

Born in 1956 in Lisbon, Portugal.
Lives and works in Lisbon.

Short Biography

Pedro Cabrita Reis uses drawing with pencil and pastels, large scale painting, photography and sculpture, but also makes objects, installations and spatial arrangements that can reach architectural dimensions. Reis uses readymade items such as light bulbs, windows, doors, mirrors, boards, bricks or steel girders, making his sculptures seem monumental.

At the same time the individual media flow into one another without losing their particular character. The 'nature' appears in his work only in an extremely filtered way, as a space for thought, as a road to consciousness. The loss of nature as a reference point could be described as a motivating force in Cabrita Reis' work.

His architectural installations can also be understood as territorial occupations, exclusions and delimitations. Because of this, however, they also reflect on the possibilities of connection, of communication and of exchange and are the site where reality occurs. The invisible resonates in the visible as a quiet echo of memory.

His work has been shown in well established international shows, such as the 9th Kassel Documenta and the 24th São Paulo Bienale. In 2003, he represented Portugal at the Venice Bienale, and in 2009 he participated in the 10th Lyons Biennale. In 2009 Hamburger Kunsthalle presented a retrospective of his work featuring around sixty sculptures, including several large-scale pieces, paintings, drawings and photographs from 1985 to 2009.

Collections (selection)

TATE Gallery, London (UK)
Berardo Museum, Lisbon (Portugal)
CAC Contemporary Art Center, Málaga (Spain)
Center for Modern Art / Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon (Portugal)
Galician Center for Contemporary Art (CGAC), Santiago de Compostela (Spain)
Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall, Stockholm (Sweden)
Moderna Galerija Ljubljana, Ljubljana (Slovenia)
Museum of Contemporary Art of Elvas, Elvas (Portugal)
Museum Folkwang, Essen (Germany)
Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw, Warsaw (Poland)
MUMOK, Vienna (Austria)
SMAK, Ghent (Belgium)
MAXXI Museum, Rome (Italy)
GAM Torino, Turin (Italy)
Art4.ru - contemporary art museum, Moscow (Russia)
Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris (France)
Kunsthalle zu Kiel, Kiel (Germany)
Kunsthaus Zug, Zug (Switzerland)
Kunstmuseum Basel (Switzerland)
Moscow Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow (Russia)
Sammlung Rheingold Art Foundation, Düsseldorf (Germany)
Deutsche Bank Collection, Berlin (Germany)

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Solo Exhibitions (selection)

2022
Field, Chiesa di San Fantin, Venice (Italy)

Les Trois Grâces, Jardin des Tuileries - Musée du Louvre, Paris (Italy)

2019
A Roving Gaze, Museo Serralves, Porto (Portugal)
Work (Always) in progress, Centro Galego de Arte Contemporaneo, Santiago de Compostela (Spain)

2017
4 Volte Io, Magazzino, Rome (Italy)

2016
South Wing, Art Basel | Unlimited, Basel (Switzerland)
Horas Quietas, João Esteves de Oliveira – Galeria Arte Moderna e Contemporânea, Lisboa (Portugal)

2015
La Casa di Roma, Site-specific intervention, MAXXI – Museo dell'Arte del XXI Secolo, Rome (Italy)
A few drawings, a façade inside and a possible staircase, The Arts Club of Chicago, Chicago (USA)

2014
The Field. Peter Freeman, Inc., New York (USA)
Fourteen paintings, the preacher and a broken line. Power Plant, Toronto (Canada)

2013
A Remote Whisper... curated by Sabrina Van der Ley, Palazzo Falier, Collateral Event to the 55th Venice Biennale, Venice (Italy)

2012
Una piccola mostra astratta..., Magazzino, Rome (Italy)

2011
One after another, a few silent steps, Museu Coleção Berardo, Lisbon (Portugal)
M Museum, Leuven (Belgium)

2010
One after another, a few silent steps, Carré d'Art, Nîmes (France)
Deposição, Projecto Octógono Arte Contemporânea, Pinacoteca Do Estado de São Paulo, São Paulo (Brasil)
Pedro Cabrita Reis, Beursschouwburg, Brussels (Belgium)

2009
One after another, a few silent steps, Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg (Germany)
La Línea del Volcán, Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporaneo, Mexico City (Mexico)

