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76 GRAND STREET NEW YORK NY 10013



PHONE (212) 343 7300 WWW.DEITCH.COM

OS GEMEOS

CAVALEIRO MARGINAL

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Os Gemeos (pronounced "ose zhe'-mee-ose.") are two artists from Sao Paulo, Brazil. Born in 1974, they are Otavio and Gustavo Pandolfo, identical twin brothers whose pseudonym, Os Gemeos, translates to "the twins" in Portuguese. In addition to painting, sculpture and installation work, in recent years Os Gemeos have gained international notoriety for their incredible works created on the streets of Sao Paulo.

Os Gemeos's particular process has led to a unique vernacular very specific to Sao Paulo. Most works are created using latex house paint, rollers and spray for the details. The artists championed this new style and mixed different influences from the street to create their own distinctly recognizable aesthetic. Improvisation plays a big role, as the work is shaped and formulated according to their surrounding environment.

In 1993, Os Gemeos met Barry McGee, who was in Sao Paulo on a painting fellowship. They became fast friends and immediately collaborated on works around the city. This experience opened them up to a wealth

of information and mutual influence. Since then, Os Gemeos have started to produce works for galleries and museums. Os Gemeos have exhibited within Sao Paulo and Latin America as well as in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Cuba, Australia and throughout Europe.

Os Gemeos divide their painting mode in two, painting together, and starting and finishing each other's works. The works convey their vision of day-to-day life, simple scenes that are sensually rich. The artists are interested in what lies inside of people, beneath the surface. Characters are often rendered smelling the insides of their clothing as if to say, "it is only here, behind the clothing that a person's true essence can be found." They are influenced by the folklore and people of Brazil, creating characters that are reflections of both indigenous customs and the urban sprawl mimicking the contradictions of the world around them. However in their words, "we only report scenes from a magic, love, hate, and real place that live inside us, a real dream, the scene of our own universe, a place called "Tritrez."

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT JASMINE LEVETT AT
212 343 7300 WWW.DEITCH.COM**