

## **Pedro Matos**

Pedro Matos is a Portuguese artist, born in Santarém in 1989. Between 2008 and 2012, he studied at Central Saint Martins in London, ArCo Centro de Arte e Comunicação Visual in Lisbon, and Faculdade Nacional de Belas-Artes in Lisbon, he now lives and works in Portugal.

Pedro Matos transforms the banal markings from our daily life and elevates them to the condition of a work of art. Inspired by textures observed on walks by the sea or in the city, Matos' work presents abstracted and alien landscapes formed of familiar shapes. Drawing upon his experiences, Pedro uses objects of reality to explore new avenues of abstraction. His canvases are created through a process that combines imprinted images, photography, photoshop, and projection.

Matos' subject matter concerns the urban everyday, represented through enlarged images of incisions and carvings found on walls, doors, trees, in stairwells or in public toilets. These are normally fleeting marks, forgotten as soon as they are noticed, yet Matos suspends them in pictorial time and space. Another object of his attention is the typical marble paving slab found in the driveways of suburban homes in Portugal. Here, Matos finds inspiration in the jagged shape and falsely geometric positioning of these objects. They are photographed, enlarged, and painted onto an un-primed canvas in acrylic enamel.

By incorporating traces of the urban everyday into his work, Matos tackles the notion of the pictorial art image and simultaneously enlightens the viewer to the semiotic richness of the seemingly banal. The works appear as though they do not resemble anything, but Matos chronicles the surrounding world, taking the seemingly irrelevant minutiae of daily life and brings it to the forefront of his practice.

**Selected Works**



**Pedro Matos**

*Untitled, 2020*

Acrylic enamel on unprimed cotton  
canvas

200 x 150cm

(MAT003)



**Pedro Matos**

*Untitled, 2019*

Acrylic enamel on unprimed cotton  
canvas

200 x 150cm

(MAT002)

**Pedro Matos CV**

b. 1989- Santarém, Portugal

**Selected Solo Exhibitions**

- 2019 *Mindlessness*, Prisme, Paris, France.
- 2018 *Reaction/Diffusion*, Galeria Kernel, Caceres, Spain.
- 2017 *At once familiar and completely alien*, Eduardo Secci Contemporary, Florence, Italy
- 2016 *Less Than Objects*, Galeria Presenca, Porto, Portugal.
- 2016 *Less Than Objects*, Galeria Underdogs, Lisbon, Portugal.

**Selected Group Exhibitions**

- 2020 *I Hold the Wheel to Let It Go*, Galerie Clemens Gunzer, Portschach am WortherSee, Austria
- 2020 *Deflatable Aesthetics*, Hawaii-Lisbon at Balcony Contemporary Art Gallery, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2019 *Pausa*, Basement, Esquina, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2019 *5 Year Anniversary*, Mini Galerie, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2018 *Abstract: Reality*, Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2018 *Reconstructed From Memory*, FIFI Projects, San Pedro, Mexico
- 2018 *BTS (Back to School)*, Travessa da Ermida, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2018 *Stitching the Cracks*, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2018 *Beneath the Surface*, Eduardo Secci Contemporary, Florence, Italy
- 2018 *Interior Motive(s)*, MPV Gallery, Den Bosch, The Netherlands
- 2018 *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, The Court, Pescara, Italy
- 2017 *Jacana's frontal shield or frontal as shields are frontal*, The Workbench International, Milan, Italy
- 2017 *Out of Office*, Curated by Aujourd'hui, Hawaii-Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2016 *Preparations for A Journey*, FIFI Projects, San Pedro, Mexico

- 2016 *Aujourd'hui je dis oui*, Curated by Aujourd'hui and Domenico de Chirico, Galeria Boavista, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2016 *Down To Earth*, The Dot Project, London, United Kingdom
- 2015 *1/81*, Museu do Côa, Vila Nova de Foz Côa, Portugal
- 2015 *Just because they don't do what we do it doesn't mean it's wrong*, The Gallery Wrong Weather, Porto, Portugal
- 2015 *Where There's Something Hiding Beneath the Surface*, curated by Domenico de Chirico, Bid Project, Milan, Italy
- 2015 *(De) Nature*, Comporta, Portugal
- 2015 *Col.la.ge II*, Mini Galerie, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2013 *Warrior Saints*, National Army Museum, London, United Kingdom
- 2012 *Re:Define*, The Goss-Michael Foundation, Dallas, USA
- 2011 *Impetus*, University of Arizona Museum of Art, Arizona, USA

### **Selected Collections**

National Army Museum, London, United Kingdom

Guarda Museum, Guarda, Portugal

Biblioteca Nacional de Portugal, Lisbon, Portugal

MARCC Museum, Cascoais, Portugal

Bech Risvig Collection, Aarhus, Denmark