

Antônio Poteiro

Biography

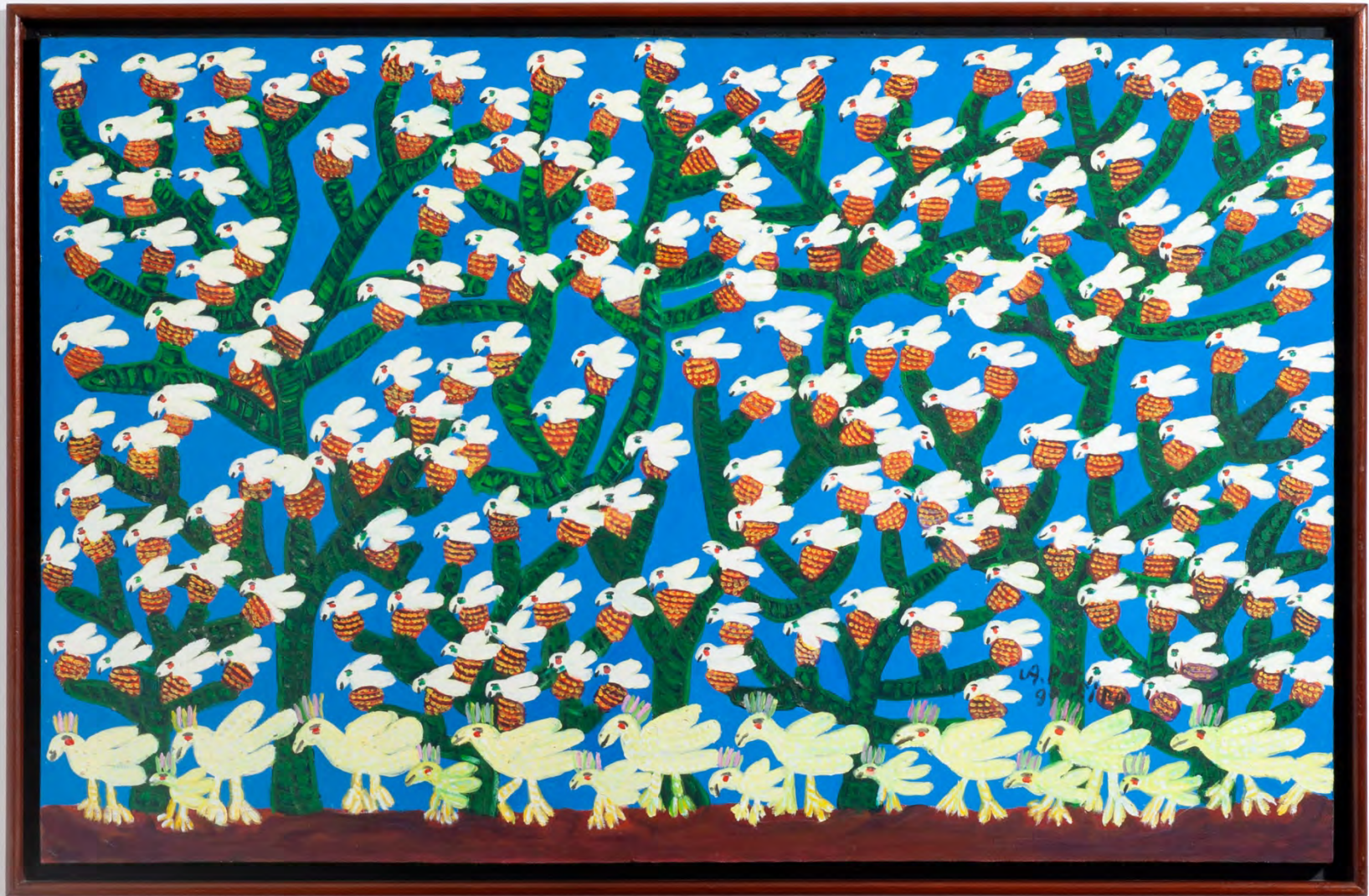
Antônio Poteiro [Antônio Batista de Souza]

1925, Santa Cristina da Posse, Braga, Portugal | 2010, Goiânia, GO, Brazil

Antônio Batista de Souza arrived in Brazil as an infant. He lived in São Paulo, Minas Gerais and among the Carajás Indians on Bananal Island. In 1955, he settled permanently in Goiânia (GO). He worked as a cistern digger, baker, cook and cleaner before starting a pottery business in Araguari with his father, the ceramist Américo de Souza who made pots and other household items. This was why the nickname Poteiro was added to his name. From the development of the skill to make pots came a desire to produce more sculptural forms from clay. Poteiro carved saints, large urns with embossing, animals associated with the sacred, dreams that generate humanity. Rarely has the marriage of an earth art with themes of the creation of the world found an interpreter as extraordinary as Poteiro. “There is a Baroque theatricality in his work”, writes critic Aline Figueiredo.

