

Underground

"Underground" is the name of one of the most charismatic Emir Kusturica 's films and one of the most marking in the history of alternative movies. Velvet Underground was a vanguard New York band of the sixties, sponsored by Andy Warhol that became a a reference in experimentalism in the contemporary musical world.

The term "Underground" consolidates as a synonym to " counter culture ". Its dimension does not limit itself to mere artistic wave with a defined standard, it entails a significant part of contestary, experimental and alternative attitude of the cultural system. It manifests itself in a diversify and transversal way to a wide universe of art movements in music, plastic arts, literature, theatre, cinema, photography and fashion illustration.

In its more tangible sense, "underground" cultivates its inspiration space in a obscure hidden side of the urban set and preferably, by night. A scenery characterized by undergrounds, tunnels, warehouses and abandoned lofts, allies and forgotten streets.

It is where unsettled consciences of certain communities wanting to rupture, reveal themselves. Its spirit is far from mainstream, allergic to populism, immune to time. Always generous, always independent.

When "underground" gives in to the temptation of mediatization, most of its concepts never see the "light of day ". They are absorbed and explored by industry, that today, more than ever, come good or bad is thirsty for new ideas to sell. This happened with rock, rap, punk and grunge in the musical scene, beatnik in the literary scene, graffiti, stencil and Cartoons in the artistic scene, just to name few.

None of this affects the "underground", it sticks there, in its space, loyal to his outcasting personality, with new ideas to reveal. A place where this year "ilustra_ ", more curious than ever, went down to " snoop around".

Pedro Albuquerque

Director of Ilustra_