

# IRAN DO ESPÍRITO SANTO

Iran do Espírito Santo has presented his work at the Venice Biennale (1999 & 2008), the Bienal de Sao Paulo (1987) and the Istanbul Biennial (2000). His work combines intricate and very large-scale wall drawings, conceived exclusively for the space in which they are made, with beautifully realised sculptures. These sculptures question the nature of things by dignifying the most banal of shapes (lightbulbs, cans, glasses, pencils) with shifted of scale or material, and so elevates the common place into objects of rarefied contemplation.

Santo's personal interpretation of the minimalist aesthetic has been described by *The New York Times* as "a pure form of visual perception" and by *Frieze* magazine as a means to "sort out the chaos of everyday experience".

Santo's first public installation *Playground*, commissioned by the Public Art Fund, was unveiled in September 2013 in Central Park, New York. Santo's major solo exhibition *Aside* was held at Ingleby Gallery from October - November 2013.

## Biography

1963 Born in Mococa, São Paulo, Brazil  
1986 BA in Fine Arts, Fundação Armando Alvares Penteado, São Paulo, Brazil

Lives and works in São Paulo, Brazil

## Selected Solo Exhibitions / Selected Projects:

2019 *Reflexivos*, Oi Futuro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
*O que emana da água*, Carbono Galeria, São Paulo, Brazil

2018 *Carpintaria*, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Arte Pública I Grande Campo*, Oi Futuro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

2017 *Iran do Espírito Santo: SHIFT*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, NY, USA

2014 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Alison Jaques Gallery, London, UK

2013 *Iran do Espírito Santo – Desenhos (1985 – 2013)*, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, Brasil  
*Aside*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Playground*, temporary commission by Public Art Fund in Central Park, New York, USA (10 September 2013 - 16 February 2014)  
*Recou (Retreat)*, temporary site-specific installation at Morumbi Chapel in São Paulo, Brazil (20 January - 26 May 2013)

2012 *Switch*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA  
*Iran do Espírito Santo*, Galeria Ruth Benzacar, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2011 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Illingworth Kerr Gallery, Alberta College of Art + Design, Calgary, Canada  
*Iran do Espírito Santo*, Celma Albuquerque Galeria de Arte, Lourdes, Brazil

2010 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Espacio AV, Murcia, Spain  
*Iran do Espírito Santo*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

2008 *Iran do Espírito Santo: Deposition*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA

- En Passant*, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2007 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Pinacoteca do Estado, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2006 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland  
*Iran do Espírito Santo*, MAXXI (Museo Nazionale delle Arti del XXI Secolo), Rome, Italy (Traveling exhibition)
- 2005 CRTN, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2004 *Replacement*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA  
*Iran do Espírito Santo*, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Iran do Espírito Santo*, Museo de Arte Carrillo Gil, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2003 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Museu da Pampulha, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
- 2002 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Museu de Arte Moderna Aloísio Magalhães, Recife, Brazil  
*Iran do Espírito Santo*, Galeria Vicente do Rego, Monteiro, Brazil  
*Parallel Reality*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA
- 2001 *Nada Mais Natural*, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Iran do Espírito Santo*, The Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA  
*Iran do Espírito Santo*, Galeria Camargo Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Photoshop Sunset*, MAM Higienópolis, São Paulo, Brazil.
- 2000 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, The Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA  
*Iran do Espírito Santo*, Galeria Andre Viana, Oporto, Portugal
- 1999 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Projeto Parede, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1998 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Paul Morris Gallery, New York, USA
- 1997 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Galeria Camargo Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1996 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Randolph Street Gallery, Chicago, Illinois, USA
- 1995 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Galeria Luisa Strina, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1994 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Espaço Cultural Sergio Porto, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 1992 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Galeria Luisa Strina, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Plug-In, Inc.* Gallery, Winnipeg, Canada

### **Selected Group Exhibitions:**

- 2020 *O Farol e o céu de São Paulo*, Farol Santander, São Paulo, Brazil (forthcoming)
- 2019 *#tbt*, Carpintaria, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
*Artists Need to Create on the Same Scale that Society Has the Capacity to Destroy: Mare Nostrum*, Chiesa di Santa Maria delle Penitenti, Venice, Italy  
*Geometrias*, Museu Brasileiro da Escultura e Ecologia, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Coleções no MuBE: Dulce e João Carlos de Figueiredo Ferraz*, Brazilian, Museu Brasileiro da Escultura e Ecologia, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Passado/Futuro/Presente: Arte contemporânea brasileira no acervo*, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Rios dos navegantas*, Museu de Arte de Rio, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2018 *TWENTY*, Ingleby, Edinburgh, UK  
*EDIFICE, COMPLEX, VISIONARY, STRUCTURE*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York

