

MASP PRESENTS VIDEO INSTALLATION ON POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND MEMORY

Based on the skull of an unidentified victim, artist Maya Watanabe addresses deaths caused by internal conflicts in Peru and the relationship between social inequality and ecology.



Maya Watanabe, *Bullet*, single-channel video installation, 2021 (video frame)

December 5, 2025 to January 25, 2026

From December 5 to January 25, the **Museu de Arte de São Paulo Assis Chateaubriand (MASP)** will present ***Video Room: Maya Watanabe***. Curated by **Glauceia Helena de Britto**, an assistant curator at MASP, the exhibition features the video installation *Bullet* (2021) by Peruvian artist **Maya Watanabe** (Lima, 1983). The work, which is unprecedented in Brazil, focuses on the remains of an unidentified victim of the internal armed conflicts that ravaged Peru between 1980 and 2000. This violent period left deep marks on the country's history and resulted in nearly 70,000 deaths.

In *Bullet*, the camera travels through a human skull via a fracture caused by a bullet from a revolver, revealing an interior that resembles a rocky landscape with craters of various sizes

and bone reefs. A spider fills this environment with its web, signaling the passage of time and the government's neglect of the investigation into these deaths.

"Maya Watanabe's work denounces arbitrary executions and the impunity that continues to prevail. In this context, the spider web is a concrete symbol of the relationship between society and the environment. *Bullet* addresses the forces that permeate people's lives, whether natural or social," says Glauce Britto.

The exhibition considers ecology as more than just an environmental issue. It also explores ecology as a field involving power relations, inequalities, state violence, and historical memory. The exhibition shows how conflicts spanning generations mark landscapes, bodies, and territories.

The ten-minute single-channel video installation was produced by the BBVA Foundation – Bilbao Fine Arts Museum, through the MULTIVERSO program, with the support of the Mondriaan Fonds and MOT – Tokyo Museum of Contemporary Art.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Maya Watanabe (Lima, Peru, 1983) currently lives in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She creates video installations that explore the limits of representation, especially in contexts of political violence. She investigates the intersection between personal and collective memory. Her work has been presented at institutions, biennials, and festivals such as Manifesta, Videobrasil, the Havana Biennial, the Asian Art Biennial, and the Beijing Biennial. Watanabe is a professor at the Gerrit Rietveld Academie in Amsterdam and a doctoral researcher in the Visual Cultures department at Goldsmiths, University of London.

Video Room: Maya Watanabe is part of MASP's annual program dedicated to *Histories of Ecology*. This year's program also includes exhibitions by André Taniki Yanomami, Clarissa Tossin, Claude Monet, Frans Krajcberg, Abel Rodríguez, Hulda Guzmán, Minerva Cuevas, and the collective Mulheres Atingidas por Barragens (Women Affected by Dams).

ACCESSIBILITY

All of MASP's temporary exhibitions have accessibility features and offer free admission to people with disabilities and their companions. Descriptive tours and tours in Brazilian Sign Language (Libras) are available upon request via email at acessibilidade@masp.org.br. There are also texts and captions in large print, as well as audio-described audiovisual content with subtitles and Libras interpretation. These materials are available on the museum's website and YouTube channel. They can be used by people with or without disabilities, school groups, teachers, illiterate individuals, and anyone else who is interested, whether they are visiting spontaneously or with MASP staff.

PRODUCTION

Video Room: *Maya Watanabe* is produced under Brazil's Federal Culture Incentive Law.

SERVICE

Video Room: *Maya Watanabe*

December 5, 2025 — January 25, 2026

Curator: Glauceia Helena de Britto, assistant curator, MASP

Lina Bo Bardi Building, Lina Gallery -2

MASP — São Paulo Museum of Art Assis Chateaubriand

Avenida Paulista, 1578 – Bela Vista, São Paulo, SP 01310-200

Phone: (11) 3149-5959

Hours: Tuesdays free, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. (admission until 7 p.m.); Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (last admission at 5pm); Friday from 10am to 9pm (free admission from 6pm to 8:30pm); Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 6pm (last admission at 5pm); closed on Mondays.

Online booking required at masp.org.br/ingressos

Tickets: R\$ 75 (full price); R\$ 37 (students with ID)

[Site oficial](#)

[Facebook](#)

[X \(ex-Twitter\)](#)

[Instagram](#)

PRESS INQUIRIES

imprensa@masp.org.br