



Artur Pereira

# Biography

Artur Pereira

1920, Cachoeira do Brumado | MG – Brazil - 2003, Mariana | MG – Brazil

He began working very early in his life to help support his large family (father, mother and seven siblings). He was a land worker, charcoal dealer, stonemason and carpenter, before discovering his talent for sculpture. When a lad he modeled little clay animal for the Nativity Scene and dried them in the sun. He took a much bigger step from the little clay figures to the larger single image, carved in wood, because of the different kind of materials. The characteristics of smoothing and handling clay modeling perhaps gave his figures the rounded appearance of polished smoothness. He continued sculpting single pieces, often painted, until he moved on to groups in 1968. The figures were now carved by the artist directly from blocks of cedar. Animals, men e birds are never treated separately, so that they later fit into the piece, but created one by one from the solid material.

Artur Pereira's sculptures cover three kinds of elements: those referring to the Catholic liturgy, consisting basically of the Nativity; those concerning rural activities, such as hunting, horsemen, herds of cattle; those representing wild life, such as land (leopard, ox, sheep, dog, lion, snake), aquatic (fish) and winged (birds resting, flying or pecking at fruit) animals. There are very few plants. We only encounter, even as a very stylized plant element, a forest, a magnificent hollowed cylinder, where the main elements are leopards. Often in his creations is the prevailing presence of the leopard, very often placed in hollows under Nativity scenes, emerging from symbolic forests or even looming large at the bottom of large carved tables, on whose top are spread a large herd of feline ambiguity, with its cowboy on horseback. He participated in all major Brazilian popular art exhibitions held abroad, such as Brésil – Arts Populaires (Paris, 1978) and the Rediscovery Exhibition (São Paulo Biennial Foundation, 2000).

Source: Little Dictionary of the Brazilian People's Art – 20th Century, by anthropologist and poet Lélia Coelho Frota



**Individual Exhibitions:**

2019 Faith and Fauna, Centro Cultural Popular Cemig, Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil

2009 Artur Pereira, Moreira Salles Institute, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

2010 Artur Pereira, Moreira Salles Institute, Poços de Caldas, MG, Brazil

2010 Artur Pereira, Instituto Moreira Salles, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2010 Artur Pereira, Instituto Moreira Salles, Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil

**Collective Exhibitions:**

2023 "Reverses and Transverses": Artists Outside the Mainstream (and Friends) at the Biennials, Galeria Estação, São Paulo – SP | Brazil

2021 They Were Already Here, Galeria Base, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2021 Earth and Temperature, Almeida e Dale, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2016 Between looks, Museu Afro Brasil, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2016 A certain look - Celma Albuquerque Collection, Galeria Estação, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2012 - 2013 Janete Costa "A Look", Janete Costa Museum of Popular Art, Niterói, RJ, Brazil

2012 Mineiros' Sculpture, City Hall - Eduardo Gomes Cultural Space, Itapeva, SP, Brazil

- 2011 Mineiros' Sculpture, Museu Paulo Setubal, Tatuí, SP, Brazil
- 2011 Mineiros' Sculpture, Galeria Estação, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2010 Pure Mixtures, Pavilion of Brazilian Cultures, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2009 Occupying the Space, Museu de Arte Brasileira (FAAP), São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2008 - 2009 Imagination of the Brazilian People Exhibition, Antiquarius Restaurant, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2007 The size of Brazil - Popular Art Exhibition, SESC Paulista, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2007 Between two seas: São Paulo-Valencia Biennial, Convento del Carmo, Valencia, Spain
- 2006 Live Culture Live the Brazilian People, Afro Museum, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2006 SOMOS - The Popular Brazilian Creation, Santander Cultural Center, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil
- 2005 Form, Color and Expression, Galeria Estação, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2005 Year of Brazil in France, Carreau du Temple, Marais district, Paris, France
- 2002 POP Brazil I Popular art and popular in Art, Banco do Brasil Cultural Center, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2001 Popular Expression, Centro Cultural Light, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 2000 Rediscovery Exhibition, Fundação Bienal São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1999 Naive Geniuses 70/80, Brasilia, Brazil
- 1995 The heirs of the night: fragments of the black imaginary, Belo Horizonte Cultural Center, Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil
- 1995 - 1994 The heirs of the night: fragments of the black imaginary, Pinacoteca of the state of São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1993 People of the earth, Paço das Artes, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1994 The heirs of the night: fragments of the imaginary, Espaço Cultural SOS Sul, Brasília, DF, Brazil
- 1990 Noah's Ark, Gesto Gráfico Galeria de Arte Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil
- 1987 Brésil, Arts Populaires, Grand Palais, Paris, France

