

Empty audience

Sonia Gouveia

An empty, silent bleacher evokes both solitude and magnitude — a sea of chairs stretching beyond sight. Empty audience explores the relationship between individual loneliness and the collective experience, between emptiness and the infinite.

It is zero — emptiness. And, simultaneously, the infinite — an uncountable number of seats. A visual metaphor for the tension between absence and presence, and for the vast field of possibilities that always exists before something happens.

What is unmeasurable in our lives? What becomes so numerous that we lose track?

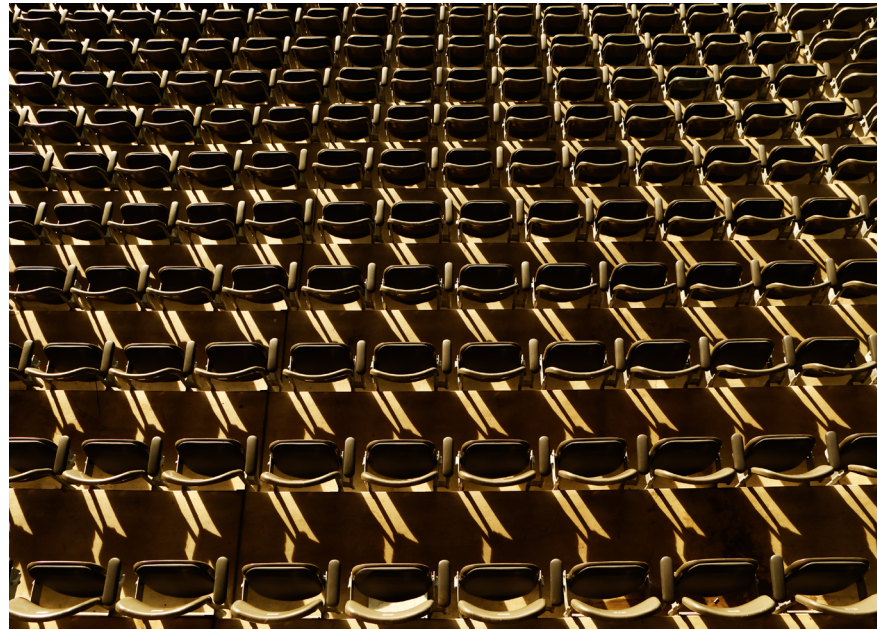
The empty seats stand as symbols of potential — spaces open to be filled with encounters, choices, experiences, or connections. They speak of what is yet to come, what waits quietly for meaning, action, or presence.

This work invites reflection on the infinite possibilities that surround us — and on how we navigate the delicate balance between individuality and collectivity. It reminds us that, in the presence of the many, the one often dissolves. And yet, even in that dissolution, the search for meaning — for belonging, for direction — persists.

Empty Audience is ultimately a contemplation of this paradox: being one among many, being empty and full, being both zero and infinite.

Next pages:
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It is zero.
And, at the same time,
infinite.
The possibility of fullness.
The uncountable.
Stretching beyond sight.
An empty audience.
A symbol of the uncountable.
Of the infinite.
Empty —
yet full
of what has not yet happened.
How many possibilities
remain open?
How many empty seats
wait...
linger...
exist...

What are the empty seats
waiting to be filled
in our own lives?
What is uncountable
in our existence?
What has become
so numerous
we've lost count?
To think...
of our smallness
amid the crowd.
To think...
of everything that is absence
—
and yet,
still overflowing
with possibility.

