

“The Game of Modern Politics!”

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CARTOON AND CARICATURE IN THE 1ST PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC

Divorcio



Separação



UNIÃO

STUART ENVALHAES

“The Game of Modern Politics!” Humorous Drawing and Caricatures in the First Republic

The First Portuguese Republic conveyed an outburst in the practice of social and political humour. The phenomenon was stimulated by the revues, the comedy of manners, but above all by the press and by humorous caricatures, which consequently met up a new impetus.

The political situation of permanent instability and partisan confrontation, amplified by economic crisis, provided the best material for a humorous design with different aesthetic, where the simple and direct trace, sometimes also rude, coexisted with the trait of most avant-garde first manifestations of Artistic Modernism in Portugal. Afonso Costa, Brito Camacho, António José de Almeida, Bernardino Machado, and in the 20s, António Maria da Silva, are obviously the most targeted citizens, due to their role in the “game of modern politics”.

Although most caricaturists were in favour of Republic, the New Regime also brought greater editorial diversity, with the fiercely *antitalassas* publications such as *O Moscardo* and *O Zé* (descendant of *O Xuão*), that coexisted, not always peacefully, with the pro-realist publications, and *O Papagaio Real* and *O Thalassa* are good examples of this.

New titles emerged in newspapers: most ephemeral, others lasting a few more time with promises of free speech proclaimed by the Republicans. With them, a new generation of designers and cartoonists who have uncovered themselves in comic papers which mainly appeared in Lisbon and Oporto have come into sight too, such as Almada Negreiros, Jorge Barradas, Emérico Nunes, Stuart Carvalhais, Bernardo Marques, Cristiano Cruz, Correia Dias, Luís Filipe, Sanches de Castro, Rocha Vieira, Alfredo Cândido, among others. They form the *Portuguese Humorists Group* (1911), and have exposed their works in salons in the capital, in 1912, 1913 and, later, in 1920. In Oporto, this is also powered by *Humorists and Modernists Halls* (1915), *Fantastas* (1916), or simply by *Modernists* (1916 and 1919).

The exhibition presented here is an excellent opportunity, throughout humorous drawing and the political and social caricatures published in print by the major Portuguese “humorists” of the time, immerse forth in “The Modern Game of Politics!” of the First Portuguese Republic, and, therefore, learn about the virtues and the defects of the New Regime.

Again, recourse is solely and exclusively due to the important municipal collections, showing up even a few original pieces of Hemeroteca Municipal de Lisboa and from Bordalo Pinheiro Museum. Thus, Lisbon City Council shows the residents their rich heritage, by making it public and by promoting it for a wider audience, not just for researchers.



5—O chefe do Estado, o presidente de ministros e os expositores, no dia da inauguração do certamen

Humorists Exhibition has opened in the Literary Guild

The hall humorists has opened in the Literary Guild, three rooms that lie to a large balcony where one can rest unwind in the middle of the visit, because the clustering of works is huge and the visitor may become tired due to the half light of the rooms.

Along with cartoonists, known for their works in newspaper as Manuel Gustavo, Francisco Valencia, Alfredo Joaquim Guerreiro and Candido, there are others who appear to show the trends for various genres, some even for specialties such as Mr. Menezes Ferreira, dealing gracefully with military matters and such as Mr. Jorge Barradas, still very young, who, by attributing figures a little national appearance, shows, however, humour through the light colours and execution. Santos Silva (Alonso) presents two original cartoons and caricatures and Candido Silva portraits charges of men in sport.

In this exhibition there are some caricatures in clay, Mr. Nunes Ribeiro, which represent interesting men in streets, as well as some statues from Mr. Faria e Maya, which Shoe line and art.

Other exhibitors like Messrs. Emeric Nunes, Cristiano Cruz, Almada Negreiros, Sanches de Castro and Hugo Sarmiento have original works and it is also worth mentioning some of the caricatures of artists signed by Amarelhe.

In: Ilustração Portuguesa. Lisboa, no. 326 (20 June 1912), p. 647-648.



About Humorism

At first, humour did not exist (...). One day - today - Art has come at last to a forthright simplicity. It has undressed all the false trappings that centuries had gone by superimposing on their gorgeous nakedness and it does not seek to deceive with big

gestures any more, but with convincing reasoning. It has reduced life to clear and positive equations, and when Art, solemn professed by priests and scholars, reached this goal, it has found, waiting quietly and looking with a smile, Humour. Humour that had always been considered as an irreverent lad was revealed to be the one who had always led the torch of truth, which many had taken by a carnival lantern.

* * *

(...) No. Humorists no longer want to be *good humorists*. It would belittle the scope of the art they profess and that at the present time is sure to squash the other one - the Great Art - or, at least bring it to inferior and subordinates proportions (...) That who, by using the pen, the brush or the pencil fights against noble customs, autonomously of race prejudices, individual vices, or secular traditions of *snobbery*, will be called a *morista*. (...)



