



Zé do Chalé

# Biography

Zé do Chalé [José Cândido dos Santos]

1903, Neópolis, SE, Brazil - 2008, Neópolis, SE, Brazil

Already deceased artist, descendent from the Xocó Indians. He was born in Saúde, Neópolis County, and worked for many years as a foreman in Aracaju, Capital of Sergipe State, where he lived to his death. His nickname comes from his longstanding work as a builder. His link with the Xocó Indians community on the Island of São Pedro, on São Francisco River, which he used to visit every year and where he worked in his youth as a carpenter in building boats with his figureheads on their prows. He generally presented work on the vertical, in the geometric shaped, and even sometimes abstract.

Imaginations of a house builder, beyond the boundaries of an actual home, in creating dreamlike buildings, or “trophies”. He also carves the human figure: formal Indians, naked, with symmetric feather tangas and a westernized headdress, very similar to what he wears every day. The birds, leaves of plants, cross, star, half-moon, used sparingly and with balance, also appear with a symbolic value in the composition of his structures, generally on top of them. His work combines the Xocó ancestral legacy with the modernity of urban life.

Source: Little Dictionary of the Brazilian People’s Art – 20th Century, by anthropologist and poet Lélia Coelho Frota



**Individual Exhibitions:**

2013 Zé do Chalé: a sculpture of the void, Galeria Estação, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2012-2013 Symbolic Geography of Zé do Chalé, Museu Théo Brandão, Maceio, AL, Brazil

2008 Zé do Chalé: owner of the arrow, Museu do Folclore, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

**Collective Exhibitions:**

2019 Moderns and Eternals, Mosteiros de São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

2012 - 2013 Janete Costa "A Look", Museu Janete Costa, Niterói, RJ, Brazil

2009 Casa Brazil, Parque de Eventos Bento Gonçalves, Bento Golçalves, RS, Brazil

**Selected Publications:**

2018 Brazilian outsider art: a contemporary survey, Vilma Eid, Germana Monte-Mór, publisher WMF Martins Fontes, pg 294, 295

2013 Zé do Chalé: a sculpture of the void, Cauê Alves e Vilma Eid, publisher Lis Gráfica, pg 11, 24, 26

2012 Janete Costa "A Look", Mario Santos, publisher Lis Gráfica, pg 24, 114, 115, 117, 118, 120, 121, 122, 123



# Exhibitions



2013 Zé do Chale: a sculpture of the void, Galeria Estação, São Paulo, SP, Brazil











# Artworks



Untitled,  
Wooden Sculpture  
48 x 16 x 12 cm | 18.89 x 6.3 x 4.72 in





Untitled,  
Wooden Sculpture  
56 x 18 x 18 cm | 22 x 7.09 x 7.09 in





Untitled,  
Wooden Sculpture  
40 x 16 x 17 cm | 15.74 x 6.3 x 6.7 in





Untitled,  
Wooden Sculpture  
56 x 16 x 16 cm | 22 x 6.3 x 6.3 in



With a collection among the most important of the country, Galeria Estação, inaugurated at the end of 2004, devoted itself to revealing and promoting the production of Brazilian non-scholar art. The gallery was responsible for including this language in the contemporary art scene, while editing publications and holding individual and collective exhibitions inside and outside the country.

Galeria Estação works with well-known self-taught artists from various regions of Brazil, such as Agostinho Batista de Freitas, Alcides dos Santos, Amadeo Luciano Lorenzato, Artur Pereira, Aurelino dos Santos, Chico Tabibuia, Cícero Alves dos Santos-Véio, GTO, Gilvan Samico, Itamar Julião, João Cosmo Felix-Nino, José Antônio da Silva, José Bezerra, Manuel Graciano, Maria Auxiliadora, Mirian Inês da Silva, Neves Torres, among others.

Currently the gallery has been incorporating to its cast artists belonging to the contemporary artistic circuit whose works interact with non-scholar creation, such as André Ricardo, José Bernnô, Julio Villani, Germana Monte-Mór, Moisés Patrício e Santídio Pereira.

Starting from this rare competence, the space is able to offer a historical and current panorama of a production that went beyond the limits of self-thought art, at the same time as it investigates names that, independently of the formation, work with elements from the same source.

Galeria Estação

Rua Ferreira de Araújo, 625 – Pinheiros, São Paulo, SP, Brazil – phone: (+5511) 3813-7253

From Monday to Friday, from 11am to 7pm, Saturday from 11am to 3pm

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