

monade



## ELECTRA 25

Dossier / Lies

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‘We have never lied as much as today. Nor have we ever done it so blatantly, systematically and constantly.’ These words were written by Russian-born French philosopher **Alexandre Koyré** during the Second World War, a statement that takes on a new and unexpected relevance in our time. The history of humanity is inseparable from the history of lies, recording its forms and metamorphoses through the centuries and

according to the paradigms of each era and its social, economic, cultural and religious practices. ‘Lies’ is the subject of the Electra #25 central dossier, a theme that is both universal and contemporary, in an issue that includes contributions on politics, art and images, the post-truth media regime and fake news, the stages of phylogenetic natural history, and the hegemony of technology. On ‘Lies’ we find texts by **Martin Jay, Bárbara Reis, Daisy Dixon, Myriam Revault d’Allonnes, Peter Hill,** and **António Bracinha Vieira.**

For the centenary of **Franz Kafka's** death, this issue features three articles on the Czech writer: one by **Gianluca Cuzzo** on representations of bureaucracy and the exercise of power; another by **António Guerreiro** focusing on biographical issues; and finally, an article by **Jacques Le Rider** on Kafka's bilingual condition, his relationship with the German and Czech languages, and the historical and linguistic context of Prague.

**Simon Critchley,** one of the most prolific and popular philosophers of recent decades, speaks to Electra about some of the themes that have guided his work, from the place of philosophy in contemporary society to the disillusionment with liberal democracy, from the cultural importance of football to the challenge of autobiographical writing.

This issue's portfolio presents a new series of photographs by **João Penalva,** an artist widely recognised for his work that crosses video, installation, photography, music, performance, text, and image.

The ‘Figure’ of this issue is **Anabela Becho,** fashion historian, curator and researcher, who shows us how the great American painter **Georgia O’Keeffe** turned the way she dressed her body into an affirmation of herself, both as a woman and a modern artist. In a new section of Electra entitled ‘Noah's Ark’, Italian sociologist **Vania Baldi** questions the limitless belief in AI and the ethical neglect towards new Artificial Intelligence systems.

Also in this issue, journalist **Alexandra Prado Coelho** and semiotics professor **Gianfranco Marrone** comment on a provocative statement by the famous and feared Spanish gastronomic critic **Rafael García Santos;** **Marta G. Franco** tells us about Holy Week in Seville; art critic **José Marmeleira** writes about a recent book by **Hal Foster,** one of North America’s best known art critics and historians; and **António Guerreiro** reflects on the word ‘Commentator’.



## Texts by

**Alexandre Koyré**  
**Martin Jay**  
**Bárbara Reis**  
**Daisy Dixon**  
**Myriam Revault d'Allonnes**  
**Peter Hill**  
**António Bracinha Vieira**  
**Gianluca Cuozzo**  
**António Guerreiro**  
**Jacques Le Rider**  
**Simon Critchley**  
**João Penalva**  
**Anabela Becho**  
**Vania Baldi**  
**Alexandra Prado Coelho**  
**Gianfranco Marrone**  
**Rafael García Santos**  
**Marta G. Franco**  
**José Marmeleira**

**“In the First Person”**

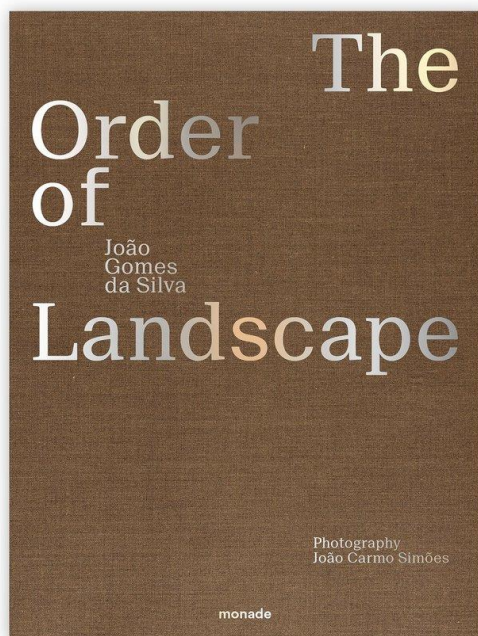
**Simon Critchley**

**“Figure”**

**Georgia O’Keeffe**

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## Highlights



[The Order of Landscape / Special Edition](#)

**Special Edition, Signed and numbered  
Linen cover**

The Order of Landscape presents a powerful insight into the work of a forefront figure in contemporary landscape architecture, João Gomes da Silva. Through an extensive duotone photo essay by João Carmo Simões, a collection of texts and a set of plans, the book unveils this seminal body of work.

