

O ARCO-ÍRIS DA TERRA MARLENE ALMEIDA

Marlene fights against the homogenization of the landscape, using the pigments-songs of the earth and the vegetal resins-tears, as an artistic and ideological barrier, fighting with her own hands, working the earth, purifying the pigments and resins, in a gesture of affection and freedom.

Her character as a researcher, as a promoter of the riches of the land, allowing many others to discover and enjoy her work - sharing handfuls of earth-pigment on square meters of canvas - means that Marlene is practicing a kind of land reform, which all of us, not just rural people, need so much. We need it not for an idyllic and often irrational return to nature, but for the desire, the search for an identity with GEA, the mother-earth goddess.

Loose translation of *O Arco-íris Da Terra: Marlene Almeida*, Mário Schenberg, 1986