



AURELINO DOS SANTOS

ARTIST'S PORTFOLIO



BIOGRAPHY

Aurelino dos Santos is primarily dedicated to painting, with geometrization being the most distinctive feature of his work. His pieces are representations of an idealized architecture, composed of planes, shapes, and a rich color palette.

The artist constructs landscapes that can be viewed simultaneously from different perspectives — from above and from the side — using vibrant colors and references that span various artistic movements, such as Baroque, Concrete Art, and Neo-Concrete Art.

Self-taught and living a simple life, Aurelino found in painting his most genuine form of expression, revealing a remarkable sophistication despite his lack of formal education.

In his creations, he organizes the city in a unique way, using geometric elements to compose urban landscapes with precision and harmony.

Aurelino's career began by chance in the 1960s, while he was working as a bus fare collector. It was through a silent interaction with sculptor Agnaldo Manoel dos Santos, his neighbor at the time, that he felt the desire to paint.

Aurelino recalls the pivotal moment when, standing by the sea at the Farol da Barra, he began drawing lines on a blank canvas. This simple act was the first step in a journey that would establish him as a prominent figure in Brazilian art.

Agnaldo was the first to recognize his talent by purchasing his work, and soon after, Lina Bo Bardi, architect and then-director of the Museum of Modern Art of Bahia, played a key role in giving visibility to his production.

This recognition was crucial for Aurelino to establish himself as an artist.

AURELINO DOS SANTOS

1942, Salvador - BA, Brazil

BIOGRAPHY

In a gesture that Aurelino fondly remembers, Lina gave him 15 canvases to paint, marking the beginning of a series of exhibitions that brought him out of anonymity and into the art world.

His work gained visibility in group exhibitions, including a notable show at the foyer of the Teatro Castro Alves, and Aurelino gradually became integrated into Bahia's circle of artists.

Although his early career was heavily influenced by figures such as Agnaldo, Lina, Mario Cravo Jr., and Sante Scaldaferrì, Aurelino has developed his own identity over the years. His unmistakable style — a combination of geometric shapes and a color palette that ranges from monochromatic to vibrant — invites the viewer into a world of quiet contemplation and visual intrigue.

His landscapes, sometimes enigmatic, reflect the simplicity of everyday life but also the complexity of a creative mind that expresses itself through the repetition, flexibility of forms, and the use of color.

Aurelino dos Santos's work is a tribute to the power of self-taught creativity and the transformative capacity of art.

It reminds us that the act of creation transcends formal knowledge and words, finding its essence in the intimate dialogue between the artist and his work.

AURELINO DOS SANTOS

1942, Salvador - BA, Brazil



SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022** Aurelino: On the urban margins
Galeria Simões de Assis, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2020** Aurelino dos Santos: Obsessive Construction
MuN - Museu Nacional da República, Brasília - DF, Brazil
- 2019** Aurelino dos Santos - The Letter is what makes the world
MAM/BA - Museu de Arte Moderna da Bahia, Salvador - BA, Brazil
- 2013** Aurelino | paintings
Galeria Estação, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2011** Transfiguration of the Royal
Museu Afro Brasil Emanuel Araújo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

- 2025** Weaving the Morning: Modern Life and Nocturnal Experience in Brazilian Art
Pinacoteca de São Paulo, São Paulo – SP, Brazil
- 2025** In every corner - Casa Fiat de Cultura and Instituto Tomie Ohtake visit Vilma Eid Collection
Casa Fiat de Cultura, Belo Horizonte – MG, Brazil
- 2025** Instituto Tomie Ohtake visits Vilma Eid Collection - In every corner
Instituto Tomie Ohtake, São Paulo – SP, Brazil
- 2024** Metamorphoses and Distances
Galeria Estação, São Paulo – SP, Brazil
- 2023** "Reverses and Transverses": Artists Outside the Mainstream (and Friends) at the Biennials
Galeria Estação, São Paulo – SP, Brazil
- 2021** The Lyric Machine
Galeria Luisa Strina, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2020** Orixás
MuN - Museu Nacional da República, Brasília - DF, Brazil

COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

2020

Luso Afro Brazil: Art, History and Memory

Museu Afro Brasil Emanuel Araújo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

2019

Southern Geometries, from Mexico to Patagonia

Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris, France

2016

The hand of the Brazilian people 1969/2016

MASP - Museu de Arte de São Paulo Assis Chateaubriand, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

2012 - 2013

Janete Costa "Look"

Museu Janete Costa de Arte Popular, Niterói - RJ, Brazil

2012

4 Spontaneous Artists

Museu Afro Brasil Emanuel Araújo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

