

1. *Marcelo Pombo Dibujos de San Pablo*
[The São Paulo Drawings]

The São Paulo Drawings is a series I did during 1982 while I was living in São Paulo, Brazil. It was my first time out of my home country, and I was running away from the possibility of being drafted to fight in the Falklands War. I came from a working-class home. I was 22 years old and Argentina was under an oppressive military dictatorship.

That stay in Brazil ended up being a true initiation: into nightlife culture, gay sociability and cruising. It was also the first time I got to know gay activists. My nights in São Paulo were spent in the streets. My days were devoted to drawing.

It is a series of small drawings on paper. The ink and pencil strokes are so faint, they barely mark the paper. In these drawings you can see my DNA: the animated characters by Walt Disney and Max Fleischer; underground comic strips from the 70s (from Robert Crumb to Nazario); Argentine rock album covers by Juan Gatti and popular Surrealism.