interviews with writers, curators and Brazilian artists on the theme of eroticism.

The podcast allowed me to join two subjects that have always permeated my process: literature and the eroticism.



SHOW

PIVOTE

PIVOTE, 2020 - on going Audio
Between 5' – 60'

Available online in the link: https://open.spotify.com/show/7lqyvjC4MBpYhtVsNQJLci





Open program at Pivô: a lecture with the poets Fabiana Faleiros, Ricardo Domeneck and Verónica Yattah Available in the link: https://www.matheuschiaratti.com/pivote

Suave Coisa Nenhuma, 2020

OMA galeria, São Paulo, BR [group show] Curated by Thierry Freitas



ABETARDAS, 2019, Acrylic on raw clay, Variable dimensions





Os Coroados, 2019

KURA Arte, Pinga, São Paulo, BR [project]

In order to strengthen ties between the universe of the arts and fashion, Kura developed a project for the concept store Pinga, Dialogues between Art and Fashion, which featured five rounds of exhibitions with artists who transit between different media and techniques. Artists Tobias Putrih, Yuli Yamagata, Gabriella Garcia, Matheus Chiaratti and Anais-Karenin and Alexandre Furcolin, respectively, participated in the editions.

The nostalgic eternalization of classical art history returns here in its already digested state – the narrative suggested by Chiaratti for occupying all the available space of Pinga exists as a constant exercise of memory. Icons of a common imaginary weave a recreated fable, a game of resignifying proceeds as an unfolding of such an experience.

Worn-looking vases receive paintings with vivid colours and, as stickers, the figures either integrate or sometimes detach themselves from the remote temporality of the piece. Following the subtle opposition between support and drawing, the plasticity of the shapes stands out in linen and the portrayal of classic symbols of Greco-Roman culture visit the contemporary and are sharing the same temporal contrast. At the same time, small portraits reflect faces in the store, easily known and unknown characters dwell in an ambiguous sphere, a trigger for the viewer's formulation of this mythology.

Static, idealized, petrified bodies share a unique plan with allegories: the connection to the textile universe takes place in an unconscious of dummies, drapes, prints, and textures that reappear within a borderline context between art and fashion. Thais Teotonio





SKETCHBOOK VII HERA LORE PICASSO'S HEAD, 2019

Acrylic on linen 150 x 130 cm









MORINGA I RIMBAUD CELSO RENATO, 2019 Acrylic on old jar 40 x 30 x 30 cm

Umbigo do Desejo, 2019

Quadra, Rio de Janeiro, BR [solo show]

Failed and fragile loves, veiled desires, memories of bodies, moments and travels, of life in Brazil's interior, its religious adornments, and processions coexist with references from literature, art history, and contemporary art and merge into Matheus Chiaratti's pictorial field.

Umbigo do Desejo, Chiaratti's first solo show in Brazil, brings experiences and reminiscences in the form of encrypted images, of subjective loose constructions, reinventing, between abstraction and figurative, stories into history.

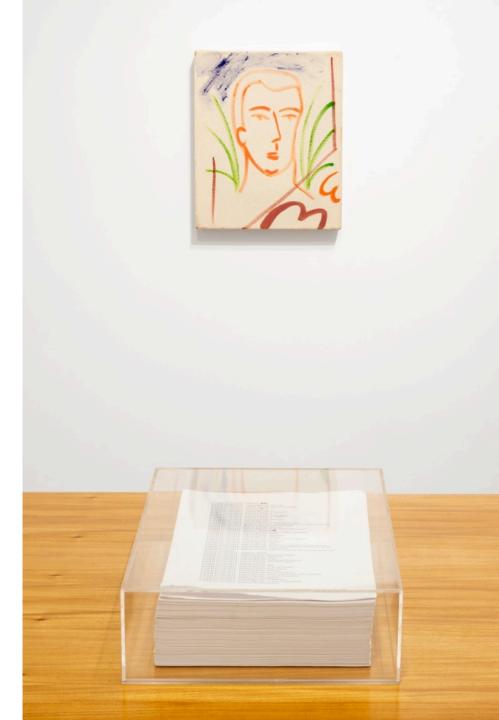
The articulation of elements as a rebus evokes a technical construction, almost cinematographic of the image. The proposition allows the capture and revelation of an essence that goes beyond what the eye can capture. It refers to the concepts developed by Walter Benjamin

regarding photography and cinema, which, not inadvertently were the background and focus of Chiaratti before starting painting.

In Matheus Chiaratti's painting, the intimate memories are treated as secrets and as such, kept with care. As in the parcourse of the artist's artworks, the exhibition is built as a diary and reveals, in an entanglement of forms and symbols, the ambiguity of feelings and situations of intricate and affectionate worlds. In this construction, image and language condense and open, despite the intricacy, a breach where the unspeakable appears. Dialoguing with Freud's dream or Lacan's desire, *Umbigo do Desejo* reveals the artist's fascination for the pulsions, the primitive and the intimate, through texture, color, patterns and voids, invisible zones or keys of the hidden narrative. Julie Dumont



Caixeta, 2015-2019 is a piece composed of more than 600 printed pages of personal WhatsApp conversations with my boyfriend at the time. Both characters are named on every page and share nuanced humor, expectations, declarations, and fights. Essentially, a relationship of just over 6 months is summarised on these bundled pages within an acrylic box available to the viewer. The presentation is on a wooden shelf for the public to read.











