

FRANCISCO TROPA

Updated: October 2021

Born in Lisbon, Portugal, 1968
Lives and works in Lisbon.

BIOGRAPHY

Sculpture has been a permanent interest in the artistic practice of Francisco Tropa, who began working in the early 1990s and gained over time significant attention from both art institutions and critics.

Besides representing Portugal in the Venice Biennale (2011), he also participated in the Rennes Biennial (2012), the Istanbul Biennial (2011), Manifesta (2000), the Melbourne Biennial (1999) and the São Paulo Biennial (1998). Tropa uses several media - sculpture, drawing, performance, photography and film - to convey a series of reflections introduced by the different traditions of sculpture.

Subjects such as the body, death, nature, landscape, memory, origin or time are always present in his works, in an endless process of projection of references from Art History, other art works, previous works by the artist, and specific authors. Notions of device and spectator are also essential to understanding his practice, which defies all traditional categories of art, as well as its representation and perception.

RESIDENCY

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| 2017 | Residency CIRVA, Centre International de Recherche sur le Verre et les Arts plastiques
Marseille, France |
| 2015 | Residency Atelier Calder, Saché, France |

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2023 Fundação Serralves, Porto, Portugal
- 2022 Musée d'art moderne de Paris, Paris, France
FRAC Nouvelle Aquitaine, Bordeaux, France
Le Creux de l'Enfer, Thiers, France
- 2020 Der im Bart versteckte Schnauzbart - Das Herz und die Lunge, Gregor Podnar Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2019-2020 Behind Us - «Excavating Contemporary Archeology», a European cooperation project, MUCEM, Marseille, France
- 2019 O Pirgo de Chaves / The Pyrgus from Chaves, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2018 Performance Scripta, L'invitation aux musées, Centre national de la danse, Paris, France
Le Grand Café, La Moustache cachée dans la barbe, Le Grand Café, Saint Nazaire, France
Performance Gigante, Festival MOVÉ, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
- 2017 La moustache cachée dans la barbe, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris, France
O bigode escondido na barba (La moustache cachée dans la barbe), Fundação Vítor e Graça Carmona Costa, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2016 Cinema, Appleton Square, Lisbon, Portugal
Ladri, Galleria Alessandra Bonomo, Roma, Italy
- 2015 TSAE, Musée régional d'art contemporain Languedoc-Roussillon, Sérignan, France
Sim Não - Oui Non, Moulins de Paillard, Poncé sur le Loir, France
- 2014 - 2015 TSAE, Pavilhão Branco - Museu de Lisboa, Lisboa, Portugal
- 2014 Arénaire, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris, France
- 2013 Tsae, Trésors submergés de l'ancienne Egypte, La verrière, Fondation d'entreprise Hermès, Bruxelles, Belgium
Gigante, Performance au Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
Francisco Tropa, Galerija Gregor Podar, Berlin, Germany
Terra platonica, Caterina Tognon, Palazzo da Ponte di calle del Dose, Venice, Italy
- 2012 Museu, Galeria Quadrado Azul, Porto, Portugal.
Flowers, Galeria Quadrado Azul, Porto, Portugal.
Stela, Fundação Leal Rios, Lisbon, Portugal.
- 2011 Scenario, Pavilhão de Portugal, La Biennale di Venezia, 54 Exposizione Internazionale d'Arte, Venice, Italy
Tali, Galeria Quadrado Azul, Porto, Portugal.
Scenario, Official Portuguese Representation, 54th Venice Biennale, Italy.