In fact, a large part of his work follows a religious theme. In 1973, inspired by Siron Franco, Poteiro started painting directly on canvas. He had no previous drawing experience but in a dramatic way began using primary colors with masterful balance. In addition to his religious focus, there is a sense of political criticism in many his works. In one of his “Last Suppers” drawings, for example, the table decoration is made with dollar and pound notes. “In painting”, he declares in a 1977 interview with Frederico de Moraes, “I use the same themes as ceramics: God-only, God-scale, a handful of saints, regional themes, horseback riding, cirandas all with a little bit of fantasy out of my head”. His work, although numerous, demonstrates a high level of achievement which places him among the most important artists in the country. Poteiro gained international prominence. He participated twice in the São Paulo International Biennial (1981 and 1991), exhibited in more than twenty countries and received numerous awards in art salons with wide recognition from the critics.

Source: Pequeno Dicionário do Povo Brasileiro, século XX I Lélia Coelho Frota – Aeroplano, 2005



Individual Exhibitions:

2022 As matérias vivas de Antonio Poteiro: Barro, cor e poesia, Centro Cultural Octo Marques, Goiânia – GO | Brasil

2022 As matérias vivas de Antonio Poteiro: Barro, cor e poesia, Museu Nacional da República, Brasília – DF | Brasil

2020 Poteiro - A tribute, Galeria Estação, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2014 The Brazil of Poteiro, Museu de Artes Brasil-Estados Unidos (Mabeu), Belém

2012 Tribute to Antônio Poteiro, MAG - Art Museum of Goiânia, Goiânia, GO, Brazil

2010 Discovering the Brazil of Poteiro, Museu Nacional da República, Brasília

2000 500 Years of Brazil by Antonio, the Brazilian Poteiro, Teatro Nacional Cláudio Santoro, Brasília, DF, Brazil

1997 Antônio Poteiro, Galeria Nara Roesler, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

1996 Antônio Poteiro, Manoel Macedo Art Office, Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil

1996 33 Years Retrospective: Ceramics and Painting, Jaime Câmara Foundation, Casa Grande Gallery, Goiânia, GO, Brazil

1994 Antônio Poteiro, São Paulo Art Gallery, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

1991 Antônio Poteiro, French Embassy: Galeria Le Corbusier, Brasília, DF, Brazil

1987 Antônio Poteiro, Embassy of Portugal: Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Brasília, DF, Brazil

1987 Antônio Poteiro, Casino Art Gallery, Estoril, Portugal

1987 Antônio Poteiro, Versailles Art Gallery, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

1986 Antônio Poteiro, Brazilian-American Cultural Institute, Washington, United States

1985 Antônio Poteiro, Bonino Gallery, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
1985 Antônio Poteiro, Guayasamin Foundation, Guayaquil, Ecuador
1985 Antônio Poteiro, Guayasamin Foundation, Quito, Ecuador
1985 Antônio Poteiro, Guayasamin Foundation, Cuenca, Ecuador
1984 Antônio Poteiro, São Paulo Art Gallery, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
1983 Antônio Poteiro, Bonino Gallery, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
1982 Antônio Poteiro, Oscar Seraphico Art Gallery, Brasília, DF, Brazil
1981 Antônio Poteiro, Bonino Gallery, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

Collective Exhibitions:

2023 "Reverses and Transverses": Artists Outside the Mainstream (and Friends) at the Biennials, galeria Estação, Sao Paulo – SP | Brazil
2021 They Were Already Here, Galeria Base, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
2021 Raw State, Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro
2020 Highlights, Museu de Arte Moderna de Rio de Janeiro MAM-RJ, Rio de Janeiro
2019 The Sacred on the Modern Brazilian Art, Museu de Arte Sacra de São Paulo (MAS), São Paulo, SP, Brazil
2016 A Certain Look - Celma Albuquerque Collection, Galeria Estação, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
2016 Between looks: poetics of the Brazilian soul, Museu Afro-Brasil, São Paulo
2009 The Art of Collecting You, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Mato Grosso do Sul MARCO, Mato Grosso do Sul, Campo Grande
2009 Brazil Brazilian, Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil (CCBB São Paulo), São Paulo, SP, Brazil