Humorists have established themselves over time to the spirit of intelligent assemblies. They have this more merit. (...) They opened the door that separates, in the wonderful lines of Anthero (de Quental), the twin sisters, who live, without having ever being seen, in every human heart, and today a true humorist is the one whose work makes you smile or laugh at first look but also makes you think in the next instant (...).

(...) The art of a true humorist should be originated from analysis and finalised in synthesis. From the case it observes, it should always come to a conclusion and all the processes involved should exist to highlight this conclusion - which must be plain and clear. Among us, my friends, who ask me for a preface to your book, I feel - but do not know who to write - the public that you address to, is more than any other, of good faith. It does not deserve to be deceived. (...)

André BRUN - "A Propósito de Humorismo", in Salão dos Humoristas Portugueses, Catálogo da Segunda Exposição de Caricaturas, Lisboa, 1913, pp. 7-10.

The 3rd exhibition of the portuguese humorists group

In the hall of S. Carlos Theatre it was recently inaugurated the 3rd Exhibition of the Portuguese Humorists Group. Portuguese and Spanish are competing and the public has an opportunity of admiring hundreds of curious and well worthy of consideration works.

Our Spanish neighbours in competition are: Lorenzo Aguirre, Pedro Antequera Aspiri, António Barbero Bartolozzi, Bujados, Hoyo d' Hoy, Echéa, Juan José, K-Hito (Ricardo Garcia), Larraga, Manchon, Ochoa, Rubio, Tito (Exoristo Salmerou) and Vazques Diaz. Ours are the following names: Armando de Basto, Stuart de Carvalhaes, Castañé, Emerico Nunes, Xavier Rebelo, Antonio Soares, Ruy Vaz, Ernesto do Canto, Norberto Correia, Arnaldo Ressano, Balha e Melo, Jorge Barradas, Blatte, Leal da Camara, Alfredo Candido, Francisco de Castro, Hipolito Colomb, Cristiano Cruz, Rocha Espanca, Albert Jourdain, Loureiro Marques, Menezes Fer-

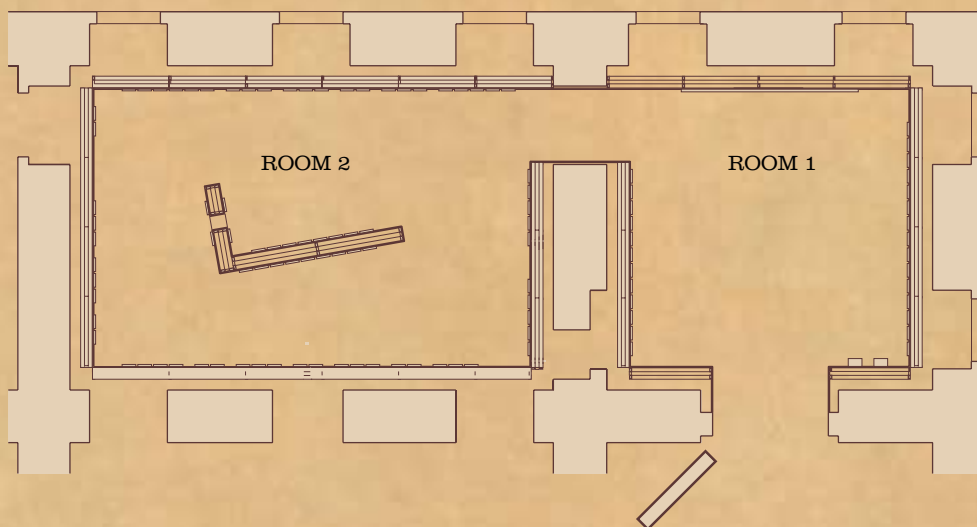
reira, Ramos Ribeiro, Rocha Vieira, Sanches de Castro, Jimmy Savin, Teles Machado and the sculptor Viriato Silva. Generously concurred, this exhibition is in all respects quite original and curious.

In: Ilustração Portuguesa. Lisboa, no. 752 (19 July 1920), p. 41-42.



Da direita para a esquerda, sentados: Emerico Nunes, presidente da comissão organizadora; ministro da "Espanha", D. Alexandre Padilla e conde de Espanha, D. José de Cuba. De pé: Sanches de Castro, Stuart Carvalhaes, Teles Machado, Menezes Ferreira, Castañé, Barradas, Cocha e António Soares.

Exhibition Plan, Lisbon Town Hall Exhibition Gallery, Praça do Município, Lisbon



ROOM 1
Humorists
Main Actors
Periodicals

ROOM 2
Old Portuguese Republic (1910-1917)
New Portuguese Republic (1917-1918)
New Old Portuguese Republic (1918-1926)
"Lisbon Life"
"Good Mores"
"Look how different you are!..."
"Liberty, Equality... and lots of Fraternity!..."

EXHIBITION CREDITS

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— Todos te procuram, todos te querem, oh! Republica...
— Tenho a bolsa cheia, e uso o COLD-CRÈME ALBERT SIMON
— E's rica e bella! Tambem eu já fui assim.

PRIMEIRO DE DEZEMBRO



--Ora vamos a ver se d'esta vez fico restaurado definitivamente!