2008
True Gardens #6, Kunsthaus Graz, Graz (Austria)

2007
The Cotton Fabric Paintings (Bluebeard Castle's Series), Casa da Música, Porto (Portugal)
The City Within, Oficina para Proyectos d'Arte (OPA), Guadalajara (Mexico)

2006
Fundação, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon (Portugal)
Non è mai una questione d'equilibrio, Altre Voci Altre Stanze, Magazzino, Rome (Italy)

2004
Sometimes one can see the clouds passing by, Kunsthalle Bern

2003
Portuguese Pavilion, Venice Biennale, Italy

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Group exhibitions (selection)

2019

Text Me, White Trash Contemporary, Hamburg (Germany)
Trabalho Capital, Centro de art oliva, São João da Madeira (Portugal)

2018

PEDRO CABRITA REIS, JIMMIE DURHAM, CILDO MEIRELES, Sprovieri, London (UK); travelling to Galeria Luisa Strina, São Paulo (Brazil)
PEDRO CABRITA REIS NAN GOLDIN JUSTIN MATHERLY, Kewenig, Berlin (Germany)

2017

BIENALSUR, Museu Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires (Argentina)
Antidoron. The EMST Collection, documenta 14, Fridericianum, Kassel (Germany)
Intuition, Palazzo Fortuny, Venice (Italy)
Júlio Pomar, Pedro Cabrita Reis. Das Pequenas Coisas, Atelier-Museu Júlio Pomar, Lisbon (Portugal)
EMST, curated by Katerina Koskina, Documenta 14, Kassel (Germany)
Generations - Miart 2017 – fiera internazionale d'arte moderna e contemporanea, Fiera Milano SPA, Milan (Italy)
Quarto de Espanto – Em torno da Coleção da Caixa Geral de Depósitos, Centro de Cultura Contemporânea de Castelo Branco, Castelo Branco (Portugal)
Quinze Escultores, MIECST – Museu Internacional de Escultura Contemporânea, Santo Tirso (Portugal) Dimensões Variáveis - Artistas e Arquitetura, MAAT – Museu de Arte, Arquitetura e Tecnologia, Lisboa (Portugal)

2016

Conversas: Arte Portuguesa recente na Coleção de Serralves, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Serralves, Porto (Portugal)
Portugal, Portugueses – Arte Contemporânea, Museu Afro Brasil, São Paulo (Brasil)

2015

Pavillon de L'Arsenal, Artists and Architecture. Variable Dimensions. Curated by Didier Gourvennec Ogor and Gregory Lang, Paris (France)
Albero della Cuccagna, Museo delle Arti del XXI Secolo, curated by Achille Bonito Oliva, Rome (Italy)
anozero'15 – um lance de dados, Bienal de Arte Contemporânea de Coimbra, Sala da Cidade, Refeitório do Convento de Santa Cruz, Coimbra (Portugal)
Fondazione VOLUME , Passaggi, Musée d'art modern et contemporain de Saint-Étienne Métropole, Saint-Étienne (im)possible Artists as Architects, Marta Herford, Herford (Germany)

2014

Festival of Light, "Luci d'Artista", Turin (Italy)

2013

A window on the world: From Durer to Mondrian and Beyond, Museo Cantonale d'Arte, Lugano (Switzerland)
MACRO Museo D'Arte Contemporanea Roma, Rome (Italy)

2012

Language Games, Centro De Artes Visuales – Fundacion Helga de Alvear, Caceres (Spain)
A window on the world: From Durer to Mondrian

and Beyond, Museo Cantonale d'Arte, Lugano (Switzerland) La Ligne Passé, Galerie Bernard Ceysson, Luxembourg
A Sense of Place, Palais des Beaux Arts, Brussels, (Belgium)
Private Lives, Centro Cultural de Cascais, Cascais (Portugal)
O Rio Voador, Centro de Artes Plasticas, Coimbra, (Portugal)
Neon, La materia luminosa dell'arte, MACRO, Museo Arte Contemporanea Roma, Rome (Italy)

2011

Observadores: Revelações, Trânsitos e Distâncias, Museu Colecção Berardo, Lisbon (Portugal)

