

**Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo presents unprecedented solo exhibition by the artist Santídio Pereira**

*The exhibition 'Santídio Pereira: paisagens férteis' ['Santídio Pereira: fertile landscapes'] brings together around 30 works at MAM, including engravings, paintings and objects*



Santídio Pereira, *Objeto III*, 2022 | *Untitled*, 2022 | *Objeto XV*, 2023. Photos: João Liberato

The **Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo** will host, between April 2nd and September 1st, an unprecedented exhibition by the artist **Santídio Pereira**. With curatorship by **Cauê Alves**, chief curator at MAM, the exhibition *Santídio Pereira: paisagens férteis* [*Santídio Pereira: fertile landscapes*] brings together more than 30 works in the Paulo Figueiredo Room - some of them never before seen - including engravings, paintings and objects produced by the artist in a period between 2017 and 2024.

Born in Isaías Coelho, countryside of Piauí state, Santídio Pereira moved with his family to São Paulo as a child and, at the age of eight, was enrolled by his mother at Instituto Acaia, an organization created by the artist Elisa Bracher. There, he came into contact with a wide variety of artistic techniques and, later, delved deeper into engraving at Xiloeasa, a project by artists Fabrício Lopez and Flávio Capi.

With a fruitful path in Brazilian institutions and around the world, Santídio presents in *Paisagens férteis [Fertile landscapes]* his research around images of Brazilian biomes, from the Amazon to the Atlantic Forest, going through landscapes that were part of his experiences and bringing especially the observations he makes in the midst of nature.

Curator Cauê Alves selected engravings, objects and paintings by Santídio that bring images of mountainous landscapes and plants such as bromeliads and *mandacarus*. These motifs in the artist's works derive from his immersive experiences in Brazilian biomes, during trips in which he is willing to observe the geography and vegetation carefully. Some of them are also the result of memories of his childhood in Piauí that he carries with him.

The images, however, are not just reproductions of what Santídio sees, but creations. The curator explains that “the reference to a specific species of plant, which is available to your eyes, does not oppose the imagination, that is, the mentalization of something that is not really there. It is as if he interpreted what he saw and what he remembers of what he saw, but in a different, new way, since it goes beyond what happened and what he remembers”.

Initially known for his woodcut work, Santídio also began dedicating himself to painting with gouache and making objects in recent years. The exhibition at MAM will be the first to display, in Brazil, these objects and the gouaches. Santídio comments that, based on these experiments, he began to create objects that can be printed, rather than just matrices.

The paintings arise from his desire to work with the materiality of gouache. “They are relatively smaller works than the woodcuts, but they are works that take you to a completely different place. Not because of the theme, but because of the materiality. The materiality of the engraving ink is somewhat shiny, it is a little oily, while the materiality of the gouache, the way I work, is more opaque”, explains the artist. For him, this opaque characteristic of gouache painting conveys greater depth in the work, “as if the gouache work embraced and the engraving work took a certain distance”.

In his curatorial text, Cauê Alves highlights Santídio Pereira's attentive look and rare sensitivity, emphasizing the way he relates to the world. “His life story is an exception, and the visibility his work achieved is atypical in the art world. He knew how to relate his freedom to what was, in fact, necessary for him, betting

on invention, but without renouncing his work or abandoning his origins”, comments the curator.

## About the artist



Santídio Pereira. Photo: Ding Musa

Born in 1996 in Isaías Coelho, Piauí, Santídio Pereira lives and works in São Paulo. He studied History of Art with critic and curator Rodrigo Naves, and has a degree in Visual Arts from Fundação Armando Álvares Penteado, in São Paulo.

Santídio Pereira's trajectory has been permeated by experimentation and constant study of artistic precepts, driving a desire to create and innovate pre-established standards, both in the formal and conceptual aspects of artistic languages. His work has been exhibited in Brazilian institutions such as Fundação Iberê Camargo (Porto Alegre), Centro Cultural São Paulo, Paço das Artes, MuBE - Brazilian Museum of Sculpture and Ecology, and MAM - Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo (all in São Paulo) and in exhibitions at international spaces and institutions such as Galería Xippas (Punta del Este, Uruguay), b[x] Gallery (New York, USA), Bortolami Gallery (New York, USA), Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain - Triennale di Milano (Milan, Italy),

Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain (Paris, France), Power Station of Art (Shanghai, China), among others. His work is included in important collections, such as Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo (Brazil), Colección Cisneros (USA), Acervo Sesc de Artes (Brazil), Museu de Arte do Rio – MAR (Brazil) and Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain (France). Santídio was also awarded the Piza Prize (2021, Paris, France), in addition to having participated in the AnnexB artistic residency (2019, New York, USA).

## About MAM São Paulo

Founded in 1948, the Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo [Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo] is a non-profit civil society of public interest. Its collection has more than 5,000 pieces produced by the most prominent names within Brazilian modern and contemporary art. Both the collection and the exhibitions favor experimentalism, opening up to the plurality of global artistic production and the diversity of interests of contemporary societies.

The Museum maintains a wide range of activities that include courses, seminars, lectures, performances, musical shows, video sessions and artistic practices. The content of the exhibitions and activities is accessible to all audiences through visits in Libras [Brazilian Sign Language], audio description of the works and video guides in Libras [Brazilian Sign Language]. The collection of books, periodicals, documents and audiovisual material comprises 65,000 titles. The exchange with museum libraries in several countries keeps the collection alive.

Located in Ibirapuera Park, the most important green space in São Paulo, the building housing MAM was adapted by Lina Bo Bardi and in addition to the exhibition rooms it features a studio, library, auditorium, restaurant and a shop where visitors can find design objects, art books and a line of products from the MAM brand. The museum spaces are also visually integrated with the Sculpture Garden, designed by Roberto Burle Marx and Haruyoshi Ono to house works from the collection. All facilities are accessible to special needs visitors.

### Information:

***Santídio Pereira: paisagens férteis [Santídio Pereira: fertile landscapes]***

**Curatorship:** Cauê Alves

**Opening:** April 2nd, Tuesday, at 7pm

**Exhibition period:** April 3rd to September 1st, 2024

**Local:** Paulo Figueiredo Room, Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo

Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo

Address: Ibirapuera Park (Av. Pedro Álvares Cabral, s/nº - access through gates 1 and



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Opening hours: Tuesday to Sunday, from 10am to 6pm (last entry at 5:30pm)

Tickets: R\$30.00 full price and R\$15.00 half-price. On Sundays, entry is free and visitors can contribute whatever amount they want. For advance tickets, go to [mam.org.br/visite](http://mam.org.br/visite)

\*Half price for students, with identification; low-income young people and the elderly (+60). Free for children under 10 years old; people with disabilities and companions; teachers and directors from the state and municipal public schools of São Paulo with identification; friends and students of MAM; employees of partner companies and museums; members of ICOM, AICA and ABCA, with identification; employees of SPTuris and employees of the Municipal Department of Culture.

Telephone: (11) 5085-1300

Access for people with disabilities

Restaurant/cafe

Air conditioning

More information:

MAM São Paulo

[www.instagram.com/mamsaopaulo/](http://www.instagram.com/mamsaopaulo/)

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[www.youtube.com/@mamsaopaulo/](http://www.youtube.com/@mamsaopaulo/)

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