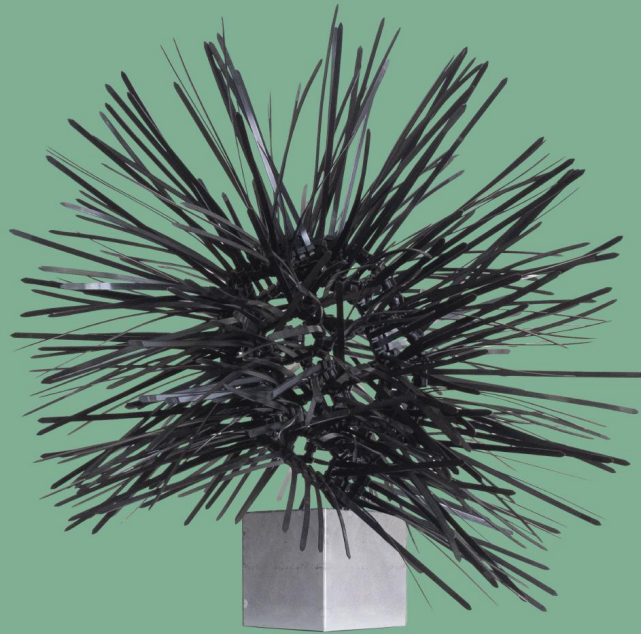


PRESS KIT

THE GREEN LINE



PEIDRO PIRES

05.05 // 25.06

THE GREEN LINE | SOLO SHOW BY PEDRO PIRES

05 MAY - 25 JUNE 2022

Free entry

THIS IS NOT A WHITE CUBE | Rua da Emenda, nº 72, Chiado, Lisbon

CONTACT

Graça Rodrigues | +351 96 72 604 72 | galler@thisisnotawhitecube.com

TEAM

General Director and Co-Artistic Director | Sónia Ribeiro

Curator and Co-Artistic Director | Graça Rodrigues

Gallery Assistant | Francisca Vaz (Lisbon)

Graphic Design and Audiovisual | Francisco Blanco and Nelson Chantre

HIGH-RESOLUTION IMAGES: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/yHdFVPXjghUWuS1A6>

PRESS RELEASE

THIS IS NOT A WHITE CUBE Contemporary Art Gallery presents in Lisbon "The Green Line," a solo exhibition by the Luso-Angolan artist Pedro Pires, which marks his return to the Portuguese capital after more than a decade of a growing presence in the international art scene.

Curated by Lourenço Egreja, the show presents a set of 15 unpublished works of sculpture and intervention on paper, resulting, in its designation, from the appropriation of the title of Francis Alys' homonymous work and the name given to the Armistice Frontier, defined at the end of the Arab-Israeli armed conflict in 1948.

Through the reference to Alys' performance (2004) - in which the artist walks along the Armistice border, spilling green paint on the ground - Pedro Pires conceptually reintegrates before our eyes a reflection that his work has been proposing for a long time around the notion of border and the fragmentation of identity.

This movement of appropriation functions as the motto for a reflexive interception with an artistic work that, like his, is created through the repeated integration of ready-made objects, which the artist appropriates in order to make use of the contexts to which they belong.

Pedro Pires' work has been awarded prizes and regularly integrated into the public space. Among recent projects, the participation in POLDRA - Public Sculpture Project, in the Fontelo Park, in Viseu, where the sculpture 14.000 Newtons is accommodated, stands out. Also noteworthy is the participation in the 2022 Biso Biennale in Burkina Faso, where the work "Doppelganger Kit" was distinguished by the Cuperior Collection.

In addition, Pedro Pires' work is currently on display at the exhibition "Reflect #2 - FRAGMENTS, FRAGILITIES, MEMORIES" at the Museum of African Art, Belgrade, Serbia.

The exhibition "The Green Line" is on display in Lisbon until June 25th, from Tuesday to Saturday, between 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm, and admission is free. In parallel, works by Pedro Pires can likewise be seen at the Angolan delegation of THIS IS NOT A WHITE CUBE art gallery in Luanda.

ABOUT PEDRO PIRES



Caption | Pedro Pires

HIGH-RESOLUTION IMAGES | <https://photos.app.goo.gl/yHdFVPXjghUWuS1A6>

Within his research, Pires is essentially concerned with questions of identity, namely with the sense of a disrupted national identity, which the artist himself has experienced in his existence as an Angolan and Portuguese citizen. Using different techniques and everyday objects, the artist constructs unique figurative and conceptual sculptures and installations, marked by anthropomorphic forms that emerge from partially destroyed materials, evoking the concepts of destruction and reconstruction.

In his work, Pires reflects his unique social and political position towards Angola, Portugal, and the post-colonial framework that marks the history between these two countries. By drawing parallels with different realities, he also urges us to ponder issues such as the contemporary reality of refugees and human rights more broadly.

