

FRANCISCO TROPA

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.

RESIDENCIES

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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)

2026	MISS AMERICA, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris France Miss America, Curated by Simone Menegoi, Palazzo De' Toschi, Bologna, Italy
2024 - 2025	AMO-TE, Fundação de Serralves, Porto Portugal
2024	Três Moscas, MAAT, Lisbon Portugal Fundação de Serralves, Porto, Portugal Nouveau Musée National de Monaco, Monaco
2023	Cahn Kunstraum, Basel, Switzerland
2022	Le Poumon et le Cœur, Musée d'art moderne de Paris, Paris, France Che vuoi?, 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, MUCÉM, 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 MOVE, 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)

2024	AMONG THE INVISIBLE JOINS, Works from the Enea Righi Collection, Museion, Bolzano
2023	Au hasard Balthazar, Collection Benoît Doche de Laquintane, Friche la Belle de Mai, Marseille Fundación Juan March, Madrid, Spain Grisailles Vertigo, curated by F.-R. Martin, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris-Romainville, France
2023	Per-Form, BROWNIE/Project Gallery, Shanghai, China

2023	Francisco Tropa & João Queiroz, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris-Romainville, France	L'instinct oublié, Gallery Jocelyn Wolff exhibits at gallery Labor, Mexico City, Mexico Nouvelles impressions de Raymond Roussel, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France	
2022	Les Péninsules Démarées, FRAC Nouvelle-Aquitaine MECA, Bordeaux, France Fundacion Juan March, Madrid, Spain	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
2021	Museu Coleção Berardo, Lisbon, Portugal	3 moscas, Auditório do Museu de Serralves, Porto, Portugal (with Pedro Morais, Jorge Queiroz, André Maranhã and Bonecos de Santo Aleixo)	
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	2011	Locus Solus. Impresiones de Raymond Roussel, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain Untitled, 12th Istanbul Biennial, Turkey
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	2008	Avenida 211, Lisbon, Portugal Articulações, Fábrica da Cerveja, Faro, Portugal Nota de encomenda, Livraria Assírio & Alvim, 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	2007	Portugal Agora - À Propos des Lieux d'Origine, MUDAM, Luxembourg
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	2000	Manifesta 3, Ljubljana, Slovenia
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 Coordadoria Nacional, Lisbon, Portugal	1999	Signs of Life, Melbourne International Biennial, Australia
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	1998	XXIV São Paulo Biennial, Brazil
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		

COLLECTIONS

Fond Régional d'Art contemporain, Pays de la Loire, Nantes, France
Fond Régional d'Art contemporain, Normandie - Rouen, France
Fond Régional d'Art contemporain, Bretagne, France
MUDAM, Luxembourg
Philadelphia Museum of Art, USA
Centre National d'Art Plastique, Paris, France
Musée d'art contemporain de la Haute-Vienne, Rochechouart, France
Fundación Museo Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain
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)

- 2022 Anne-Cécile Sanchez, «Les machineries poétiques de Francisco Tropa». Lejournaldesarts.fr, Nov. 22, 2022
- 2018 Judicaël Lavrador «Sculptures mécaniques et aures alambics du sorcier Tropa», Liberation August 12, 2018
Vanessa Morisset «Le Grand Café, La Moustache cachée dans la barbe», ZeroDeux, 2018
Michel Godin, «Le langage du mouvement due Francisco Tropa», June 16, 2018
- 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 Pigéat, «Review Paris», in artpress, June 2014
- 2013 Anaël Pigéat, «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

- 2024 3 Moscas, co-published by the Serralves Foundation and the Nouveau Musée National de Monaco, texts by the exhibition curators Ricardo Nicolau (Serralves) and Célia Bernasconi (NMNM), alongside newly commissioned essays by Simone Menegoi
- 2022 Le Poumon et le cœur, edited on the occasion of the exhibition «Le Poumon et le coeur» at

Le Musée d'art moderne de Paris, 2022. text by Manuel Castro Cadas. Interview with Jessica Castex
Che Vuoi? , edited on the occasion of the exhibition Che Vuoi? at Le Creux de l'Enfer, Thiers, 2022. Text by Sophie Auger-Grappin

- 2019 Francisco Tropa, The Pyrgus from Chaves, curators Francisco Tropa and Sérgio Carneiro, exhibition at Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, 2019. Texts by Sérgio Carneiro, and Penelope Curtis.
- 2018 La Moustache cachée dans la barbe, Francisco Tropa and Thomas Boutoux. Editions Paraguay, Paris, France
Arenario, exhibition Gallery School of Arts, Universidade catolica Portuguesa, Porto, 2018. Texts by François Piron, Francisco Tropa, Maria Filomena Molder and Nuno Crespo
- 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