



## Alida Rodrigues: *Anthologia*

Open Studio & Residency: 2 – 18 October 2014

Preview: 2 October, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Workshop: 11 October, 3-4.30 pm

In Conversation: 18 October, 3-4.40 pm

Iniva (Institute of International  
Visual Arts), Rivington Place,  
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Iniva is delighted to announce an artist residency and open studio as part of its **Emerging Practices Programme**, taking place in Iniva's **Education Space** at **Rivington Place** throughout the autumn.

**Alida Rodrigues**, born in **Angola** in **1983** and based in **London**, will be showing and developing work in the **Education Space** from **2nd until 18th of October**. Iniva is providing Rodrigues with an open studio to enable a dialogue with visitors and provide an opportunity for her to experiment with her practice. During this time, the public are invited to view both an existing and a developing body of work within the space.

As part of the residency the artist will take part in two public events; a public **workshop** on working with collage and process on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October** and an **In Conversation** with the artist and ethnobotanist and visual anthropologist Dr Ricardo Leizaola on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October** which will end the show.

"*Trees and plants always look like the people they live with, somehow.*" Zora Neale Hurston. A quote which has informed Rodrigues' latest body of work, *The Secret History of Plants. Anthologia*, curated by Iniva, is a selection of collages that takes inspiration from botanical etchings and 19<sup>th</sup> century portraiture.



Each work consists of a found black-and-white photographs from the 19th century. These were original 'postcards'; self-portraits of individuals, couples and families sent to their loved ones as mementoes and communiqués. The faces of some of these anonymous subjects are obscured by botanical illustrations, and named after a plant genus. Playing with tropes of identity, traditional hand-painted photography, history and collage, the artist performs the role of a botanist, painstakingly crafting, cataloguing and naming the specimens in her collection.

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For further information and images please contact: **Priscilla Granozio**  
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#### Notes to Editor

##### Artist Statement

I'm currently making collages using found postcards of women, children and at times couples from the 1800s. The images are then combined with botanical illustrations to become anonymous plant-like creatures, taking away the charm and delicacy of each image. I am particularly interested in exploring the hand-made by examining the relationships between the face, collage, botanical illustration, photography, and print. I believe the combination of these approaches allows for a sense of mystery. The main source of inspiration has been rooted in the changing nature of identity; associating a portrait with a longing for perfection, and searching behind the mask of the subjects. Furthermore I am interested in the historical position of the postcards, as a relic of the colonial period. By transforming the portraits with plant elements, I interfere and disrupt the narrative of the image, and its associated histories.

##### Limited Edition – *Banksia*

A new limited edition print by Alida Rodrigues produced in collaboration with Iniva to accompany her residency and exhibition *Anthologia*. This small, affordable edition of 30 giclée digital prints, printed on 100% cotton rich German Etch paper has been created from one of Rodrigues iconic black and white portrait photographs. Price: £60. [www.iniva.org/shop](http://www.iniva.org/shop)

##### Artist CV

Alida Rodrigues was born in 1983, in Cabinda, Angola, and lives and works in London. She graduated with a BA in Fine Art, at The Slade School of Fine Art, University College, London, in 2007. In 2014 she had her first solo show at the Trondheim Kunstmuseum, Trondheim, in Norway and a group show at the Interchange Junctions, London, UK.

##### Image Captions

*Left:* Alida Rodrigues, *Callitriche verna*, 2013, Collage, Courtesy of the artist  
*Right:* Alida Rodrigues, *Lilium heldreichii*, 2012, Collage, Courtesy of the artist

##### Exhibition listings Information

Exhibition/Open Studio: **Alida Rodrigues, *Anthologia***

Preview: 2 October 2014, 6:30 – 8:30pm

Dates: 2 October – 18 October 2014

Public Workshop: 11 October, 3pm

In Conversation: 18 October, 3pm

Venue: Education Space, Iniva, Rivington Place, London, EC2A 3BA

Opening hours: Tuesday- Saturday: 11am – 6pm

Admission: free

[www.iniva.org](http://www.iniva.org)

Tubes: Old Street/Liverpool Street/Shoreditch High St. Rivington Place is fully accessible, for parking & wheelchair facilities call +44 (0)20 7749 1240

##### About Iniva

Iniva (Institute of International Visual Arts) works at the intersection of society and politics. It engages with new ideas and emerging debates in the contemporary visual arts, reflecting in particular the diversity of contemporary society. Iniva is supported by Arts Council England.

##### About Rivington Place

Opened in 2007, Rivington Place is home to Iniva and Autograph ABP. Designed by architect David Adjaye OBE, this award winning building is dedicated to the display, debate and reflection of global diversity issues in the contemporary visual arts.