Pedro Pires concluded his MFA in the Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design (London) in 2010, and a BA in Sculpture in 2005, at the Fine Art Faculty of Lisbon. He also received the Fine Art Erasmus Scholarship for the University of Athens in 2004. With an artistic career that spans more than ten years, his work has been exhibited in places such as the Museum of African Art (Belgrade, Serbia), the Natural History Museum of Angola, the Museum of Fine Arts (Montreal, Canada), 1:54 Art Fair and Christie's (London, UK), Lagos Biennial (Nigeria); Cape Town Art Fair (South Africa), Grand Palais - ArtParis (France), Lorne Biennale, (Australia), and ExpoChicago (Chicago, USA).

Pires' work is held in significant private and public collections, including the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (Canada), the PLMJ Foundation (Portugal), the Mishcon de Reya Collection (UK), Edge Arts (Portugal), Carde Diem Editions (Portugal), the Coca Cola Collection (South Africa), Banco Económico (Angola), the S&A Collection (Portugal), Viseu Council (Portugal), Africana Art Foundation, the collection of Fernando Figueiredo Ribeiro (Portugal), João de Brito (Angola), and Costa Lopes (Portugal).



Caption | Fractional, 2022, Sculpture on paper, 196 x 90 cm
HIGH-RESOLUTION IMAGES | <https://photos.app.goo.gl/yHdFVPXjghUWuS1A6>

ABOUT THE GALLERY | THIS IS NOT A WHITE CUBE

THIS NOT A WHITE CUBE is an international contemporary art gallery with exhibition spaces in Luanda (Angola) and Lisbon (Portugal). Representing and collaborating with international established and emergent artists, the gallery's program focuses on relevant and powerful narratives and discussions associated with the African continent and its diaspora. Despite the profound connection with Africa, it is the first Contemporary African gallery in Portugal that focuses not exclusively on Lusophone circles but also the emerging aesthetics of cultural and artistic productions from the Global South. The gallery maintains a regular and significant presence in important international art fairs.

THIS NOT A WHITE CUBE extends its intervention beyond the physicality of the gallery space with exhibition projects that enhance the extension of the art world to a multiplicity of places, inviting curators and artists in occasional collaborations that provide enriching visions and dialogues.

Founded in Luanda in 2016 by Sónia Ribeiro, current CEO, and becoming a leading art gallery in Angola, the project expanded in 2019 to one of Lisbon's most emblematic neighborhoods, Chiado. Given Portugal's historical connection with Africa, Lisbon was considered a natural location for this first expansion of the gallery and an important gateway to Europe. Both exhibition spaces have an independent program, offering collectors and enthusiasts a focused and strong view of contemporary artistic production from the African and South American continents and their diaspora.

As of 2016, the Gallery has represented, exhibited, and collaborated with both emerging and established artists. Since then, the gallery has remained true to one of its primary goals of providing artists with the opportunity to share their unique perspectives through their work, thus creating and promoting discussions around relevant historical and contemporary narratives in the context of globalization. As such, within an extensive yearly program that includes regular exhibitions in Lisbon and Luanda, the collaboration in diverse cultural projects, and a consistent presence at numerous international art fairs, attention is drawn to issues such as identity, memory, heritage, cultural heritage, and social change. In addition, artists from the gallery frequently feature on major platforms like museums, biennales, and important exhibitions around the globe.

Its three directors, Sónia Ribeiro, - CEO and founder - Graça Rodrigues, - curator - and Ngoi Salucombo - Executive director of the Angolan delegation - have a singular entrepreneurial and artistic vision based on a solid curatorial and collaborative - based art project approach.

In 2019, the gallery founded "O CUBO", a non-profit platform that seeks to boost experimentation and research, through the development of a program of artistic residencies, editorial projects, archive mapping, and the establishment of a network of local and international partnerships.

The gallery has already presented numerous exhibitions in Angola, South Africa, France, Italy, the UK, and Portugal but continues to expand and develop its connections worldwide.



Caption | Antifragility - expansion #1, 2021, Metal and Plastic, 70 x 75 x 70 cm

HIGH- RESOLUTION IMAGE | <https://photos.app.goo.gl/yHdFVPXjghUWuS1A6>

ARTISTS | Representations and Collaborations

Alice Marcelino (Angola)

Alida Rodrigues (Angola)

Ana Silva (Angola)

Barbara Wildenboer (South Africa)

Bete Marques (Brazil)

Cássio Markowski (Brazil)

Cristiano Mangovo (Angola)

Dagmar Van Weeghel (Netherlands)

Filipe Branquinho (Mozambique)

Gonçalo Mabunda (Mozambique)

Hennie Meyer (South Africa)

Januário Jano (Angola)

Katharien de Villiers (South Africa)

Lizette Chirime (Mozambique)

Luís Damião (Angola)

Manuela Pimentel (Portugal)

Mariana Dias Coutinho (Portugal)

Nelo Teixeira (Angola)

Osvaldo Ferreira (Angola)

Patrick Bongoy (Democratic Republic of
Congo)

Pedro Pires (Angola)

René Tavares (São Tomé e Príncipe)

Rómulo Santa Rita (Portugal)

Stephané E. Conradie (South Africa)

Susana Cereja (Portugal)

Vanessa Barragão (Portugal)

OPENING HOURS

Tuesday to Saturday | 2 pm to 7 pm

Other hours | By appointment