

## Centro Cultural FIESP Art Gallery presents a new exhibition with works from the MAM São Paulo collection

*Curated by Cauê Alves and Gabriela Gotoda, the exhibition explores the connections between modern and contemporary art in the MAM collection*



The Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo (MAM São Paulo), in partnership with SESI-SP, will hold a landmark exhibition featuring works from the MAM collection at the Centro Cultural Fiesp Art gallery, opening on March 26th. **MAM São Paulo: *Where the Modern Meets the Contemporary***, curated by Cauê Alves and Gabriela Gotoda, brings together over 100 pieces from the museum's esteemed collection.

Leda Catunda, MAM, 1998. MAM São Paulo Collection. Photo by: Romulo Faldini

Find further press material [here](#)

Highlights include iconic pieces that are familiar to the public, such as Tarsila do Amaral's Paisagem [Landscape] (1948); Di Cavalcanti's Peixe na praia [Fish on the Beach] (1933), and Victor Brecheret's Jaguar (1930), displayed alongside works by other modern masters like Alfredo Volpi, Ismael Nery, and Cândido Porti-

nari. The exhibition will also showcase works by prominent contemporary artists, including Mira Schendel, Leonilson, Carmela Gross, Tunga, Leda Catunda, and Cildo Meireles – the latter with a sculpture that was recently donated to the museum's collection. Additionally, the show will include pieces by international artists such as León Ferrari and Raoul Dufy.

"For MAM São Paulo, this partnership with SESI-SP is especially significant, as it highlights the importance of collaborating with other cultural institutions. Such partnerships provide a valuable opportunity to broaden the visibility of our collection, bring the museum's works to diverse audiences, strengthen our engagement with society, and reaffirm our commitment to making art accessible to all," says **Elizabeth Machado**, president of MAM.

**Débora Viana**, Executive Manager of Culture at SESI-SP, highlights the significance of the exhibition for the institution. "One of SESI-SP's core commitments is to contribute to society by promoting education and culture. This partnership with MAM is a way of reinforcing that commitment – supporting the cultural and artistic landscape, cultivating new audiences for the arts, and expanding access to culture free of charge. Presenting this exhibition at the Centro Cultural Fiesp Art Gallery will encourage reflection and offer audiences invaluable access to a collection of profound significance to the history of both Brazilian and international art".

The exhibition will also feature works that were recently added to the museum's collection, most of which come from a major donation received in 2024. "This is a highly significant assemblage of works, comprising both modernist and contemporary pieces, which enrich the museum's collection and play a key role in the upcoming exhibition. It even includes works by European modernist artists who were previously unrepresented in MAM's collection, such as Yves Klein and Henry Moore", says Cauê Alves, MAM's Chief Curator, who organized the exhibition in collaboration with Gabriela Gotoda.

One of the highlights of the recent donations is Vaso de Anêmona [Vase with Anemones] (1937), a watercolor by French artist Raoul Dufy. Seeing as the piece was received via an estate donation, the museum commissioned a professional authentication process based on technical and scientific analysis. The examination was conducted by experts Gustavo Raul Perino, from Givova Art Consulting, and Anauene Dias Soares, from Anauene Art Law.

A obra foi identificada por uma historiadora francesa contratada pela consultoria, que fez checagens na versão original física do catálogo raisonné de Dufy, já que a versão online não continha a aquarela. O único outro exemplar da obra de Dufy em coleções institucionais no Brasil está no Museu de Arte Contemporânea da USP (MAC USP).

A French art historian, hired by the consulting firm, identified the piece and verified its authenticity by cross-referencing it with the original printed version of Dufy's catalogue raisonné, as the online version did not include the watercolor. The only

## PRESS INFORMATION

### MAM São Paulo Press Office

imprensa@mam.org.br

### SESI-SP/Fiesp Cultural Center Communications Office

mariana.soares@sesisenaisp.org.br  
karina.costa@sesisp.org.br

Follow **mam** on social media: @mamsaopaulo

other institutional collection in Brazil to possess a work by Dufy is the Museu de Arte Contemporânea da USP (MAC USP).

