

# Thaís Muniz

Interdisciplinary Artist  
Brazil, 1987

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I am an interdisciplinary artist interested in the territories of identity, belonging, memory, displacement and inwardly love. Through my art practices, I build bridges and open conversations to propose reconnections, change and healing, from an anti-colonial perspective against innumerable mechanisms of collective illness. My work aims to unfold intimate practices of collective learning through community workshops, performances, installations, and urban interventions. I also expand my vision through audio-visuals, collages, celebrations, and sculptural textiles.

My practices are socially engaged and emerge from the need to shatter the status quo when it comes to representation and legacy. I use diverse disciplines to empower identities, based on the re-appropriation of stories, narratives and habits. I also endeavour to connect people through uplifting topics which I consider important. As an interdisciplinary artist from the South-Global (denomination related to the Third World and colonized spaces), I developed a modus-operandi of collaborative work with others towards liberation and decolonization. Participants in my work are largely from other diasporas whose voices I amplify for all audiences; a form of 'Culture in Action' in which the participatory element is key for my practices.

Since 2012, I've been developing a body of work and research about identity in the Afro-Atlantic communities through turbans, headwraps, textiles, and the relationship of non-verbal communications implied through the head. I named this platform Turbante-se – a word I created that means 'Turban Yourself'. I have used this platform as a way to research and share sensitive topics such as identity and self-esteem. Since its foundation, the platform has been empowering Black and Brown communities, not only in Brazil but all over the world, through an array of practices and actions. I connect with others in tactile, accessible and educational ways, both online and offline.

I have been living and working in Dublin (Ireland) since 2014.

## EDUCATION

**Cork Printmakers / Artist-in-residency "In from the Margins"** program by the Creative Europe Co-operative Project. 2022, IRELAND (CORK)

**IMMA at The Dean Art Studios / One of the four IMMA artist-in-residency**  
2022-23, IRELAND (DUBLIN)

**Create and Counterpoints Arts / Autumn School on Cultural Diversity and Collaborative Practice**  
2020, IRELAND (DUBLIN)

**Goethe Institute / Socio-Cultural Entrepreneurship - Creative Economy and Sustainability**  
2013, SALVADOR (BRAZIL)

**Espacio Buenos Aires / Art Direction, Research & Cool Hunting**  
2011, BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA)

**UNIFACS / Fashion Design**  
2007 - 2010, SALVADOR (BRAZIL)

## AWARDS

**2021 Arts Participation Agility Award Round 3**

**2020** Shortlisted for the **Arts Participation Bursary**

**2014 WebNegras Prize:** "One of the 25 Most Influential Black Women in Brazil" - Geledés - Black Women's Institute and website Blogueiras Negras

## PUBLICATIONS

**2020 - Neoquilombos & The Afro-Diaspora** - Essay published at 'Tongues' - a Black Queer Irish publication by Origins Eile in association with Black Pride Ireland

## EXHIBITIONS, PERFORMANCES & WORKSHOPS

**2022 - Place after Pattern after Place** - Glór, ENNIS (IE)

*Artist* | Exhibition at glór from June 24th - August 2nd with textile artist Laura Vaughan to respond to the use of patterns and repetition in fabric designs, and how it can connect us to places

**2022 - Ori Blessigs** - Glór, ENNIS (IE)

*Artist* | Contact Performance at glór on June 25th

**2022 - Reimagine, Remake, Replay** - Ulster Museum, BELFAST (UK)

*Guest Speaker* | Workshop for the participants of program Reimagine, Remake, Replay about art practices and intersectionality and systemic racism

**2022 - Refugee Week** - Trinity College, DUBLIN (IE)

*Guest Speaker* | Talk about Aesthetics & Racialization for Trinity College Dublin Student Union

**2021 - Darling, Don't Turn Your Back On Me** - RHA GALLERY, DUBLIN (IE)

*Performer* | Multidisciplinary piece composed by performance, installation and poem, screened online and followed by Q&A, created in response to Denis Kelly's exhibition *Look, Then Look Again*.

**2021 - Earth Justice** - Latin America Solidarity Centre (LASC), DUBLIN (IE)

*Performer* in collaboration with *Johnny Batizta Quartet* | Performance in the 2021 LASC's festival closure: Defending The Territory, Defending The Earth Online Festival

**PRESENT - 2012 - Turbante-se Project** - Brazil and Europe

*Founder, researcher, designer, art & creative director* | Art project, research platform, and brand focused on history and new meanings of turbans and headwraps in the Afro-Atlantic diaspora. International movement that has been sharing anthropological, artistic, political and practical education for online and offline audiences all over the world.