- Literal, Circular - Festival de Artes Performativas, Vila do Conde, Portugal (with Laurent Pichaud).
- 2010 Scripta, Galeria Quadrado Azul, Lisbon, Portugal.
Farol, Natureza Morta, Galeria Quadrado Azul, Lisbon, Portugal.
Giant, Auditório do Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Serralves, Porto, Portugal.
O vapor que se eleva do arroz enquanto coze, Auditório do Museu de Arte Contemporânea, Serralves,
Porto/ Beursschouwburg, Brussels, Belgium/ Appleton Square, Lisbon, Portugal (with Osso Exótico).
- 2009 Culturgest, Lisbon, Portugal.
Galeria Quadrado Azul, Porto, Portugal.
Galería Distrito Quatro, Madrid, Spain.
- 2008 Festival Trama, Porto, Portugal.
Tesouros Submersos do Antigo Egipto, Chiado 8 Arte Contemporânea, Lisbon, Portugal.
The Assembly of Euclid (final), Galeria Quadrado Azul, Porto, Portugal.
- 2007 The Assembly of Euclid, Matadero, Madrid, Spain.
The Cyclist's Trance, Livre Circulação: Serralves no Algarve, Convento de Santo António, Loulé, Portugal.
Traço sobre um muro, Circular - Festival de Artes Performativas, Vila do Conde, Portugal.
Galeria Quadrado Azul, Lisbon, Portugal.
- 2006 A Marca do Seio, Culturgest, Porto, Portugal.
The Assembly of Euclid: The Cyclist's Trance, Galeria Quadrado Azul, Porto, Portugal.
Yes No, Auditório do Museu de Serralves, Porto, Portugal (with other artists).
Figura sentada, Homem em erecção, Tiro inflectido, O Gigante, Teatro Rivoli, Porto, Portugal (with André Maranhã).

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2022 Fundacion Juan March, Madrid, Spain
- 2021 Museu Coleção Berardo, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2020 La Photographie à l'épreuve de l'abstraction, L'Onde Théâtre centre d'Art, Vélizy-Villacoublay, France
Constellations III: a Choreography of Minimal Gestures, Museu Coleção Berardo, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2019-2020 Sculptures Infinies - des collections de moulage à l'ère digitale / Infinite Sculpture. From the Antique Cast to the 3D Scan, Itinerant group show, Beaux Arts de Paris, France and Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2018 Sculpter (faire à l'atelier), FRAC Bretagne, Rennes, France
Estudos di Labirinto, Museu Nacional de Etnologia, Lisbon, Portugal

Una fornace a Marsiglia : Cirva, LE STANZE DEL VETRO, Venice, Italy

- 2017 O Tempo Inscrito - Memória, Hiato e Projeção, quARTEl, Largo de Sant'Ana, Abrantes, Portugal
The House of Dust, CNEAI, Pantin, France
Vantablack, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris, France
Palaeolithic to Contemporary, Icons and Tools, Cahn AG, Basel, Switzerland
Collection. Remonter le temps, FRAC Bretagne, Rennes, France
La Pergola. Nouvel accrochage des collections, MRAC, Sérignan, France
Über das Fügen der Dinge - Par raccroc, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris, France
- 2016 Herdar o Vento / Inherit the wind, Eugenio de Almeida, Evora, Portugal
átrio e peristilo da casa dos amores dourados, Vera Cortez Art Agency, Lisbon, Portugal
Shadows, masks and pupes from the puppet museum, Torreao Nascente da Coordoria Nacional, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2015 The Secret and Abiding Politics of Stones, Casa del Lago UNAM, Mexico
Anatomie de L'Automate (Anatomies of the Automaton), La Panacée, Centre de culture contemporaine, Montpellier, France
Twist the real, Plataforma Revolver, Lisbon, Portugal
Eppur si muove, MUDAM, Luxembourg
Anche le sculture muoiono, Palazzo Strozzi, Florence, Italy
group show, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris, France
- 2014 The Promise of Multiple Temporaries, Parc Saint Léger Centre d'art contemporain, Pougues-les-Eaux, France
- 2013/14 J'ouvre les yeux et tu es là - Collection MUDAM, MUDAM, Luxembourg
- 2013 Arte y Optica, Fundacion Telefonica, Lima, Peru
Des gestes de la pensée, Fondation d'entreprise Hermès, Bruxelles, Belgium
L'instinct oublié, Gallery Jocelyn Wolff exhibits at gallery Labor, Mexico City
Nouvelles impressions de Raymond Roussel, Palais de Tokyo, Paris
- 2012 Ateliers de Rennes - biennale d'art contemporain, Rennes, France.
Out of range, Roma Contemporary, Rome, Italy.
knell dobre glas, Galeria Quadrado Azul, Lisbon/ Porto, Portugal.
Locus Solus. Impressões de Raymond Roussel, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Serralves, Porto, Portugal.
3 moscas, Auditório do Museu de Serralves, Porto, Portugal (with Pedro Morais, Jorge Queiroz, André Maranhã and Bonecos de Santo Aleixo).
- 2011 Locus Solus. Impresiones de Raymond Roussel, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain.
Untitled, 12th Istanbul Biennial, Turkey.
- 2008 Avenida 211, Lisbon, Portugal.
Articulações, Fábrica da Cerveja, Faro, Portugal.
Nota de encomenda, Livraria Assirio & Alvim, Lisbon, Portugal.