Stubbornness of Imagination: Ten Brazilian artists

Instituto Tomie Ohtake, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

Stubbornness of Imagination: Ten Brazilian artists

Centro Cultural Paço Imperial, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Stories of Seeing: Show and Tell

Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris, France

COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

- 2009** Madrid Art Fair
Pabellón de Cristal, Madrid, Spain
- 2007** Encounter Between Two Seas: Biennial São Paulo-Valencia
Convento del Carmo, Valencia, Spain
- 2006** Live Culture Live the Brazilian People
Museu Afro Brasil Emanoel Araújo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2002** Pop Brazil: folk art and folk in art
CCBB - Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2000** 500 Rediscovery Show
Pavilhão da Bienal, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 1995** The Heirs of the Night: fragments of the black imaginary
Centro de Cultura de Belo Horizonte, Belo Horizonte - MG, Brazil
- 1994** Brazilian-Afro Art and Religiosity
Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt, Germany
- The Heirs of the Night: fragments of the black imaginary
Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

2025

Weaving the Morning: Modern Life and Nocturnal Experience in Brazilian Art
Pinacoteca de São Paulo, São Paulo – SP, Brazil

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 2024 | Metamorphoses and Distances
Galeria Estação, São Paulo – SP, Brazil |
| 2023 | "Reverses and Transverses": Artists Outside the Mainstream (and Friends) at the Biennials
Galeria Estação, São Paulo – SP, Brazil |
| 2019 | Géometries Sud
Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris, France |
| 2018 | Brazilian outsider art: a contemporary survey
Publisher WMF Martins Fontes, São Paulo - SP, Brazil |
| 2016 | A mão do povo brasileiro 1969/2016
MASP - Museu de Arte de São Paulo Assis Chateaubriand, São Paulo - SP, Brazil |
| 2013 | Aurelino Paintings
Galeria Estação, São Paulo - SP, Brazil |
| 2012 - 2013 | Janete Costa Look
Museu Janete Costa de Arte Popular, Niterói - RJ, Brazil |
| 2012 | Transfiguration of the Royal
Museu Afro Brasil Emanoel Araújo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil |
| | Stubbornness of Imagination: Ten Brazilian artists
Publisher WMF Martins Fontes, São Paulo - SP, Brazil |

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2012** **Histoires de Voir: Show and Tell**
Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris, France
- 2007** **Encounter Between Two Seas: Biennale São Paulo - Valencia**
Convento del Carmo, Valencia, Spain
- 2006** **Live Culture Live the Brazilian People**
Museu Afro Brasil Emanuel Araújo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2002** **POP BRAZIL: The art in popular and folk art**
CCBB - Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2000** **500 - Rediscovery Show**
Pavilion of the Biennale, São Paulo- SP, Brazil
- 1995** **The Heirs of the Night: fragments of the imaginary black**
Pinacoteca de São Paulo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 1994** **Art and african Brazilian religiosity**
Editora Brasileira de Frankfurt, Brazil
- 1988** **Hand Afro - Brazilian: Meaning of Historical and Artistic Contribution**
Emilio Odebrecht Foundation , São Paulo - SP, Brazil

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Instituto Inhotim

Brumadinho - MG, Brazil

Museu Afro Brasil Emanuel Araújo

São Paulo - SP, Brazil

MAM/RJ - Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro

Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Cartier Foundation

Paris, France



EXHIBITIONS



Photo: Galeria Simões de Assis

2022

Aurelino: On the urban margins

Galeria Simões de Assis, São Paulo - SP, Brazil



Photo: Galeria Simões de Assis

2022

Aurelino: On the urban margins

Galeria Simões de Assis, São Paulo - SP, Brazil



Photo: Galeria Simões de Assis

2022

Aurelino: On the urban margins

Galeria Simões de Assis, São Paulo - SP, Brazil



Photo: Galeria Simões de Assis

2022

Aurelino: On the urban margins

Galeria Simões de Assis, São Paulo - SP, Brazil



Photo: Galeria Luisa Strina

2021

The Lyric Machine

Galeria Luisa Strina, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

WORK





Aurelino dos Santos

1942, Salvador - BA, Brazil

Untitled, 1979

Oil on canvas

42 x 49.5 cm | 16.54 x 19.49 in

Photo: João Liberato

Aurelino dos Santos
1942, Salvador - BA, Brazil

Untitled, 1978
Oil on canvas
46 x 38 cm | 18.11 x 15 in
Photo: João Liberato



Aurelino dos Santos
1942, Salvador - BA, Brazil

Untitled, 1996
Mixed technique on wood
55 x 55 cm | 21.65 x 21.65 in
Photo: João Liberato





