

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:

2024 *Trilha*, Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, São Paulo, Brazil
Iran do Espírito Santo, Mazzoleni, London, UK

2022 *Janela Reflexiva*, Galpão, São Paulo, Brazil

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:

- 2023 *Twenty-Five*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
Chosen Memories, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- 2022 *A Sua Estupidez*, Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2020 *Cities in Dust*, Carpintaria, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
O Farol e o céu de São Paulo, Farol Santander, São Paulo, Brazil

- 2019 *#bt*, 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 Años, 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 Piacoteca, 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, Phoenix, 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 Espirito 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 (Jardin 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 Macumaima, 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

- 2011 *Iran do Espírito Santo: Wall Drawings*, Alberta College of Art and Design, Canada
- 2006 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, Séan Kissane (ed.), Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
Iran do Espírito Santo, Paolo Colombo (ed.), Edizioni Electa, Milan, Italy
- 1998 *Iran do Espírito Santo*, exhibition catalogue, Galeria Camargo Vilaça, Sao Paulo, Brazil