

Mendes Wood DM Brussels is pleased to present *In the Sun and the Shade*, the first solo exhibition in Europe by Brazilian artist Solange Pessoa. Using the gallery space in its entirety, the exhibition will showcase the diversity of Pessoa's œuvre. The show will include biomorphic ceramic figures shrouded in organic matter such as hair, leather and moss as well as a series of paintings realized with the use of genipap, a tropical fruit which is also commonly used for body painting among indigenous peoples in South America. Pessoa will also present a long-conceived large-scale installation, which is made from bronze and adorned with fruit.

The title *In the Sun and the Shade* is inspired by the poetry of Brazilian writer Paulo Mendes Campos. Pessoa uses this title to make reference to the stylistic dualities that are evoked through her work; life and death, darkness and light – the exhibition asks the viewer to ponder the erratic path of life through a harmonious union of antinomic terms.

Solange Pessoa (1961, Brazil) lives and works in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

Her selected solo exhibitions include *Longilonge*, Ballroom Marfa, Marfa (2019); Mendes Wood DM, New York (2018); Blum & Poe, Los Angeles (2017); Mendes Wood DM, São Paulo (2016); *Metaflor-Metaflora*, Museu Mineiro, Belo Horizonte (2013); Museu de Arte da Pampulha, Belo Horizonte (2008); Museu da Inconfidência, Ouro Preto (2000); Palácio das Artes, Belo Horizonte (1995), and Centro Cultural São Paulo (1992).

Pessoa received a grant from the Pollock Krasner Foundation (1996/1997), and has participated in numerous group exhibitions in Brazil and abroad including *Veredas*, Mendes Wood DM, São Paulo (2019); *Invenção de Origem*, Estação Pinacoteca, São Paulo (2018); *La Fin de Babylone - Mich Wunder, dass ich so Fröhlich bin*, Koln Skulptur #9, Cologne (2017); *New Shamans* (2016), *High Anxiety* (2016), and *No Man's Land: Women Artists* (2015), Rubell Family Collection, Miami, USA; *Arte e Patrimônio*, Paço Imperial, Rio de Janeiro (2014); *Mostra do Redescobrimento*, CAPS Musée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux (2001), and *Heranças Contemporâneas* (1999) and *Encontros e Tendências* (1993), Museu de Arte Contemporânea, São Paulo.