**2020 - Five Lamps Arts Festival Online** - Five Lamps Arts, DUBLIN (IE)

*Performer & writer* | Performance and spoken words of my poem *Atlantica*

**2020 - Wrap It Up online workshop** - Cruinniú na nÓg & Five Lamps Arts, DUBLIN (IE)

*Workshop facilitator* | Online live workshop teaching kids from 10 to 18 years old techniques on how to use the scarf and how this simple piece of fabric has a huge impact in different cultures.

**2019 - Performance Traffic of Influence**, SÃO PAULO (BR)

*Performer* | Street intervention on crowning ceremony on the Black Mother statue, very representative for Black Community in the city centre of São Paulo

**2019 - 7th Biennial Conference Network AfroEuropeans** - Iscte\_iul, LISBON (PT)

*Guest Speaker, workshop facilitator* | Platform for production of transdisciplinary knowledge and research on racism, Black cultures and identities in Europe, connecting and widen networks between scholars, activists and artists.

**2019 - The Missy Elliott Project** - Dublin Dance Festival, DUBLIN (IE)

*Creative mentor and workshop facilitator* | Live performance and digital exchange project for a group of 15 young women of colour, in a creative immersion, leading workshops and other activities proposed by the creative team of the project of English artist Selina Thompson

**2019 - Atlantica** - Video-poem, text, clothing, photography, analog collage IRELAND, UK, BRAZIL, FRANCE

*Artist* | Multidisciplinary narrative composed by clothing and headwrap collection, writing, visual-poem, photo-series and analog collages, about the Afro-Atlantic diaspora and its mixture of influences. Images: Shai Andrade (motion); Guilherme Malaquias (still); Music: Johnny Batista

**2018 - 2017 - Axé Bahia: The Power Of Art In An Afro-Brazilian Metropolis** - Fowler Museum at UCLA Arts, LOS ANGELES (USA)

*Artist, guest speaker, workshop facilitator* | The most comprehensive exhibition presenting Bahian arts to date in the U.S. and exploring the distinctive cultural role of the city of Salvador, Bahia, an internationally renowned center of Afro-Brazilian culture, and it remains an important hub of African-inspired artistic practices in Latin America.

**2018 - Symposium "Blackness: The Art of Empowerment in Bahia, Brazil"** - Fowler Museum at UCLA Arts, LOS ANGELES (USA)

*Lecturer* | One-day symposium that brought together Bahian arts activists and US-based scholars to examine the ways in which arts practices can serve as potent modes of social critique and cultural resistance.

**2018 - Afro-Brazilian Headwraps Workshop and lecture** - Leimert Park Art Walk - Leimert Park, LOS ANGELES (USA)

*Lecturer and workshop facilitator* | Leimert Park is a neighbourhood in South Los Angeles, historically well known as the centre of African American arts and culture. UCLA Arts organised this workshop with local cultural hub KAOS Network and happened on the street during the monthly event Leimert Park Art Walk.

**2018 - Bettershared Art Summer Show** - Common Thread Centre, LONDON (UK)

*Artist* | Annual group exhibition displaying art, photography and film from creatives of the African and Caribbean diaspora.

**2018 - Our Table** - DUBLIN (IE)

*Art & Creative Director* | Branding, products, merchandising, and pop-up events for asylum seeker awareness in Ireland

**2018 - Afro-Brazilian Headwraps Workshop & Lecture** - SOAS School of Oriental and African Studies, LONDON (UK)

*Lecturer and workshop facilitator* | Event series Feminist Narratives

**2016 - Performance Traffic of Influence**, DUBLIN (IE)

*Performer & intervantor* | Turban intervention on 6 statues in Dublin to re-signifying the personality and tell stories of other characters from Afro-Brazilian culture

**2016 - Afro-Brazilian Headwraps Workshop** - Crosscare Migrant Project - DUBLIN (IE)

*Workshop facilitator* | Group workshop for migrant women in Dublin

**2015 - 2018 - Africa Day** - DUBLIN (IE)

*Performer & Workshop facilitator* | Annual flagship celebration of African cultures where I had my own stall, where I set a small exhibition and made contact performance, connecting with many people and cultures through turbans and head wraps.

**2013 - Contact Performance Rio de Contas** - Rua dos Inventos Art Festival, RIO DE CONTAS (BR)

*Performer & Workshop facilitator* | Three days making headwraps and swapping for the allowance of taking a portrait. Street intervention and workshop for the community of this town that was a self-sustaining community of escaped enslaved people from the Portuguese settlements.

**2012 - Criativos Dissonantes** - Castro Alves Theater, SALVADOR (BR)

*Organiser* | Multidisciplinary immersive program focused on methodologies, techniques and theories on art and design for students made in partnership with independent art curator Diane Lima and researcher Tarcisio Almeida.