

## 4th Conference

### Arts-based and Artistic Research

#### **Heroines of Sea & Land: Can art transform?**

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For this project presentation Andrea will make a lecture-performance session drawn from two art projects initiated in the Azores Islands: *À prova de fogo e de bala* (fire-proof and bullet) and *A Super-Artista Incógnita* (Super-Artist Incognita).

*À prova de fogo e de bala* (fire-proof and bullet) was outlined having in mind that women are the protagonists of socialization processes and cultural integration through the education of children, not only in the figure of woman as mother-educator and family support, but her image also has gained power in the religious, erotic and advertisement spectrum. This photo-painting exhibition created in 2008 has been displayed since 2009, but the documentary video that Andrea will display, shares the working-in-progress, which highlights ways that researchers/artists can transform their own practices to resist hegemonic and agonistic politics through art-based projects and artistic research with the engagement of the community. Furthermore, Andrea will present the finished project *À prova de fogo e de bala*. This exhibition was made with the collaboration of 15 women (from 10 to 60 years old), some immigrant women from São Miguel Island and others from, AMPA, the Association of Wives of Fishermen and Ship-owners of Terceira Island who participated as creators and models of the costumes that show the figure of woman as a complex social-cultural construction. These figures, in the form of comic book heroines, were created from their experiences and visions, and question the place occupied by women's images in the construction of identities as well as in cultural exchange and production.

While showing photo-paintings from *À prova de fogo e de bala*, Andrea will also show how to cultivate the figure of researcher as complex, as artist and as able to creatively raise voice over the environmental conflicts in which we are embedded. Andrea's alter ego *Super-Artista Incógnita*, emerged from the previous project to spread and inspire via her spontaneous public performances in different situations and places, creative power throughout the world, especially with women in the midst of multiple oppressions (personal, social, cultural, religious, etc.). She awakens both the super heroes/ines and the inner child, surprising people and breaking their daily routines. During this performance, the audience will be invited to assist in the *transdressing* of a woman artist into the *Super-Artista Incógnita*.