- Intention and Gesture*, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Goiás, Goiânia, Brazil  
*MAM 70, MAM e MAC, MAM*, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Mundo Vasto Mundo*, Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, Lisbon, Portugal  
*Rejuvenesça!*, Casa do Povo, São Paulo, Brasil  
*That Obscure Object of Desire*, Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2017  
*A cor do Brasil*, Museu de Arte do Rio, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
*Clube de Gravura: 30 Anos*, Museu de Arte Moderna São Paulo, Brazil  
*Fora da ordem – Obra da Coleção Helga de Alvear*, Piacoteca de São Paulo, Brazil  
*EXPO Video*, Spazio Ridotto, Venice, Italy  
*Light*, Galeria Lago, Instituto Inhotim, Brumadinho, Brazil  
*MAXXI Collection*, Museo Nazionale Delle Arti Del XXI Secolo MAXXI, Rome, Italy  
*Transparência e Reflexo*, Museu Brasileiro de Escultura, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Os muitos e o um: arte contemporânea brasileira na coleção de Andrea e José Olympio Pereira*, Instituto Tomie Ohtake, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Situações*, Estação Pincoteca, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Toda Percepción es una Interpretación: YOU ARE PART OF IT*, Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, Miami, Florida  
*Vértice, Coleção Sérgio Carvalho*, Centro Cultural Correios, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2015  
*By the Book*, Sean Kelly, New York  
*Il Museo tra I banchi di Scuola*, Museum Nazionale delle Arti del XXI Secolo, Rome, Italy  
*Teoría del Duende*, Centro Federico García Lorca, Granada, Spain
- 2014  
*Have we been here for a long time?*, Galerie Michel Rein, Paris, France  
*poder provisório*, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
*In The Beginning / End-States*, Sgorbati Projects, New York, New York  
*Duplo Olhar*, Paço das Artes, São Paulo, Brazil  
*140 Caracteres*, MAM Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Inventário da Paixão*, Museu Histórico Nacional, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
*Made by Brazilians*, Cidade Matarazzo, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Impulse, Reason, Sense, Conflict: Abstract Art from the Ella Fontanals-Cisneros Collection*, The Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, Miami, Florida
- 2013  
*Concrete Remains: Postwar and Contemporary Art from Brazil*, curated by Jacopo Crivelli Visconti, Gardarin Tierney, New York, NY, USA  
30th Biennial, São Paulo Biennial, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Order, Chaos, and the Space Between: Contemporary Latin American Art from the Diane and Bruce Halle Collection*, Phoenix Art Museum, Pheonix, USA  
*Pataphysics: A Theoretical Exhibition*, Sean Kelly, New York, New York.  
*Works on Paper*, i8 Gallery, Reykjavik, Iceland  
*On Paper*, Centro de Artes Visuales Fundación Helga de Alvear, Cáceres, Spain  
*The Author as Artist / The Artist as Publisher*, USP MAC - Museum of Contemporary Art, University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil.  
*The Plots of Time in Contemporary Art: Aesthetic or Poetic*, Institute Figueiredo Ferraz, Ribeirão Preto, Brazil  
*Art and Design*, Santander Cultural, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
*Generation 80*, Berenice Arvani Gallery, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
*Encuentros / Tensiones: Contemporary Latin American Art*, Museum of Latin American Art of Buenos Aires (MALBA) Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2012  
*Language Games. An Introduction to The Art of Our Times*, Centro de Artes Visuales Fundación Helga de Alvear, Cáceres, Spain  
*Tridimensionale*, Museo Nazionale delle Arti del XXI Secolo, Rome, Italy  
*Shapeshift with Sarah Braman, Iran do Espirito Santo, Jim Hodeges & Erin Shirreff*, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London  
*Language Games. An Introduction to The Art of Our Times*, Visuales Arts Center  
*Buzz*, Galeria Nara Roesler, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 2011  
*El Rayo Verde*, Ruth Benzacar Gallery, Buenos Aires, Argentina