The exhibition also constitutes a joint effort with MAM's Education department to elucidate the concepts of modern and contemporary art. "These concepts often seem synonymous and can be hard to distinguish. Often, one visits a contemporary art museum and finds modern artworks on display. The exhibition addresses common questions identified by the MAM Education team, giving the public greater autonomy in understanding art history", says co-curator Gabriela Gotoda.

## Where the Modern Meets the Contemporary

Our curatorial approach seeks to explore the differences and similarities between modern and contemporary art, drawing connections and associations between these two concepts and their respective periods within Brazilian art history.

The exhibition invites audiences to reflect on how the overlapping themes, styles, and processes found in works typically classified as modern or contemporary reveal both their affinities and distinctions, challenging the perceived divide between the two terms – modern and contemporary – and prompting a critical reconsideration of rigid historical and present-day definitions.

The convergence between and blurring of these two historical art periods is evident both in their evolution and in the critical discussions surrounding them, and is also reflected in MAM's collection. Particularly in Brazil, so-called contemporary production can be seen as an extension of one of the later modernist movements, post-war constructivism, that complicates any attempt to draw a clear chronological or conceptual division between the two.

While the origins of modern art are typically attributed to the European avant-gardes at the turn of the 20th century, Brazilian modernist production spanned much of that century, often overlapping with the development of new styles and techniques associated with contemporary artistic practices.

The historical narrative of modern art in Brazil has long overlooked the production of artists now termed "popular" or "naïve", such as José Antonio da Silva, Iracema Arditi, and Heitor dos Prazeres. Contemporaries of major figures in Brazilian modernism, these artists are not widely associated with modern art precisely because they do not easily conform to the aesthetic and conceptual frameworks of the avant-gardes.

In acknowledging this oversight, the exhibition aims to contribute to the ongoing discussion about the historical narratives of modern and contemporary art, and how we perceive the passage of time between them.

Undoubtedly, there are historical and theoretical distinctions that warrant extensive discussion. But ultimately, can we truly define a precise visual and

## PRESS INFORMATION

### MAM São Paulo Press Office

imprensa@mam.org.br

### SESI-SP/Fiesp Cultural Center Communications Office

mariana.soares@sesisenaisp.org.br  
karina.costa@sesisp.org.br

Follow **mam** on social media: @mamsaopaulo

temporal boundary between modern and contemporary art? How does this relate to our perception of historical time, and lived experience? The exhibition raises these questions, not with the aim of providing definitive answers, but rather to put forth alternative perspectives, empowering the public with the autonomy to draw their own insights through art, regardless of its historical period.

## Featured Artists

The exhibition will feature works by **Alberto da Veiga Guignard**, Aldo Bonadei, **Alex Cerveny**, **Alfredo Volpi**, **Anna Maria Maiolino**, **Ana Maria Tavares**, **André Komatsu**, **Antonio Henrique Amaral**, **Antonio Manuel**, **Antonio Dias**, **Arthur Luiz Piza**, **Artur Barrio**, **Beatriz Milhazes**, **Candido Portinari**, **Carlos Fajardo**, **Carlos Vergara**, **Carmela Gross**, **Cildo Meireles**, **Claudio Tozzi**, **Eduardo Berliner**, **Emiliano Di Cavalcanti**, **Ernesto de Fiori**, **Evandro Carlos Jardim**, **Farnese de Andrade**, **Ferreira Gullar**, **Flávio de Carvalho**, **Flávio Shiró**, **Francisco Rebolo**, **Franklin Cassaro**, **Geraldo de Barros**, **Haruka Kojin**, **Heitor dos Prazeres**, **Hélio Oiticica**, **Henry Moore**, **Hércules Barsotti**, **Iberê Camargo**, **Ione Saldanha**, **Iracema Arditi**, **Ismael Nery**, **John Graz**, **José Antonio da Silva**, **José Pancetti**, **Leda Catunda**, **León Ferrari**, **Leonilson**, **Leticia Parente**, **Lívio Abramo**, **Luiz Sacilotto**, **Marcello Grassmann**, **Marco Paulo Rolla**, **Mary Vieira**, **Mira Schendel**, **Oswaldo Goeldi**, **Raoul Dufy**, **Rodrigo Matheus**, **Rogério Canella**, **Rubens Gerchman**, **Samson Flexor**, **Sandra Cinto**, **Sérgio Camargo**, **Shirley Paes Leme**, **Siron Franco**, **Tadeu Jungle**, **Tarsila do Amaral**, **Thiago Rocha Pitta**, **Tunga**, **Victor Brecheret**, **Willys de Castro** and **Yves Klein**.

