

# 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

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 Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris  
Miss America, Curated by Simone Menegoi, Palazzo De' Toschi, Bologna, Italy
- 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, 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 Cuatro, 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

- 2022 Les Péninsules Démarées, FRAC Nouvelle-Aquitaine MECA, Bordeaux, France  
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, Évora, 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 Coordoaria 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, Mexico  
Nouvelles impressions de Raymond Roussel, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France

- 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 Sofía, Madrid, Spain  
 Untitled, 12th Istanbul Biennial, Turkey
- 2008 Avenida 211, Lisbon, Portugal  
 Articulações, Fábrica da Cerveja, Faro, Portugal  
 Nota de encomenda, Livraria Assírio & 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

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 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

- 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