CAIXETA, 2015-2019 Ex-boyfriend's printed whatsapp conversation in acrylic box $10 \times 36 \times 27$ cm Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Click to read an excerpt (only in Portuguese): https://issuu.com/chiaratti/docs/trecho caixeta

rivolvita, 2018

Palazzo Monti, Brescia, IT [residency]

During my month-long stay at the Palazzo Monti residency in Brescia, Italy, I focused on readings of the work and biography of the French poet Arthur Rimbaud (1854-1891), with an emphasis on the history of his infamous and tumultuous love affair with the poet Paul Verlaine (1844-1896).

Titled *rivolvita*, the project presented not only poems, paintings, and acrylic, oil, charcoal and pencil drawings in works that freely portrayed characters from Rimbaud's biography, but also invented landscapes from his self-exile in Africa. At the end of the residency, I made a "pilgrimage" to the poet's hometown, Charleville-Mézières, in France.



BRIXIA, 2018 Acrylic on linen 280 x 500 cm

Palazzo Monti façade





Installation view



SKETCHBOOK II RIMBAUD VERLAINE RIVOLVITA, 2018 Acrylic and charcoal on linen 150 x 140 cm



SKETCHBOOK III ILISSOS, 2019 Acrylic and charcoal on linen 150 x 130 cm





SELF-PORTRAIT IN CHARLEVILLE-MÉZIÈRES, 2018, Gelatin silver print, Edition of 3+2 AP

Hotel Esfinge, 2018

arte_passagem, São Paulo, BR [solo]

arte_passagem is the artistic occupation of a display-case at Galeria das Artes, in downtown São Paulo, where an artist is periodically invited to intervene with projects that dialogue with the surroundings of the city center.

For my intervention, I based my research on the poetry of the marginal writers of the 1960s-70s, Roberto Piva (1937-2010) and Claudio Willer (1940), who experienced the city as a triggering device for creation, based on encounters and wanderings in the center, guided, above all, by the Surrealist concept of "Objective Chance."

In this sense, I created a composition that instigated the viewer to walk around the gallery's vicinities and observe symbolic objects hidden from the inattentive passerby such as the Saint Marc's

mythological lion on the corner of 7 de Abril and Bráulio Gomes streets and the statue of Dante Alighieri, at Dom José Gaspar square.

The Sphinx painting, displayed inside the case, not only symbolised this discovery, but also reproduced a mysterious drawing found in the vicinity and replicated in colourful and loose paintings scattered around the city center, which over time were carried away spontaneously to other streets and avenues in the city.

The exhibition opened with a Open Class on the "Objective Chance" with the poet Claudio Willer.

Available online in the link:

https://www.facebook.com/404602946397359/videos/467562563747120/? so =channel_tab& rv = all_videos_card





One of the Sphinx paintings in the streets in República, São Paulo, 2018



ROBERTO PIVA
PIAZZAS, a book of his poems
published by Kairós, 1980.
On its cober is the photograph
of the same statue of Dante
at Praça Dom José Gaspar,
the same place where the drawing
was found.

arte_passagem, São Paulo





Dante with the Sphinx painting Praça Dom José Gaspar arte_passagem, São Paulo



CV

SOLO EXHIBITIONS [selected]

2022 Pau Lavrado, Quadra, São Paulo

2022 Fortuna Balnearis, Edicola Radetzky, Milan

2019 *Umbigo do Desejo*, Quadra, Rio de Janeiro

2018 Hotel Esfinge, arte_passagem, São Paulo

2014 Para espantar fantasmas, Prefeitura de Birigui

GROUP EXHIBITIONS [selected]

2022 *Vai na Fé*, Museu de Arte Sacra, São Paulo

2022 *O Paraíso dos Marrecos*, FONTE, São Paulo

2022 Heat, Quadra, Rio de Janeiro

2021 Male Nudes: a salon from 1800 to 2021,

Mendes Wood DM. São Paulo

2021 Brisa. Quadra, São Paulo

2021 Prossimamente, Bari, Italy

2020 Palazzo Monti: Transatlantico, Mana

Contemporary, New Jersey, USA

2020 Suave coisa nenhuma, OMA Galeria, São

Bernardo do Campo, Brasil

2019 Pazzo Palazzo, Palazzo Monti, Brescia, Italy

2019 Galerie 21, Livorno, Italy

2018 46º Salão de Arte Contemporânea Luiz

Sacilotto, Santo André, Brasil

2018 O Maravilhamento das Coisas.

Galeria Sancovsky, São Paulo

2015 *Uno*. Convoi, Buenos Aires, Argentina

AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES

2021 VIR Viafarini-in-residence, Milan, Italy

2020 Villa Lena Foundation, Palaia, Italy

2020 Pivô, São Paulo, Brasil

2018 Palazzo Monti, Brescia, Italy

2018 46º Salão de Arte Contemporânea Luiz

Sacilotto, Santo André, Acquisition Prize

PUBLICATIONS

2021 *Firmeentão*, Editora Primata, São Paulo

2014 Alma Fuerte, Sta Rosa Editora, Buenos Aires

EDUCATION [selected]

2021-22 Ateliê 397, São Paulo

2020 Contemporary Art Studies. Anna Bella Geiger,

SESC Avenida Paulista, São Paulo

2017-18 Entropic School. Paulo Miyada and Pedro

Franca. Instituto Tomie Ohtake

2016-17, 22, Creative writing workshop with

Marcelino Freire, Centro Cultural b_arco, São Paulo

2016 Curatorial studies. Galciani Neves, José Augusto

Ribeiro, Benjamin Seroussi, Videobrasil

2010 Facultad de Diseño, Arquitectura y Urbanismo,

Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA)

2007-2012 Image and Sound, Universidade Federal de

São Carlos (UFSCar)

