



photo jomar bragança

Leopoldo Martins

The sculptor Leopoldo Martins was born in 1961 in Brazil.

His uncle Meschese, founded the Sculpture Department of the Fine Arts School at the State Federal University during the 1960's and signed important monuments in the city, influencing the beginning of Martins' artistic interest and trajectory. Young, Leopoldo Martins started studying art and design and soon developed his drawing techniques. He graduated 1982 in Industrial Design at the Fine Arts School at the same State Federal University founded by his uncle.

He was always fascinated by three-dimensional forms and started researching how to better express himself and how to transform his drawings into three-dimensional-objects bringing it to reality.

It was in the beginning of the 90's when Martins met the Brazilian modernist sculptor Sonia Ebling. Leopoldo Martins worked as her pupil during almost ten years to finally feel encouraged to cast his first sculptures and to dedicate his complete carrier to Fine Arts as a sculptor.

The artist detailed observation of nature and his passion for wild animals resulted in the development of his first prestigious series "Felines", exhibited at The National Museum of Fine Arts of Rio de Janeiro

in 2003 supported by his tutor Sonia Ebling that has guided him to his first pieces. The success of the “Felines” series was then immediate and naturally promoted his evolution on the national contemporary art scene building up his approval into the selective national and international contemporary art market, confirming his great talent. Later on, as a result of his trajectory, he started many new artistic projects, consolidating himself as a sculptor.

In 2016 he was commissioned by the Jesuit Order of Minas Gerais State, Brazil, to create the (diptych) sculpture Saint Francis and the Wolf of Gubbio, a gift to Pope Francis, that will be installed at the Vatican City in Europe. His works also belong to important collections in Brazil like The Brennan Art Collection in Recife, Brazil. His works are also part of the collection of The National Museum of Fine Arts of Rio de Janeiro, one of the most respected art institutions of the country where he first introduced his art creations to the public together with his tutor, Sonia Ebling.

Today Leopoldo Martins is one of the most important contemporary sculptors of the country, having followed the historical saga of great professionals of his State, historically started with the Master of Baroque Art of Brazil, Aleijadinho (1730 - 1814). Leopoldo Martins contemporary work is a blend of all interesting aspects of Brazilian Art, influenced by Baroque, Modernism and internationalism that helps us to understand the History of this melt pot called South America.

Ricardo Fernandes

Main Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 Musas, Cícero Mafra Gallery, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
Leopoldo Martins Sculptures, JWS, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2015 Musas, Nigra Shafo, São José do Rio Preto, Brazil
Aqua - Cristal, Ponteio, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
Animal Memory, Consulate General of France, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2014 Show Bolt, São Paulo, Brazil
Squini Art, São Paulo, Brazil
Sculptures Leopoldo Martins, Lisie Mallmann Gallery, Porto Alegre, Brazil
Felinos, Ricardo Fernandes Gallery, Paris, France
Yacht Club of Ilhabela Art Show, São Paulo, Brazil
Leopoldo Martins at the Hípica de São Paulo Show, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2013 Muses at The State of Minas Gerais Government Palace, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
Art Aspen, Wynwood Art Group, Aspen, USA
- 2012 Cats, Ricardo Fernandes Gallery, Paris, France
- 2011 Xingu, Ricardo Fernandes Gallery, Paris, France
The Enchanted Forest, Cloître des Billettes Cultural Center, Paris, France
- 2010 Leopoldo Martins, Inimá de Paula Art Museum (MIP BH), Belo Horizonte, Brazil
- 2008 Sculptures, Espacio Dart Gallery, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
- 2006 Felinos, MTC Art Center, Belo Horizonte, Brazil

2003 Os Grandes Felinos, The National Fine Arts Museum of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Main Collective Exhibitions

2022 Curator's Choice, Ricardo Fernandes Gallery, Paris, France

2020/2019 Not Going Anywhere, Ricardo Fernandes Gallery, Paris, France

2019 Animalier, Ricardo Fernandes Gallery, Paris, France

2019/2018 V Sculpture Biennale Of Shanghai, China

2017 aestival 07 Contemporary Art Summer Show, Cloître des Billettes Art Center, Paris,
France
Zilda Fratelli Gallery, Curitiba, Brazil

2016 aestival 06 Contemporary Art Summer Show, Cloître des Billettes Art Center, Paris,
France
Zilda Fratelli Gallery, Curitiba, Brazil

2015 Galeria Art Mexico, Mexico City, Mexico

2014 Vianna Gallery, Boca Raton, USA
Wynwood Art Group, Miami, USA
Expoarte, Brasília, Brazil
The Colors of Brazil - Johnson & Johnson, Paris, France