- 2008 Four Generations, Fundação Jaime Câmara, Goiás, Goiânia
- 2007 Siron Franco e Antônio Porteiro, Goiás, Goiânia
- 2005 Encounters and Reunions in Naif Art: Brazil-Haiti, Museu de Arte Brasileira (MAB-FAAP), São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2005 Encounters and Reunions in Naif Art: Brazil-Haiti, Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil (CCBB Brasília), Brasília, Brazil
- 2004 22 Exhibitions of Contemporary Artists, Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, RJ
- 2003 Paper and Tridimensional, Galeria Arvani Arte, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2003 Brazilianart Project, Almacén Galeria de Arte, Rio de Janeiro
- 2003 Humanities, Galeria Tina Zappoli, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil
- 2003 Humanities, Tina Zappoli Gallery, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil
- 2003 Treasures of the Caixa: Brazilian modern art in the collection of Caixa, Conjunto Cultural da Caixa, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 2002 Art that Unites: diversity and confluence: Brazil- Europe, Museu de Arte de Brasília, Brasília, Brazil
- 2002 6º Biennial of Brazil Folk Art, Piracicaba, São Paulo
- 2002 Folk Art of Brazil, Caixa Cultural São Paulo, SP Brazil
- 2002 Pop Brazil: popular and the popular in art, CCBB, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2001 Shape-and-Color as Light in the Naïfs, Itaú Cultural Gallery Brasília, DF, Brazil
- 2001 Shape-and-Color as Light in Naïfs, Itaú Cultural Gallery, Penápolis, SP, Brazil
- 2000 Brazilian Ceramic: the construction of a language, Centro Brasileiro Britânico, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2000 Trajectories and Profiles: the art from Goiania at MAC collection, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Goiás, Goiânia
- 2000 “Brasilidades”, Light Centro Cultural, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 2000 Brazil + 500 Rediscovery Exhibition, Biennial Foundation, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2000 Brazilian Ceramics: building a language, British Brazilian Center, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

- 1998 Exhibition of the Caixa Collection, Conjunto Cultural da Caixa, Curitiba, PR, Brazil
- 1998 16th National Exhibition of Fine Arts, MAM / RJ, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 1998 Exhibition of the Caixa Collection, at the Caixa Cultural Complex, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 1997 Exhibition of the Caixa Collection, Caixa Cultural Complex, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil
- 1997 Parallel Exhibition, Caixa Economica Federal Museum, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil
- 1997 Exhibition of the Caixa Collection, Caixa Cultural Complex, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1996 Brasilianische Kunst der Gegenwart, Bayer AG - Foyer Hochhaus W1, Leverkusen, Germany
- 1996 Brasilianische Kunst der Gegenwart, Bayer AG - Feierabendhaus, Dormagen, Germany
- 1996 Contemporary Brazilian Art, MAM / SP, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1995 Brasília Collections, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Itamaraty Palace, Brasília, DF, Brazil
- 1995 Sons of Abaporu, Art of Brazil, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1994 Naïf Painting, Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Lisbon, Portugal
- 1993 3º Biennial Art of Goiás, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Goiás, Goiânia
- 1993 People of the Earth, Galeria Jacques Ardires, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1992 A. Poteiro, Lorenzato, Rodelnégio, Manoel Macedo Art Gallery, Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil
- 1992 Long live the Brazilian People, MAM / RJ, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 1991 21st São Paulo International Biennial, Biennial Foundation, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1990 Painting, Presence and People in Brazilian Art, Museu da Casa Brasileira, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1989 3rd Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba
- 1988 The Fascinating World of Naive Painters, Paço Imperial, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 1988 Primitive Brazilian Painting Exhibition, The Ginza Art Space, Tokyo, Japan
- 1987 Brazil, Art Populaire Contemporain, Grand Palais, France, Paris

- 1987 Brazil-Folk Art, Galeria Báb Rouah, Rabat, Morocco
- 1985 16th Panorama of Current Brazilian Art, MAM / SP, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1984 7th National Exhibition of Plastic Arts, MAM / RJ, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 1983 80 Years of Brazilian Art, Clóvis Salgado Foundation, Palácio das Artes, Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil
- 1983 80 Years of Brazilian Art, MACC, Campinas, SP, Brazil
- 1983 80 Years of Brazilian Art, MAC / PR, Curitiba, PR, Brazil
- 1983 14th Panorama of Current Brazilian Art, MAM / SP, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1982 80 Years of Brazilian Art, MAB / FAAP, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1981 16th International Biennial of São Paulo, Fundação Bienal, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1980 4th Biennale International Naïf, Lombardia, Italy
- 1980 4th Biennale International Naïf, Fiera, Italy
- 1980 4th Biennale International Naïf, Ente, Italy
- 1980 Naïf Painting Salon, Cassino Estoril Art Gallery, Estoril, Portugal
- 1980 Collective, promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, Philippines
- 1980 Collective, promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, Romania
- 1980 Collective, promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, Hannover, Germany
- 1980 People of the Earth, Paço das Artes, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1980 Collective, promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 1978 Four Artists from Goiás, Institute of Higher Studies, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1978 Four Artists from Goiás, Casa de Cultura de Monterrey, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1978 Four Artists from Goiás, Instituto Ateneu Fuentes de Saltillo, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1978 Ceramics and Painting, SESC Activity Center, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