## About MAM São Paulo

Founded in 1948, the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo is a public interest non-governmental organization. Its collection features over 5,000 works by leading figures in modern and contemporary art, with a strong emphasis on Brazilian artists. Both the permanent collection and temporary exhibitions highlight experimental approaches, celebrating the diversity of global artistic production and reflecting the diverse and evolving interests of contemporary society.

The Museum offers a rich array of activities, including courses, seminars, lectures, performances, musical events, film screenings, and art workshops. To ensure accessibility for all visitors, exhibition content and activities are available with guided tours in Brazilian Sign Language, audio descriptions of artworks, and Brazilian Sign Language video guides. The Museum's library and archive, comprising 65,000 titles, include books, periodicals, documents, and audiovisual materials. Active exchange programs with museum libraries worldwide ensure the collection remains a dynamic resource.

Situated within Ibirapuera Park, São Paulo's largest urban green space, the MAM building, adapted by architect Lina Bo Bardi, features exhibition galleries,

## PRESS INFORMATION

### MAM São Paulo Press Office

imprensa@mam.org.br

### SESI-SP/Fiesp Cultural Center Communications Office

mariana.soares@sesisenaisp.org.br

karina.costa@sesisp.org.br

Follow **mam** on social media: @mamsaopaulo

a studio, library, auditorium, restaurant, and a shop where visitors can buy design products, art books, and MAM-branded items. The Museum's interiors seamlessly merge with the Sculpture Garden, conceived by Roberto Burle Marx to showcase works from the collection. All areas are fully accessible to visitors with disabilities.

## About SESI

A core mission of SESI-SP is to enrich civil society through comprehensive education, with culture as a central pillar. To this end, the institution develops programs and initiatives aimed at building new audiences for the arts, providing free and accessible cultural experiences, and fostering the national creative economy. The Centro Cultural Fiesp Art Gallery is an 850-square-meter exhibition space that is part of SESI-SP's multidisciplinary arts complex, which encompasses performing and visual arts, audiovisual media, music, literature, and technology. Over the years, it has hosted exhibitions featuring prominent national and international artists and collections.

## General Information:

### *MAM São Paulo: Where the Modern Meets the Contemporary*

Private Opening: March 25, 2025, Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Exhibition Period: March 26 to June 8, 2025

Location: Fiesp Cultural Center | Art Gallery

Address: Avenida Paulista, 1313 - Bela Vista, São Paulo

Hours: Tuesday to Sunday, 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Free Admission

## Centro Cultural Fiesp

<https://www.instagram.com/centroculturalfiesp/>

<https://www.facebook.com/centroculturalfiesp/>

<https://www.youtube.com/@CentroCulturalFiesp>

## MAM São Paulo

<https://www.instagram.com/mamsaopaulo/>

<https://www.facebook.com/mamsaopaulo/>

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

<https://twitter.com/mamsaopaulo>

## PRESS INFORMATION

### **MAM São Paulo Press Office**

[imprensa@mam.org.br](mailto:imprensa@mam.org.br)

### **SESI-SP/Fiesp Cultural Center Communications Office**

[mariana.soares@sesisenaisp.org.br](mailto:mariana.soares@sesisenaisp.org.br)

[karina.costa@sesisp.org.br](mailto:karina.costa@sesisp.org.br)

Follow **mam** on social media: @mamsaopaulo