2010

D'Après Nuno Goncalves, MNAA, Lisbon (Portugal)
Primitivos Portugueses (1450-1550). O Século de Nuno Gonçalves, MNAA, Lisbon (Portugal)
The Nature of Art: Encounters with Nature from 19th Century up to Our Time, Kunstmuseum Winterthur, Winterthur (Switzerland)
Sphères 2010, Galleria Continua, Le Moulin (France)
Biennale For International Light Art, Ruhr (Germany)
By day, by night, Rockbund Art Museum, Shanghai (China)
Contentores, P28, Docas de Alcântara, Lisbon (Portugal)
Look Up Natural Porto Art Show, Reitoria da Universidade do Porto, Porto (Portugal)
Conversations II, Travesia Cuatro, Madrid (Spain)

2009

Anabasis. On Rituals of homecoming, Ludwik

Grohman Villa, Lóda (Poland)
X Biennale de Lyon - The Spectacle of the Everyday, Lyon (France)
Colossal - Art Fact Fiction, Osnabrücker Land (Germany)
Encounters with Modern Art: The Kunstmuseum Winterthur, Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Bonn (Germany)
Desenhos (Drawings): A-Z, Pavilhão Preto, Museu da Cidade, Lisbon (Portugal)
La escultura en la colección del IVAM, IVAM, Valencia (Spain)
Wintry, Magazzino d'Arte Moderna, Rome (Italy)
Essential Experiences, Palazzo Riso, Palermo (Italy)

2008

Lumière toujours, Embaixada de França, Lisbon (Portugal)
Second Nature, Domaine départemental de Charamande, Charamande (France)
An unruly history of the readymade, Galeria Fundación, Colección Jumex, Mexico City, Mexico
Sete Maravilhas de Portugal, Projecto EDP, Lisbon (Portugal)
Second Nature, Park Dexia, Luxembourg (Luxembourg)
Micro-Narratives, Tentations des Petites Réalités, Musée d'art Moderne Saint-Etienne Métropole, Saint-Etienne (France)
Múltiplas Direcções, Museu do Chiado, Lisbon (Portugal)
Pedro Cabrita Reis/Mario Merz, Fondazione Merz, Turin (Italy)
La città che sale. We try to build the future, MACRO Future, Rome; ARCOS, Benevento (Italy)

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Group exhibitions (selection)

2007

À propos des lieux d'origine: Portugal, agora, panorama of portuguese contemporary creation, MUDAM, Luxembourg (Luxembourg)
Internationale Lichttage Winterthur, Kunstmuseum Winterthur, Winterthur (Switzerland)
Jardim Aberto, Palácio de Belém, Lisbon (Portugal)
48th October Salon – Micro Narratives, Belgrade Cultural Center, Belgrade (Serbia)
Blind date Istanbul, Deutsch Bank Collection, Sakip Sabanci Musei, Istanbul (Turkey)
To be continued, Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall, Stockholm (Sweden)
III Bienal de Jafre, Jafre (Spain)
Livre Circulação, Toll Free , Serralves no Algarve, Fábrica de Cerveja, Faro (Portugal)
Coleção António Cachola, parte I, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Elvas, Portugal
Contemporary art from Portugal – works from the collection of the Luso-American Foundation, Embassy of Portugal, Washington D.C. (USA)
UQBAR: improbables géographies..., Atelier Soardi, Nice, France; Berardo Museum, Lisbon (Portugal)

2006

Anos 80: Uma Topologia, Serralves, Museu de Arte Contemporânea, Porto (Portugal)
Museo Museo Museo 1998 – 2006, Torino Esposizioni, Turin (Italy)
Contrabando, Galeria Luísa Strina, São Paulo, Brazil
XII Biennale di Scultura di Carrara, Carrara (Italy)
Ideal City/Invisible Cities Old Synago-gue, Zamorz (Poland)

Umedalen Skulptur 2006, Umea (Sweden)
Modern (C)ite #II, Centre d'Art Contemporain, Saint-Nazaire (France); Stroom Den Haag Den Haag (Netherlands)
Metropolitan Scape: Paesaggi Urbani nell'Arte Contemporanea, Palazzo Cavour, Turin (Italy)
De Dentro/V Glup: 6 Portuguese Contemporary Artists, Center for Contemporary Arts, Moskow (Russia)

