



The Museum of Science of the University of Lisbon has sought, throughout its 26 years of existence, to promote scientific culture through its collections, exhibitions and other activities, being a privileged place for the dissemination of Science as well as for the conservation and study of scientific heritage.

At the conclusion of the rehabilitation project of *Laboratorio Chimico*, guided by an accurate historical and artistic subtlety of conservation and restoration, recreating an almost mystical environment of a laboratory of the nineteenth century, the collection of chemistry becomes perhaps the most inspiring collection of the Museum.

Within this framework, the intersection with art emerges as one of the most interesting ways to stimulate the visitor to open new horizons, promoting bridges that help to reflect on the heritage itself and the way to sense it.

It was thus with great pleasure that, to mark the closing of this project, I invited the artist Teresa Pavão to create a set of ceramic pieces inspired by the collection of chemistry. Test tubes, retorts, crucibles and other containers that were handled over the years by generations of professors and students, received materials like earth, water or metals ... were shaped by the fire. And somehow it is this technique that is repeated, now to allow the inspiration of the artist.

The result of this challenge is now shown in this exhibition, in the form of different containers, as laboratory bowls where the materials are transformed.

My gratitude is due to Teresa Pavão for accepting this challenge of creating original pieces specifically for this exhibition, and particularly for the engagement and enthusiasm brought into it, finding in the shapes of the science the way to art.

We hope that the wide opening to other looks of the collection of chemistry can enrich the way we see our heritage, intertwining knowledge and sensibilities, contributing to the cultural diversity of this space, in the way of a new project integrating the Museums of Polytechnic.

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