

# Filling

Alongside the initiatives of MUPA's Educational Division, this space showcases the work of two artists: Juca Fiis and Paolo Ridolfi.

In *Archive of archive: invisible beings, fantastic species*, Juca Fiis invites children – through audiovisual workshops held at the museum – to co-create an experimental film. The finished piece then becomes a dual filling: the museum is filled by the children's presence, and the collection's works are filled with new meaning through the stories the children imagine. Screened in the MUPA – Community – Culture – Relations gallery, the result asks us to consider: how do children perceive, reinvent, and archive the museum's archive?

Ridolfi's *Empty Paintings*, also part of the Museu Paranaense collection, extend the ideas of "filling" and "invisibility." In the series, plastic packages and wrappers encapsulate air, which then becomes the very body and structure of these three-dimensional objects. What was once invisible now occupies space, defined by shape, boundary, weight, texture, and color. In doing so, these works render visible what is unseen, imagined, intangible, or immaterial – whether a projected video or even the air itself.

Now, we invite you to let this "emptiness" fill you, to billow with air, and to open yourself to all the possibilities that imagination can create.

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## *Empty Glass*

It's always good to remember  
That an empty glass  
Is full of air.

*Chico Buarque e Gilberto Gil*

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## **Archive of archive: invisible beings, fantastic species**

Juca Fiis and MUPA Educational Division

How do children speak of a museum? How do they perceive it? And how many of their daydreams can be woven into the collection's narratives?

The project *Archive of archive: invisible beings, fantastic species* involves writing stories, tales, and scripts – and developing a moving-image piece – that will serve the public, the children, and the MUPA archive. Blending historical content, workshops, exhibits, and artworks with the playful outlook of children can become a powerful tool to deconstruct and reconstruct ideas, narratives, and ways of thinking about the museum.

This collaboratively built project unfolds over a series of green-screen video-making workshops held over a two-day period, with the goal of producing a collection of experimental short films. The workshops' methodology and the guided visits draw upon the practices of MUPA's Educational Division.

Characters and themes for our films are discovered both inside the exhibitions, archives, and collection – and outdoors, for example, in the garden. Through the creation of “archive-cards,” the museum's content is introduced to the children, who then select their characters, contexts, and settings to develop stories using their own personalized archives.

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## **Empty Paintings**

*Paolo Ridolfi*

*Empty Paintings* is a series of 19 works created by Paraná-born artist Paolo Ridolfi between 2013 and 2014. Donated by the artist himself, the series joined MUPA holdings in 2022. Now, for the first time, part of it is presented for public interaction in the *MUPA – Community – Culture – Relations* project.

Using canvas, plastic, and acrylic paint, Ridolfi sets out to expand painting—the traditional language of the visual arts—into three-dimensional space. In

doing so, the concept of “space” becomes as vital as color and form, the very categories at the heart of painting.

You can experience painting as an enclosing shell, as in the work consisting of nine multicolored rectangular prisms; or painting as encapsulated form, as seen in the performance *Painting the Void* by Ridolfi and Cris Agostinho, documented on video and screened in this gallery.

In these “empty paintings,” air transforms the void into material of structure, filling, and openness to possibility: each painted-object contains layers, textures, colors, weight, and depth—and is given meaning by the gaze of the viewer who brings it to life.