



PROPOSAL FOR THE PERMANENT INSTALLATION OF THE SOLAR PANELS
INSTALLED AT THE FUNDAÇÃO BIENAL DE SÃO PAULO PAVILION
FOR THE TRAMA PROJECT - 33A SÃO PAULO BIENNIAL

To the Fundação Bienal de São Paulo,

Between July and August 2018 we installed six solar panels in the Fundação Bienal de São Paulo building. The six solar panels are to be found in the roof of the pavilion and the system for control and inversion at elevator hall in the second floor, where the TRAMA installation is temporarily installed. This system is designed to provide enough energy for an Ethereum miner — a blockchain based crypto coin, similar to Bitcoin — which will be functioning throughout the exhibition period. As these three months come to an end, the resources generated through the system, solar panels + crypto miner, will be used for the production of an event in another artspace yet to be defined.

One of the goals of this collaboration is to channel certain resources that the biennial has into another productive diagram, a sustainable and alternative diagram, from an ecologic as well as economic perspective. It is also a kind of political and infrastructural imagination, in the sense of thinking alternative ways for the usual means of generating, managing and distributing that we are so used to within the art world. A practical experiment, a starting point, which investigates the way in which new technologies may offer alternatives when associated with economic and social questions.

In moments of economic crises a suspicion is cast upon cultural institutions. As if the production of cultural events, or in certain situations the very operation of entities geared towards the making of these events, were a cost too big for the society to bear. In these moments, even the content of the events fall under attack. What these situation clarify, beyond the narrative and ideological disputes, is the precarity of the cultural sector, from the lack of resources, which can be seen as a generalized problem, but also for the ease with which the little resources that are available are funneled away, threaten or simply taken away, business as usual, public or private, in spite of its social relevance.

We would like to propose that the Fundação Bienal de São Paulo would keep the solar panels installed after this years edition of the biennial as a permanent means of producing electrical energy for their own use. The installation offers a new dimension to the way the institution is able to produce and manage their resources and spatial assets previously unused. We believe that the project can be perceived as a kind of prototype for a future expansion of the solar system, transforming the 12.500m² of its roof in potential energy. We are willing to share and work on a strategic study of this solar system + miner prototype to warrant the possibility of reproducing it on a bigger scale.

Art as infrastructural change.

Best regards,
Luiza Crosman e Pedro Moraes