Aurelino dos Santos

1942, Salvador - BA, Brazil

Untitled, 1979

Oil on canvas

50 x 40 cm | 19.68 x 15.74 in

Photo: João Liberato



Aurelino dos Santos

1942, Salvador - BA, Brazil

Untitled, 1983

Oil on canvas

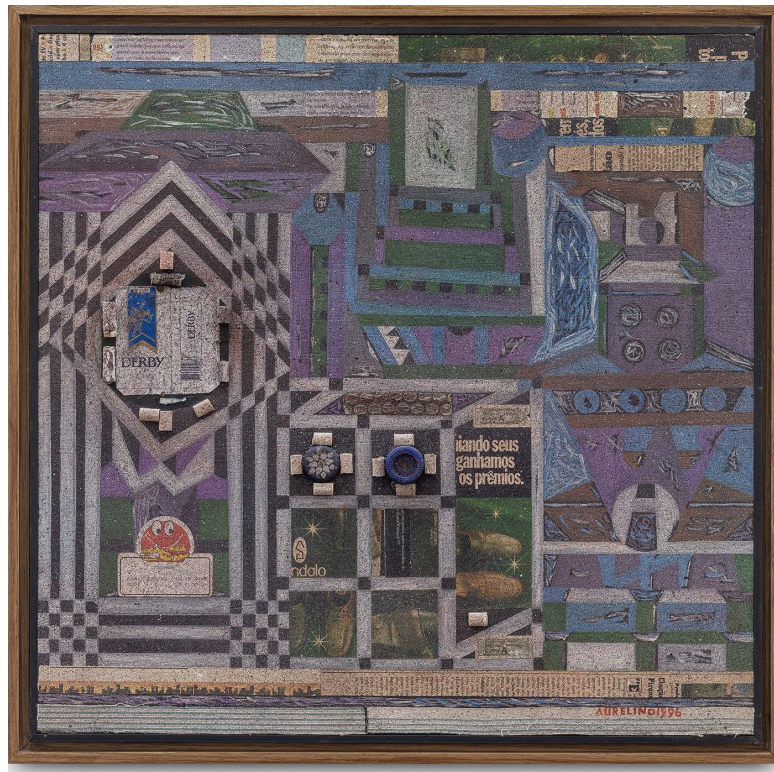
44 x 54 cm | 17.32 x 21.25 in

Photo: Filipe Berndt



Aurelino dos Santos
1942, Salvador - BA, Brazil

Untitled, 1996
Oil on cardboard
54 x 55 cm | 21.25 x 21.65 in
Photo: Filipe Berndt







THE GALLERY

Established in 2004 in São Paulo, Brazil, Galeria Estação inaugurated a curatorial program serving a wide-reaching community of noncanonical artistic voices. By creating trans-generational bridges between emerging contemporary and pioneering self-taught artists, Galeria Estação has inspired an integrative network of creative figures and makers from varied geographies and educational backgrounds.

Since 2008, the gallery's innovative artistic program, housed in a state-of-the-art architectural building, has exhibited contemporary Brazilian artists whose cultural backgrounds and vernacular practices complement the primacy of self-taught art —examining the country's under represented artistic styles, working methods, and historical narratives and legacies.

Galeria Estação's artistic director and founder, Vilma Eid, in collaboration with a distinguished group of invited guest curators, have proposed unexpected dialogues in presentations that have transcended

traditional accounts of the development of abstract and figural genres in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, initiating the past and present of Brazilian art.

As a result, Galeria Estação is an institutional reference in Brazil, a force for preserving Latin American memories and narratives otherwise dismissed, marginalized, or overlooked in the historiographies of Brazilian art.

Galeria Estação advances its mission to provide unprecedented opportunities for viewers to experience expansive local and global visions of Brazilian art.

Galeria Estação exhibits a large stable of self-taught artists: Agnaldo dos Santos, Agostinho Batista de Freitas, Amadeo Luciano LORENZATO, Artur Pereira, Chico da Silva, Chico Tabibuia, Conceição dos Bugres, Elza O.S, Geraldo Teles Oliveira – G.T.O, Gilvan SAMICO, Itamar Julião, Izabel Mendes da Cunha, José Antonio da Silva, Madalena dos Santos Reinbolt, Maria Auxiliadora, Mirian Inêz da Silva, Sebastião Theodoro Paulino da Silva – RANCHINHO, Suanê e Zica Bergami.

The growing roster of contemporary artists include: Deni Lantz, Eduardo Ver, Higo José, José Bezerra, Julio Vilani, Rafael Pereira, Santídio Pereira, Cicero Alves dos Santos - Véio.

GALERIA ESTAÇÃO

RUA FERREIRA DE ARAÚJO, 625 - PINHEIROS

MONDAY TO FRIDAY, FROM 11 AM TO 7 PM, SATURDAY FROM 11 AM TO 3 PM

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