

Valeska Soares

Tableau

August 30 — October 18, 2025

Valeska Soares' exhibition *Tableau*, opening August 30th at Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, in São Paulo, presents new and recent works that delve into themes of absence, ghostly presences, impermanence and eroticism. The title alludes to the narrative dimension of Soares' work, in which each piece functions as a fragment in a larger plot. Meaning remains open to interpretation, but the enigmas and ambiguities weave a network of allusions that connect and enhance many of her longstanding conceptual concerns: the tensions between sight and sound, memory and erasure, objects and desire.

The show is composed of three distinct bodies of work. In the *Blindface* (2025) series, a development of her previous *Doublefaces*, Soares employs discarded images of female nudes, mounting them backward on frames and cutting the canvas to reveal glimpses of landscape and body fragments. The work tampers with visibility and concealment: what is shown always relates to what is hidden or erased. In the installation *calling* (2025), a bronze bell cast in the shape of an apple is suspended above a large wooden table. A hidden mechanism sets the bell in motion at irregular intervals, producing a soft chime that momentarily breaks the silence. The piece unfolds over time, suggesting a call or signal that remains unanswered. The transformation of the apple into a bell combines ideas of attraction and interruption, and marks time through sound rather than movement.

Elsewhere, bronze sculptures of domestic tools—like a broom, a brush, and a floor squeegee—are displayed in static, unlikely positions. These objects appear animated yet untouched, suggesting a break from their original function. In *Upside-down* (2024), a bronze vase is inverted, balanced on its flowers and leaves, subverting a familiar decorative object into a structure that resists its intended use. Together, the works in the exhibition point to subtle shifts in how we perceive labor, memory, and presence in a domestic realm.

Valeska Soares, *Tableau*

Opening: August 30, 2025, 5pm — 9pm

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Opening hours: Tue – Fri: 10AM - 7PM | Sat: 10AM – 6PM

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