2005

Intramoenia_Extra Art, Castel del Monte, Andria (Italy)
Densidade Relativa, Centro de Arte Moderna da Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon (Portugal)
Del Zero al 2005 – Perspectivas del arte en Portugal, Fundación Marcelino Botín, Santander (Spain)
Portugal Novo: artistas de hoje e amanhã, Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo, São Paulo (Brazil)
O Contrato Social, Museu Bordalo Pinheiro, Lisbon (Portugal)
Farsites: Urban Crisis and Domestic Symptoms in recent contemporary art, CECUT Centro Cultural Tijuana, San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego (USA)
Modern Times, Mönchenhaus Museum für Moderne Kunst, Goslar (Germany)
...O Luna Tu...: il notturno come spazio della fantasia, ARCOS, Museo d'Arte Contemporanea del Sannio, Benevento (Italy)
Le Génie du Lieu, Musée des Beaux Arts de Dijon, Palais des États de Bourgogne, Dijon (France)
Art Unlimited, Art 36 Basel, Basel (Switzerland)
The Treason of Sculpture, Galeria Mário Sequeira, Parada de Tibães (Portugal)
Domicile : privé/public, Musée d'Art Moderne de

St. Étienne Metropole, Saint-Etienne (France)
Une oeuvre, un artiste, Centre Culturel Marcel Pagnol, Fos-sur-Mer (France)
The Giving Person, PAN - Palazzo delle Arti, Naples (Italy)
Works from the Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall Collection, Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall, Stockholm (Sweden)
Ascenseur pour Rio, FRAC Bourgogne, Dijon (France)
Arte in Memoria 2, Sinagoga di Ostia Antica, Rome (Italy)
Pedro Cabrita Reis, Marc Quer, Fondation Vasarely d'Aix-en-Provence, Aix-en-Provence (France)
Regresso ao Acervo, Galeria João Esteves de Oliveira, Lisbon (Portugal)
Traces Every-where, Tracy Williams Ltd, New York, (USA)
Group Show, Galerie Nelson, Paris (France)

2004

Da capo, De 11 Lijnen, Oudenburg (Belgium)
La alegría de mis sueños – I Bienal de Arte Contemporáneo de Sevilla, Monasterio de la Cartuja de Santa María de las Cuevas, Sevilla (Spain)
Arti & Architettura, 1900 – 2000, Palazzo Ducale, Genova (Italy)
Close by, Mai 36 Galerie, Zürich (Switzerland)
Giants, The Hague Sculpture 2004, Den Haag (Netherlands)

2003

A nova geometria, Galeria Fortes-Vilaça, São Paulo (Brazil)
Sous tension, E.S.P.A.C.E., Toulon (France)
Retriever, Pearl Projects, London (United Kingdom)

La Biennale di Venezia, Dreams and Conflicts: The Dictatorship of the Viewer, Interludes section, Giardini della Biennale, Venice (Italy)
Arte Contemporanea da Coleção Caixa Geral de Depósitos, MEIAC, Badajoz (Spain)
Depósito Isabel Vaz Lopes, Museu do Chiado, Lisbon (Portugal)

2002

Points de vue, Frac, Château des Villeneuve-Tourrettes, Tourrettes-sur-Loup (France)
Self/In material conscience, Fondation Sandretto, Guarene (Italy)

2001

Modos Afirmativos e Declinações – Alguns aspectos do desenho da década de oitenta, Museu Municipal Amadeo de Souza-Cardoso, Amarante; Museu Arqueológico e Lapidar/ Galeria Trem e Arco, Faro; Museu de Évora, Évora (Portugal)
La GAM Costruisce il suo Futuro, Galleria Civica d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Turin (Italy)
Al Quimias, Centro Cultural Emmerico Nunes, Sines (Portugal)
Inonia: quali città d'arte a venire?, Università degli Studi di Cassino, Cassino (Italy)
A experiência do lugar, Centro Astrofísico-Fac. Ciências do Porto, Porto (Portugal)
Pedro Cabrita Reis, Carlos Vidal, Avelino Sá, MK Expositieruimte, Rotterdam (The Netherlands)