- 2013 Art Walk Miami, Wynwood Gallery, Miami, USA
 Prime Art Selection, Ricardo Fernandes Gallery, Paris, France
 Collective Summer Exhibition, Ricardo Fernandes Gallery, Paris, France
- 2012 16th Shanghai International Art Exhibition, Shanghai, China
 Art Canton, Guangzhou, China
 Game of Arts, Chateau Bouffémont, Bouffémont, France
 De A a Z, Ricardo Fernandes Gallery, Paris, France
- 2011 15th Shanghai International Art Exhibition, Shanghai, China
 Beijing International Contemporary Art Fair Beijing China
 Cheminer d'arbre en arbre, Bagatelle Parc, Paris, France
- 2010 Guangzhou International Luxury Exhibition, Guangzhou, China
 14th Shanghai International Art Exhibition, Shanghai, China
 Pas si Bêtes, Peugeot Art Center, Paris, France
 Animal Art Exhibition, New York, USA
 1er Salon des Antiquaires et d'Art Contemporain, Paris, France
- 2009 Felinos, S Nayla Gallery, London, UK
 Salon du Carrousel du Louvre, Paris, France
 L'Univers Brésilien, Everarts Gallery, Paris, France
- 2007 Leopoldo Martins and Humberto Nigi at Espaço Dart Gallery, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
 Esculturas e Objetos, Aide Art Gallery, Nova Lima, Brazil
- 2004 Sculpture by the Sea, Sidney, Australia
- 2002 Escultores Brasileiros MV Art Gallery, Belo Horizonte, Brazil

2000 Leopoldo Martins and Sonia Ebling - First Artworks, Brasília National Theater, Brasília, Brazil

1985 Leopoldo Martins and Eduard Steven, Anne Plumb Gallery, NY, USA

1984 Leopoldo Martins and Rafael Morales, Warren and La Rosa, NY, USA

Main Awards

2010 Pas si Bêtes - Animal Art Exhibition, Artist of Honor at Peugeot Art Center, Paris, France

2009 Académie des Arts Sciences et Lettres - Brazilian Contemp. Artists of The Year, Paris, France

2006 Artist of Honor at Forma Sculpture Week at Mallmann Gallery, Porto Alegre, Brazil

Books and Catalogs

2018 Leopoldo Martins Sculptures, Abu Dhabi, UEA

2015 Muses - Pascale Lismonde
Paris, France

2013 Musas, Ricardo Fernandes
Paris, France

2012 More Nature in Our Lives, Ricardo Fernandes

Shanghai, China

2011 Leopoldo Martins, The Enchanted Forest, Ricardo Fernandes and Any Collin
Paris, France

2009 Cats - Leopoldo Martins, Jacob Kintowitz
São Paulo, Brazil
L'Univers Brésilien, Everarts Gallery
Paris, France

2003 Os Grandes Felinos, Museu Nacional de Belas Artes do Rio de Janeiro
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Galleries, Museums, Institutions

Arte Aplicada Gallery, São Paulo, Brazil

DotArt Gallery, Belo Horizonte, Brazil

Getty Museum, Los Angeles, USA

Gerdau Minas e Metais Museum (MM Gerdau), Belo Horizonte, Brazil

Instituto Brennan, Recife, Brazil

Itaú Cultural, São Paulo, Brazil

Jing'an Sculpture Park, Shanghai, China

Milú Vilela Collection, São Paulo, Brazil

National Fine Arts Museum of Rio de Janeiro (MNBA), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

National Taiwan University of Arts Library, Taipei, Taiwan

Pope Francis Collection at The State of Vatican City, Vatican City

Ricardo Fernandes Gallery, Paris, France

Sociedade Hípica de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil

Wuhan Park of Central China, Wuhan, China

Zilda Fraletti Gallery, Curitiba, Brazil

Private Art Collections

Andréa Bocelli, Roma, Italy

Bruce Winter, New York, USA

Carmen Merick Veiga, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Chen Wugang, Taipei, Taiwan

Fausto Silva (Faustão), São Paulo, Brazil

Flávia Alessandra, São Paulo, Brazil

Hebe Camargo, São Paulo, Brazil

Gisele Bündchen, Los Angeles, USA

Otaviano Costa, São Paulo, Brazil

Ivete Sangalo, São Paulo, Brazil

Joe Milton, Miami, USA

Paula Lima, São Paulo, Brazil

Pascale Lismonde, Paris, France

Richard Meyer, Miami, US