LULA’S INAUGURATION, RAFAEL HUPSEL’S INSTAGRAM

By writing “net” (“rede”, in Portuguese) in the title of this section, the text editor’s autocomplete feature fills in the word “redemocratization” (“redemocratização”).

Artificial intelligence doesn’t know, but it is precisely right in regard to the meaning of this “finding”.

This is the collective dream that comes to life in each image captured by Rafael Hupsel, in one of the most exciting moments in recent Brazilian history.

Published on his social network – and not in traditional media – Rafael’s photos of President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva’s inauguration day, on January 1, 2023, reveal, in black and white, the emotion of being there, under the hot sun, taking part of a historical moment of transition, breaking away from the atrocities of necropolitics experienced during the previous administration.

In the photos published on Instagram, we do not see the ramp ascent, the emblematic moment of inauguration day, in which Lula walks up the ramp of the Planalto Palace with his wife Janja, the dog Resistência, the black boy Francisco, the collector Aline Sousa, Kayapó chief Raoni Metuktire, metalworker and rapper Weslley Rocha, professor Murilo Jesus, cook Jucimara dos Santos, craftsman Flávio Pereira and disability rights activist Ivan Baron.

Rafael explains that he wanted to take pictures to “retain the moment”: “It was the first time that I photographed a political event without being guided by any communication vehicle, which allowed me to pay attention to the more subjective aspects of the
inauguration, avoiding the standardized photos that are very similar to each other, as conveyed by mainstream media. I didn’t look for the best position for taking pictures, and I didn’t even bother trying to photograph the president-elect. I wanted to be among the people, seeing this event from their perspective". 