- Nod Nod Wink Wink*, The Harewood Museum of Art, Taos, New Mexico, USA  
*Silence & Time*, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas, USA  
*Mystics or Rationalists?* Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Conversations: Los Carpinteros, James Casebere, Iran do Espírito Santo, Callum Innes*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, USA  
*Well Beuys and Beyond - Teaching as Art* ("Beuys and Beyond - How to Teach Art ") Instituto Tomie Ohtake, Sao Paulo, Brazil.  
*A View from Above*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, USA
- 2010 *Epilogue*, MAZ - Museo de Arte de Zapopan , Zapopan, Mexico  
*Office El Blanco*, Fundacion Jumex, Mexico City, Mexico  
*They Knew What They Wanted*, Altman Siegel Gallery, San Francisco, USA  
*El Gabinete Blanco*, Fundacion Jumex, Mexico City, Mexico  
*MAXXI* (inaugural exhibition), Rome, Italy
- 2009 *Sometimes Making Something Leads to Nothing*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Desenhos [Drawings]: A-Z*, Museo da Cidade, Lisboa, Portugal
- 2008 *Jasper Johns Lightbulb*, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (MCASD), La Jolla, California, USA  
*Ressonância, Resonance, Resonanz: Iran do Espírito Santo, Callum Innes, Wolfgang Laib*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA  
*Order. Desire. Light. An Exhibition of contemporary drawings*, Irish Museum of Contemporary Art, Dublin, Ireland  
*A Year in Drawing*, Galerie Lelong, New York, USA  
*Exhibition Architecture: The nextENTERprise*, Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary Collection as Aleph, Vienna, Austria
- 2007 *Poul Kjærholm: Structures and Surfaces*, Sean Kelly Gallery and R Gallery, New York, USA  
*Mono#cromáticos: Vertentes na arte contemporânea Brasileira*, Galeria, Mário Sequeira, Braga, Portugal  
*Homing Devices*, USF Contemporary Art Museum, Florida, USA  
*Bienal de Valencia*, Valencia, Spain  
*Garden of Power (Jardim do Poder)*, Brasilia, Brazil  
*Montreal Biennial*, Montreal, Canada (curated by Wayne Baerwald)  
*PURE*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA  
*Think with the Senses – Feel with the Mind*, Art in the Present Tense, Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy (curated by the Robert Storr)
- 2006 *Espaço Aberto/ Espaço Fechado: Sites for Sculpture in Modern Brazil*, Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, UK  
*In the Eye of the Beholder*, Elaine Jacob Gallery, Wayne State University, Detroit, USA  
*Less is More, More or Less*, Martin Weinstein Gallery, Minnesota, USA  
*TRANSACTION: Contemporary Latin American and Latino Art*, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, California, USA
- 2005 *5a Bienal de Arte do Mercosul*, Porto Alegre, Brazil  
*10 anos de um novo MAM: Antologia do acervo*, Grande Sala, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Desenhos: A- Z*, Coleção Madeira Corporate Services, Porta 33, Ilha da Madeira, Portugal  
*Drawings + Sculpture*, Cook Fine Art, New York, USA  
*Glass*, Seriously, Dorsky Gallery, Long Island City, New York, USA  
*In Line*, Jessica Bradley Art + Projects, Toronto, USA  
*InSite\_05, Farsites: Urban Crises and Domestic Symptoms in Recent Contemporary Art*, Centro Cultural Tijuana/San Diego Museum of Art, California, USA
- 2004 *Arte Contemporânea Brasileira nas coleções do Rio*, MAM RJ, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
*Bazar de Verão*, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Fragmentos e souvenirs paulistanos*, vol.1, Galeria Luisa Strina, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Paralela 2004*, São Paulo, Brazil  
*MoMA at El Museo del Barrio*, Latin American and Caribbean Art from the Collection of the Museum of Modern Art, El Museo del Barrio, New York, USA