2007	Portugal Agora - À Propos des Lieux d'Origine, MUDAM, Luxembourg
2000	Manifesta 3, Ljubljana, Slovenia
1999	Signs of Life, Melbourne International Biennial, Australia
1998	XXIV São Paulo Biennial, Brazil

COLLECTIONS

Fundação de Serralves, Portugal.

Fundação Leal Rios, Portugal.

Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento, Portugal.

Centro de Arte Moderna da Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Portugal.

Fundação EDP, Portugal.

Caixa Geral de Depósitos, Portugal.

Banco Privado collection, Portugal.

Direcção-Geral das Artes collection, Portugal.

Fundação PLMJ, Portugal.

Ar.Co, Portugal.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

PRESS ARTICLES (SELECTION)

2017	Cédric Aurelle, «Conversation de Café avec Francisco Tropa», Le Quotidien de l'Art, October 12, 2017
2015	Guillaume Desanges, «Récits circonstanciés de l'ineffable», in Zéro Deux, Autumn 2015 Claire Kueny, «Traverser l'écran!», Revue Specimen, January 2015
2014	Anaël Pigeat, «Review Paris», in artpress, June 2014
2013	Anaël Pigeat, «Review Venise», in artpress, September 2013 Patrice Joly, «Derniers usages de la littérature», in Zéro Deux, N.67, Autumn 2013 Francisco Tropa, «Carte Blanche» in Mouvement n.68, Mars-Avril 2013 Marcela Quiroz Luna, «William Anastasi y Francisco Tropa» in Instinto por Destino, 2013

- 2012 Anne Bonnin, «Wandering through Unusual Prairies» in Zéro deux N.64, Winter 2012
Jean-Marc Huitorel, «Les ateliers de Rennes» in artpress, December 2012

CATALOGS

- 2018 La Moustache cachée dans la barbe, Francisco Tropa and Thomas Boutoux. Editions Paraguay. Paris, France
- 2017 Francisco Tropa, O Bigode Escondido na Barba, text by Filipa Oliveira. Fundação Carmona e Costa, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2014 Francisco Tropa, Arénaire, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Edition limitée.
- 2012 Locus Solus. Impressions of Raymond Roussel, Museo Nacional Centro d'Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid
- 2011 Francisco Tropa, Scenario, Pavilhão de Portugal, La Biennale di Venezia., text by Fatima Marques Pereira, Sergio Mah, Federico Ferrari, Ministère de la culture, Direcção-Geral das Artes
- 2010 Francisco Tropa, Penas, diaporama 35 mm, Projection 300x200 cm, Edition Galeria Quadrado Azul, Porto, Portugal
Francisco Tropa, Teias, diaporama 35 mm, Projection 300x200 cm, Edition Galeria Quadrado Azul, Porto, Portugal
Francisco Tropa, Scripta, text by Federico Ferrari, Edition Galeria Quadrado Azul, Porto, Portugal
Francisco Tropa, Tali, text by Joao Fernandes Jorge, Edition Galeria Quadrado Azul, Porto, Portugal
Francisco Tropa, Gigante/Giant, text by Tomas Maia & André Maranhã, Edition Galeria Quadrado Azul, Porto, Portugal
- 2009 Francisco Tropa, A Assembleia de Euclides/The Assembly of Euclid, text by Francisco Tropa & Miguel Wandschneider, Edition Culturgest, Lisboa, Portugal