

CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

“PAGODEIRA SERVICE”

[Carnival King Declaration]

Hand script pen ink on paper

Angra do Heroísmo, 4th of March 1963

Entrudo or Intrudo is probably a corruption of *intróito*, meaning the preliminary time before Lent, thus, being, want it or not, a son, yet prodigal, of Christianity, accordingly to Júlio Caro Baroja, that absorbed and recovered many pagan cults related to parties and its excesses that have always existed.

From the final of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries, with the industrialization, the work commodification and the rise of an urban bourgeoisie, the periods of entrudo or carnival will be the target of a “civility” attempt by the prevalent elites, in order to control the excesses and the lack of respect for the hierarchies and institutional powers, traces of these Christendom introit days since always...

In a public notice from the Civilian Police Commissary of Angra do Heroísmo District, on the 22th of February 1908, this concern is very clearly stated: “Having recognized the need of imposing some forbidding measures in what concerns the Carnival amusements in order to avoid any occurrences that may have influence in the order, tranquillity and public safety”, in four points it's listed a serial of common habits and practices in this period that were forbidden and the offenders severely punished like artisanal bombs, throwing objects from the windows to the streets and the use of masks and clothes that may be offensive to the public moral, the religion or the good practices.

The *Carnival King* declaration under here transcribed is already a product of the urban and bourgeois Carnival, the so called “civilized” that, curiously is more common in the famous Brazilian Carnival of Rio de Janeiro, being this the reason to disclose this anonymous manuscript that is, however, well dated and localized and it's part of this museum Graphic Documents collection.