**Public Collections:**

Fundação de Arte Ouro Preto, (FAOP), Ouro Preto, Minas Gerais, Brazil

Edison Carneiro Folklore Museum, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

São Francisco Cultural Center, João Pessoa, PB, Brazil

Casa do Pontal Museum, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

**Selected Publications:**

2018 Brazilian popular art: contemporary views, publisher WMF Martins Fontes, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2012 Janete Costa “Um Olhar”, Janete Costa Museum of Popular Art, Niterói, RJ, Brazil

2012 Escultores Mineiros, Galeria Estação, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2010 Pavilion of Brazilian Cultures: Puras Misturas, Catalog, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2009 Artur Pereira - Sculptures, Moreira Salles Institute, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2007 Meeting Between Two Seas: São Paulo-Valencia Biennial, Catalog, Valencia, Spain

2007 The size of Brazil - Popular art show, SESC Paulista, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2007 Viva a Cultura Viva do Povo Brasileiro, AfroBrasil Museum, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2005 Espaço Brasil: Catalog, Carreau du Temple, Marais district - Paris, France

2005 Pequeno Dicionário da Arte do Povo Brasileiro - 20th century, Lélia Coelho Frota, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2002 POP Brazil I A Arte popular e o popular na Arte, Banco do Brasil Cultural Center, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2000 Rediscovery Exhibition - Brazil 500 years I Popular Art, Takano Editora, Brazil

1995 The heirs of the night: fragments of the black imagination: 300 years of Zumbi, Ministry of Culture, Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

1988 The Afro-Brazilian hand: Meaning of Artistic and Historical Contribution, Emílio Odebrecht Foundation, São Paulo, SP, Brazil



# Exhibitions



2010 Artur Pereira, Instituto Moreira Salles, São Paulo, SP, Brazil









2011 Mineiros' Sculptures, Galeria Estação, São Paulo, SP, Brazil





# Artworks



Untitled, 80's  
Wooden sculpture  
118 x 37 x 43 cm | 46.45 x 14.56 x 16.92 in









Nativity scene, 80's  
Wooden sculpture  
62 x 38 x 69 cm | 24.40 x 14.96 x 27.16 in







Untitled, 80's  
Wooden sculpture  
31 x 55 x 36 cm | 12.20 x 21.65 x 14.17 in



Untitled,  
Wooden sculpture  
93 x 26 x 46 cm | 36.61 x 10.23 x 18.11 in







Galhada, 80's  
Wooden sculpture  
174 x 132 x 83 cm | 57.87 x 51.96 x 32.67 in







With a collection among the most important of the country, Galeria Estação, inaugurated at the end of 2004, devoted itself to revealing and promoting the production of Brazilian non-scholar art. The gallery was responsible for including this language in the contemporary art scene, while editing publications and holding individual and collective exhibitions inside and outside the country.

Galeria Estação works with well-known self-taught artists from various regions of Brazil, such as Agostinho Batista de Freitas, Alcides dos Santos, Amadeo Luciano Lorenzato, Artur Pereira, Aurelino dos Santos, Chico Tabibuia, Cícero Alves dos Santos-Véio, GTO, Gilvan Samico, Itamar Julião, João Cosmo Felix-Nino, José Antônio da Silva, José Bezerra, Manuel Graciano, Maria Auxiliadora, Mirian Inês da Silva, Neves Torres, among others.

Currently the gallery has been incorporating to its cast artists belonging to the contemporary artistic circuit whose works interact with non-scholar creation, such as André Ricardo, José Bernnô, Julio Villani, Germana Monte-Mór, Moisés Patrício e Santídio Pereira.

Starting from this rare competence, the space is able to offer a historical and current panorama of a production that went beyond the limits of self-thought art, at the same time as it investigates names that, independently of the formation, work with elements from the same source.

Galeria Estação

Rua Ferreira de Araújo, 625 – Pinheiros, São Paulo, SP, Brazil – phone: (+5511) 3813-7253

From Monday to Friday, from 11am to 7pm, Saturday from 11am to 3pm

[www.galeriaestacao.com.br](http://www.galeriaestacao.com.br)

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