PORTO OF SILENCES

Porto, the city where I was born and have lived most of my life, could not but have left an indelible mark on my way of seeing and being.

A peculiar landscape for its atmospheres of ethereal light, of enshrouding mists, of strong granite massifs, and harsh material, in a continuous relation with a river which refuses to be "oppressed by its banks". Porto is unique!

For 45 years, I have been painting landscapes with which I enter into dialogue. Today, they are almost just memories of places. The rest are methodical constructions, stripped of the superfluous, where the geometry results from the way of seeing and the mode of constructing.

Porto of Silences, because for me, silence is also an essential condition of contemplation. In my work, I seek to oppose the noise that surrounds us arising from the mediatisation of information, the formal spectacle of exaggeration, the ephemeral consumerism of the world today. I keep silence to hear the music, even the music made of silences.

The void is as important as the form. This Porto is, thus, a port of shelter which allows us to dream the city through the essentiality of things.

Abreu Pessegueiro. October 2012