

Pedro Vaz | Atlântica

Until August 08 at Baró Galeria

Throughout his career, Pedro Vaz transforms paths and places in the very substance of his own artwork. In this new journey, after exploring some of the raw forests and mountains of several European countries, including Portugal, Spain, France, Italy and Switzerland, the Portuguese artist went overseas: to Brazil, where he journeyed through the Atlantic Forest, still magnificent and full of mystery as at the time of Debret and Rugendas.

In this work, Pedro transcends the concept of landscape transforming the object of contemplation in something to be lived. Penetrating the heart of the forest in search of a more intimate experience, the artist touches what is hiding from a distant look. From this experience, paintings emerge that portrait the fantastic relationships of this exuberant nature, where shadow, light, dream and reality become inseparably intertwined.

It is in the core of such a particular place that the artist's sight concentrates by immersion in the humanly uninhabited - and for this reason primitive - center of the forest that tangents the ocean which inspired its name: Atlantic. This exhibition aims to serve as a link for those two extreme points of the Old and the New World, solidifying the bridge that unites them and redefining what used to separate them: the Atlantic Ocean.

Pedro Vaz (Maputo, 1977) obtains a degree in Fine Arts - Painting, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Lisbon in 2006.

This year Pedro presented "*Neblina*" exhibition at Galeria 111, in Lisbon, and Monolith, in Almada, at Cultural Center Casa da Cerca. In 2014 was awarded in the international competition '*Beers Award for Emerging Contemporary Art*' in London, and was granted a scholarship for the development of the project "*Tour du Mont-Blanc*" by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and the Duplacena.

In the same year, Pedro Vaz exhibits: "*Tour du Mont-Blanc*" integrated into the Festival Temps D'images 2014 and presented at the MNAC: National Museum of Contemporary Art Chiado, in Lisbon; "*Stimmung*" exhibited in CAPC - Circle of Fine Arts of Coimbra and co-exhibits "*Raukoon - Pedro Vaz X João Queiroz*" at CAPC (Coimbra Fine Arts Circle) alongside another project "*50 Years of Galeria 111*" in Lisbon.

Pedro Vaz, lives and works in Lisbon.

