



Gabriel Giucci, *Monte Roraima*, 2021, oil on linen. Photo: Filipe Berndt; courtesy the artist and Galeria Leme

Gabriel Giucci: *CHURASCO*

Galeria Leme, São Paulo, 19 February – 26 March

If Gerhard Richter in his figurative moments swapped the hazy grey of Germany for the sun and colour of Rio de Janeiro, the results might look something like Gabriel Giucci's work. The Brazilian artist will show over 60 of his diminutive (so this is where the Brazilian artist departs from the German) paintings, in which he depicts the landscape, animals and monuments of his home country, alongside portraits of politicians and scenes culled from recent press photography. Yet despite the bright palette there's Richterian melancholia to the paintings, perhaps understandable given they're intended as a state-of-the-nation portrait: Brazil's beaches are shown lifeless and empty; the rivers wide and depopulated. There is a painting of a political advisor who has been mired in a corruption scandal, sat slumped and dejected under house arrest; another showing the Brazilian flag, its motto 'Ordem e Progresso' replaced by the Portuguese word for barbecue, misspelt. *Oliver Basciano*