



Photo courtesy of Michael Klant

Flying art

If you looked up toward the sky over Ponta da Piedade near Lagos on Monday September 4th, you might have been wondering about the banner that was towed through the air by a small yellow aircraft. Instead of promoting a product or a tourist attraction, the metaphorical statement reflected the phenomenon of time: "O tempo é uma imagem movel" - time is a moving image.

What seemed to be an illustration of the flight itself at first sight, turns out to be the variation of a quotation by Plato. The Greek philosopher distinguished manmade time from everlasting, immovable, numinous eternity. With the eroded rocks of the Peak of Grace in the background, various dimensions of time came together in an amazing environment. The flight was a conceptual piece of art by Michael Klant, professor at

the Art Department of the University of Education in Freiburg, Germany. Klant has been involved with banner flights since 1999, some of which took place in the US, Italy, France, Spain, Austria, and Germany. They comprised translocations of huge hand painted sky pieces from one country to another as well as flying phrasings on volatile phenomena like time, happiness, and memory.

The Plato variation was Klant's first piece in Portuguese and at the same time a motive to explore nuances of the language together with Pedro Calhamar of Skyzone Ltd. in Lagos, the company which carried out the flight. Pilot João Carrapato stated that there were some turbulence in the air. As Klant assured, he has been concerning himself with more formulations in Portuguese, hoping to perform one of them in the near future.