- Needful Things: Recent Multiples*, Cleveland Museum of Art, Ohio, USA  
*The Furniture of Poul Kjaerholm and Selected Art Work*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA  
*Still Life - Natureza Morta*, Galeria de Arte do Centro Cultural FIESP, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2003  
*Stretch*, The Power Plant, Toronto, Canada  
*A Nova Geometria*, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil  
*upon reflection.....*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA
- 2002  
*Material World: From Lichtenstein to Viola; 25 Years of The Fabric Workshop and Museum*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia  
*Rotativa Fase 2*, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Paralela*, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, Casa Triângulo and Galeria Luisa Strina, São Paulo, Brazil  
Galeria Brito Cimino, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2001  
*Rotativa Fase 1*, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Rivane Neuenschwander and Iran do Espírito Santo*, The Americas Society, New York, USA  
*Caminhos do Contemporâneo*, Paço Imperial, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
*Coleção Dulce e João Carlos Figueiredo Ferraz*, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Idéia Coletiva*, Galeria Camargo Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Panorama da Arte Brasileira*, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo; Solar do Unhão, Salvador; Museu de Arte Moderna de Salvador, Salvador, Brazil  
*Trajatória da Luz na Arte Brasileira*, Itaú Cultural, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Domestic Acts*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA  
*No es Sólo lo que Ves: Pervertiendo el Minimalismo*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain  
*F(r)icciones*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain
- 2000  
*Visiones del Sur*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain  
*Universo Desenho*, Galeria Camargo Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil  
*XIII Mostra de Gravura da Cidade de Curitiba*, Curitiba, Brazil  
*6th Istanbul Biennial*, Istanbul, Turkey
- 1999  
*Camargo Vilaça BIS*, Galeria Camargo Vilaça, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Contaminação*, Museu da Imagem e do Som, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Project Room*, ARCO 1999, Madrid, Spain  
*48th Venice Biennial*, Venice, Italy  
*Art on Paper*, Weatherspoon Art Gallery, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, North Carolina, USA
- 1997  
*In Site'97*, San Diego, CA, USA; Tijuana, Mexico  
*Present Tense: Nine Artists in the Nineties*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, California, USA  
*Panorama da Arte Brasileira*, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Ao Cubo*, Paço das Artes, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1996  
*Beige*, Galeria Luisa Strina, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Pequenas Mãos*, Centro Cultural Alumni, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1995  
*Fagosites*, Gallery 400, Chicago, Illinois, USA  
*Corte do Olhar*, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil; Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
*XI Mostra da Gravura da Cidade de Curitiba*, Curitiba, Brazil
- 1994  
*Espelhos e Sombras*, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Outros Territórios: travessia pela sexualidade*, Paço das Artes, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Projeto Tamarindo*, Museu da Gravura, Curitiba, Brazil  
*Do Brazil*, The Albuquerque Museum, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA
- 1993  
*Uma Outra Fotografia*, Espaço Useche, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Coletiva de Pintura*, Espaço Namour, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Língua Latina Est Regina*, Stux Gallery, New York, USA

- 1992 *Câmaras*, Solar dos Câmaras, Porto Alegre, Brazil  
*X Mostra de Gravura da Cidade de Curitiba*, Curitiba, Brazil
- 1991 *Artistas Contemporâneos no Engenho Central*, Piracicaba, Brazil
- 1990 *Apropriações*, Paço das Artes, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Projeto Macumáima*, Funarte, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 1989 *Real*, Instituto de Arquitetos do Brasil, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1988 *Ação no MAM*, Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1987 *XIX Bienal Internacional de São Paulo*, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Imagem de Segunda Geração*, Museu de Arte Contemporânea da Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1986 *A Nova Dimensão do Objeto*, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1985 *Desenhos*, Centro Cultural Bonfiglioli, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Gráfica Contemporânea*, Galeria Humberto, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Desenhar*, Galeria Itaú, Ribeirão Preto, Brazil  
*Evento/Exposição*, Salão Cultural FAAP, São Paulo, Brazil  
*E o Desenho?*, Galeria Humberto, São Paulo, Brazil  
1984 *Arte na Rua*, Projeto de Outdoors, São Paulo, Brazil

### **Selected Collections**

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA  
Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland  
Centro de Arte Contemporânea Inhotim, Brumadinho, Brazil  
Instituto Itaú Cultural, São Paulo, Brazil  
Museu de Arte Contemporânea da Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
Museu de Arte Moderna Aloísio Magalhães, Recife, Brazil  
Museu de Arte da Pampulha, Belo Horizonte, Brazil  
Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil  
Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, California, USA  
Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA  
Museu Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain  
Museo Nazionale delle arti del XXI Secolo, Rome, Italy  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California, USA

### **Publications**

- 2006 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Séan Kissane (ed.), Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland  
*Iran do Espírito Santo*, Paolo Colombo (ed.), Electa, Milan, Italy
- 1998 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, exhibition catalogue, Galeria Camargo Vilaça, Sao Paulo, Brazil