1978 Brazilian Naïf Painters, Naïve Art Gallery, San Francisco, United States
1978 1st Latin American Biennial of São Paulo, Biennial Foundation, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
1976 Brazilian Popular Art / Jacques de Benqué Collection, MAM / RJ, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
1976 13th National Biennial, Biennial Foundation, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
1976 Ceramics of the SESI Salon, SESI, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
1974 1st Biennale International Naïf, Como, Italy
1972 Ceramics collective, Salomé Gallery, New Orleans, United States
1968 Ceramics, Museum of Popular Art, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
1967 Ceramics, Museum of Salvador, Salvador, BA, Brazil

Public Collections:

Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
MAM Rio, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
MAM SP, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
Museu da Casa Brasileira, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
Municipal Museum of Obidor, Obidor, Portugal

Selected Publications:

2021 Estado Bruto, Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro
2020 Realces, Museu de Arte Moderna de Rio de Janeiro MAM-RJ, Rio de Janeiro

- 2020 Poteiro - A tribute, Vilma Eid e Ana Avelar, Lis Gráfica, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2016 A Certain Look exhibition catalog - Celma Albuquerque Collection, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2005 Small Dictionary of the Art of the Brazilian People - 20th century, Lélia Coelho Frota, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 2002 The World of Brazilian Popular Art, Angela Mascelani, Casa do Pontal Museum, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 2000 Brazil + 500 Rediscovery Exhibition: Popular Art, Catalog, Biennial Foundation, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1996 Fine Arts Brazil 96 - Júlio Louzada
- 1992 Fine Arts Brasil 92, Júlio Louzada
- 1990 L'Arbre ET Les NAFS, Jacques Brosse, Ed. Max Fourny, France
- 1987 Brazil Popular Art Today, MINC, Brazil / France Project, Paris, France
- 1987 La Cité et les Naifs, Gilles Mermet, Msée D "Art NAIF de L" Ile de France, Paris, France
- 1986 From the Collection - The Paths of Brazilian Art, Frederico de Moraes, Ed. Júlio Bogoricin Imóveis, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 1985 Artists of Brazilian Ceramics, Jacob Klintowitz, Ed. Raízes, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1985 The Midwest, Alain Draeger, with text by Bernardo Elis and Aline Figueredo, Banco Francês e Brasileiro S.A., Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 1984 Study on Antônio Poteiro, Ilka Canabrava, Fundação Getúlio Vargas - FGV, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 1983 General History of Art in Brazil, Walter Zanini, Ed. Walter Moreira Sales Institute, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1982 Ceramic Art in Brazil, Mary Di Yori, I Ibero-American Congress on Ceramics, Glass and Refractories, Malaga, Spain
- 1980 Ceramic Art in Brazil, Pietro Maria Bardi, Ed. Banco Sudameris Brasil S.A., São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1979 Fine Arts in the Midwest, Aline Figueredo, Ed. Museum of Art and Popular Culture, UFMT, Cuiabá, MT, Brazil
- 1978 Aspects of Brazilian Primitive Painting, Flávio de Àquino, Scala Editora, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

1972 Regional division for the state and defense of folklore in the state of Goiás, Federal University of Goiás, Goiânia, GO,
Brazil

Exhibitions



2020 Poteiro - A tribute, Galeria Estação, São Paulo, SP, Brazil







Photo of MAM-Rio

2021 Raw State, Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro

Artworks



Rio de Janeiro, 1997
Oil on canvas
90 x 140 cm | 35.43 x 55.11 in





Untitled, 1991
Oil on canvas
150 x 130 cm | 59.05 x 51.18 in



Untitled,
Ceramic
71 x 42 x 42 cm | 27.95 x 16.53 x 16.53 in







Untitled, 1994
Oil on canvas
120 x 120 cm | 47.24 x 47.24 in



Untitled,
Ceramic
78 x 36 x 36 cm | 30.70 x 14.17 x 14.17 in







Untitled, 1980
Oil on canvas
75 x 85 cm | 29.52 x 33.46 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

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