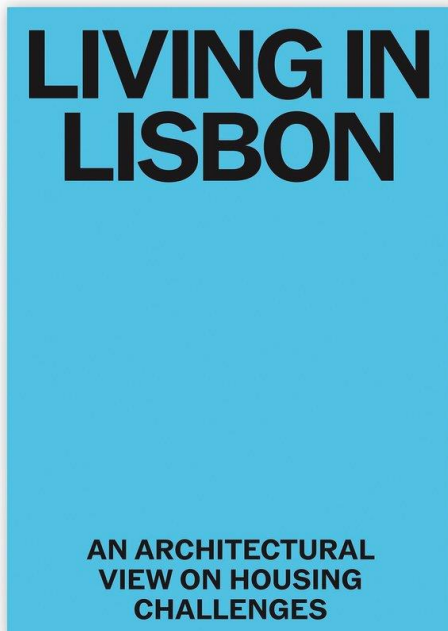
[Order](#)



### [FEP / Viana de Lima](#)

A groundbreaking work of modernity in Porto, the FEP faculty building is a hidden architectural masterpiece, designed by Alfredo Viana de Lima in the 1960s. Through photographs especially taken by João Carmo Simões and edited drawings, this book shows why the project has been, a silent reference for generations of Portuguese architects.

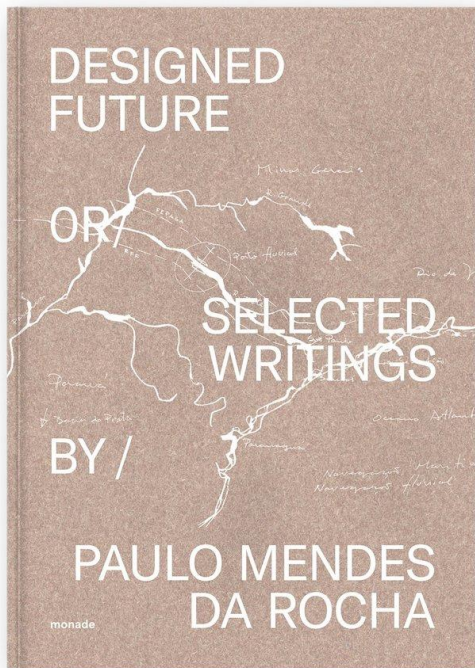
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### [Living in Lisbon](#)

Lisbon is being ravaged by an unprecedented housing crisis. The exponential increase of prices, the combined outcome of the financialisation of housing and the lack of continued investment of public policies, means that every Portuguese person is, or knows someone who is, affected by the crisis. There is a restless public debate, but little has been told about the buildings that will give shape to the political strategies that are being conceived and implemented. Which city do we wish to build to face the problem? What can be the role of architecture in this context?

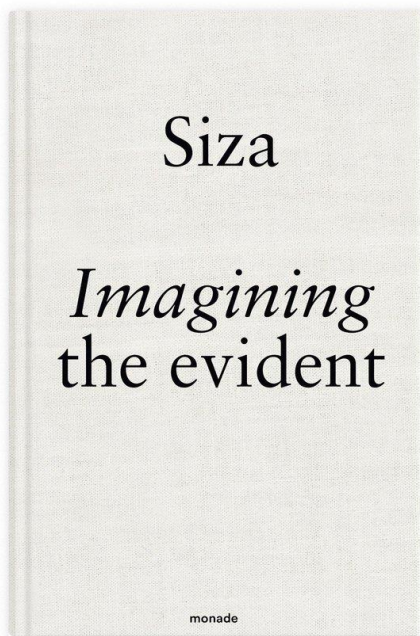
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[Designed Future / Paulo Mendes da Rocha](#)

*Designed Future* is a journey through the modern era: our life in cities, the Americas, new territories and the old continent, of vision and design as essential tools for building the future. For the first time translated in English, it discloses a must-read intense and provocative thinker in contemporary times.

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[Imagining the Evident / Álvaro Siza](#)

The referential book by Álvaro Siza on his own work, for the first time in English. Describing some of his projects, his expectations and struggles, references and decisions, this book is a fundamental contribution to the understanding of Álvaro Siza's architectural thinking.

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## Paisagem: arquitetura do território ★★★★★

O livro de João Gomes da Silva é prova irrefutável que esta qualificação – em muitos casos urgente – da nossa paisagem, da nossa arquitetura e do nosso território que merece ser prioridade.

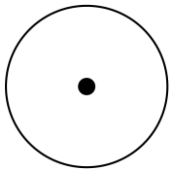


[Jornal Observador on "The Order of Landscape"](#)



[Book launch "The Order of Landscape", Milan](#)

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