



# VÉIO | CÍCERO ALVES DOS SANTOS

ARTIST'S PORTFOLIO



## BIOGRAPHY

## ARTIST'S PORTFOLIO

Cícero Alves dos Santos, known as Véio, is an iconic figure in Brazilian folk art and a significant contemporary artist.

A self-taught master of wood sculpture, his work transcends the boundaries between folk and contemporary art, merging the memory of traditions with vibrant and modern expressiveness.

His creative process is visceral and intuitive, marked by a sensitive dialogue with his materials. Véio uses logs, roots, and pieces of wood found in nature, respecting their natural forms and textures.

He believes that the wood already holds the figures he seeks to reveal, and with simple tools like a pocketknife, he transforms these materials into enigmatic sculptures.

His works navigate between the figurative and the abstract, creating fantastic, anthropomorphic, and hybrid beings that evoke both collective memories and contemporary narratives.

Véio's artistic research connects oral histories, traditions, and the imagination of Brazil's Northeast with universal themes.

His sculptures, often painted in vibrant, intense colors, preserve the cultural memory of the sertão while exploring symbolism and layers of interpretation.

These pieces are imbued with poetry and critique, questioning the relationships between humanity and the natural world, between past and present.

Recognized nationally and internationally, Véio occupies a unique position in the art world.

His works are part of major public collections in Brazil and abroad, establishing him as an essential voice in understanding the richness of folk culture and its profound connection to contemporary art.

**VÉIO**  
**Cícero Alves dos Santos**

1948, Nossa Senhora da Glória | SE - Brazil



## INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITIONS

- 2026**      **A forma viva na arte de Véio**  
Caixa Cultural Belém - Belém - PA, Brasil
- 2025**      **Bonecos de pau: a felicidade de Véio**  
Museu da Gente Sergipana, Aracaju - SE, Brazil
- 2021**      **Véio**  
Galeria de Arte Cícero Alves dos Santos, Sesc Santos, Santos - SP, Brazil
- 2018**      **Véio - the imagination of wood**  
Itaú Cultural, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2017**      **Véio suddenly into the world**  
Galeria Estação, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- Véio suddenly into the world**  
Gustavo Rebello Arte, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil
- 2016**      **Véio**  
SEEDS Gallery, London, England

## INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITIONS

- 2015** Desdobramentos  
Sesc Santo Amaro, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- Becoming Marni  
56th Venice Biennale, Abbey of San Gregorio, Venice, Italy
- 2014** Cícero Alves dos Santos – Véio | Sculptures  
Galeria Estação, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2010** Véio | Esculturas  
MAP – Museum of Popular Art, Diadema - SP, Brazil
- 2006** Nação lascada: arte e metáfora de Véio  
CNFCP - Centro Nacional de Folclore e Cultura Popular, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil
- 2003** The things we own  
Espaço Cultural da Assembléia Legislativa, Aracajú - SE, Brazil
- 1999** The art and the knowledge  
Espaço Cultural da Assembléia Legislativa de Sergipe, Aracajú - SE, Brazil
- 1991** Northeast  
Centro de Cultura Tancredo Neves, Belo Horizonte - MG, Brazil
- 1986** Véio and Sergipe  
Centro de Convenções de Natal, Natal - RN, Brazil

## COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

2025 - 2026

Corpo Próprio

Instituto Baía dos Vermelhos, Ilhabela - SP, Brazil

2025

Exposition Générale

Place du Palais Royal, Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France

## COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

**2025** In every corner: Casa Fiat de Cultura and Instituto Tomie Ohtake visit Vilma Eid Collection  
Casa Fiat de Cultura, Belo Horizonte – BH, Brazil

**2025** Sopra a ave-do-paraiso, voa longe a viúva negra  
Galeria Central, São Paulo – SP, 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 - 2024** Brasil Futuro: as formas da democracia  
MAR - Museu de Arte do Rio, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

**2023** Brasil Futuro: as formas da democracia  
Solar Ferrão, Salvador – BA, Brazil

Brasil Futuro: as formas da democracia  
Espaço Cultural Casa das Onze Janelas, Belém – PA, Brazil

Brasil Futuro: as formas da democracia  
MuN - Museu Nacional da República, Brasília - DF, Brazil

## COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

- 2023** Reverses and Transverses, Artists beyond boundaries (and friends) at the biennials  
Galeria Estação, São Paulo – SP, Brazil
- 2021** POCORART World Exhibition, Chance and Necessity and...  
Tokyo, Japan
- Eles já Estavam Aqui  
Galeria Base, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- Les Citoyens Uno sguardo di Guillermo Kuitca sulla collezione della  
Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Milan, Italy
- 1981/2021: Contemporary Brazilian Art in the Andrea and José Olympio Pereira Collection  
CCBB - Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil
- 2020** Realce (obras do acervo)  
MAM/RJ - Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil
- 2019** Arte Naif: Nenhum Museu a Menos  
Escola de Artes Visuais do Parque Lage, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil
- Animal  
Galeria Marcelo Guarnieri, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- Quimera  
Galeria do Lago, Museu da República, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

## COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

- 2018** “Between Art and Design”, um diálogo entre as obras de “Veio” e Oscar Niemeyer  
Etel Milano, Milan, Italy
- A Beautiful Elsewhere  
Power Station of Art, Shanghai, China
- 2017** Modos de Ver o Brasil: Itaú Cultural 30 Anos  
Oca, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- Bestiários  
CCSP - Centro Cultural São Paulo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2016** Entreolhares: poéticas d’alma brasileira  
Museu Afro Brasil Emanuel Araújo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- Le Musée Préparé – La Collection de la Fondation Cartier Pour l’Art Contemporain  
Musée des Augustins, Le Printemps de Septembre, Toulouse, France
- Os Muitos e o Um: Arte Contemporânea Brasileira  
Instituto Tomie Ohtake, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2015** A particular collection - Contemporary art at Pinacoteca collection  
Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 10th Mercosul Biennial  
Porto Alegre - RS, Brazil

## COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

**2014**

**Frestas Trienal de Arte**

Sesc Sorocaba, Sorocaba - SP, Brazil

**Tatu: Futebol, Adversidade e Cultura da Caatinga**

MAR - Museu de Arte do Rio, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

**Almost a figure, almost a shape**

Galeria Estação, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

**Vivid Memories**

Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France

**2013**

**Crossed worlds: Art and Popular Imaginary**

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

**2012**

**Histoires de Voir**

Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France

**Stubbornness of Imagination - Ten Brazilian Artists**

Paço Imperial, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

**Stubbornness of Imagination - Ten Brazilian Artists**

Instituto Tomie Ohtake, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

**IV Bienal Brasileira de Design**

Palácio das Artes, Belo Horizonte - MG, Brazil

## COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

- 2012**      **Exposição Artistas e Arteiros**  
Centro Cultural Taiguara, Poá – SP, Brazil
- Exposição Artistas e Arteiros**  
MACC – Museu de Arte e Cultura de Caraguatatuba – Caraguatatuba – SP, Brazil
- 2011**      **Exposição Artistas e Arteiros**  
Espaço Cultural Almeida Junior, Itú – SP, Brazil
- 2010**      **Brazilian Art beyond the system**  
Galeria Estação, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- Exposição Artistas e Arteiros**  
Museu de Antropologia do Vale do Paraíba, Jacareí – SP, Brazil
- Pavilhão das Culturas Brasileiras: Puras Misturas**  
Pavilhão de Culturas Brasileiras, São Paulo – SP, Brazil
- 2009**      **Imaginary Voices**  
CNFCP - Centro Nacional de Folclore e Cultura Popular, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil
- 2006 - 2007**      **Viva Cultura viva**  
Museu Afro Brasil Emanuel Araújo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2001**      **Tudo junto**  
Galeria Pé de Boi, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

## **PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain  
Paris, France

Pavilhão das Culturas Brasileiras  
São Paulo - SP, Brazil

Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo  
São Paulo - SP, Brazil

MAR - Museu de Arte do Rio  
Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

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

Museu Afro Brasil Emanuel Araújo  
São Paulo - SP, Brazil

Acervo Sesc de Arte  
São Paulo - SP, Brazil

Itaú Cultural  
São Paulo - SP, Brazil

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2025** **Wooden Dolls: Véio'S Joy**  
Julia Katiene Pereira Santos, Katuscia Pereira Santos, Wmf Martins Fontes
- In every corner - Instituto Tomie Ohtake visits Vilma Eid Collection**  
Instituto Tomie Ohtake, São Paulo – SP, Brazil
- 2024** **Moderno Contemporâneo Popular Brasileiro | The Vilma Eid Gaze**  
Daniel Rangel, Germana Monte-Mór e Lorenzo Mammi, Editora WMF, São Paulo – SP, Brazil
- 2021** **Les Citoyens Uno sguardo di Guillermo Kuitca sulla collezione della**  
Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Milan, Italy
- 2020** **Realce (obras do acervo)**  
Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio MAM, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2019** "Trees" Fondation Cartier pour l'art Contemporain  
EBS, Verona, Italy
- 2018** Arte Popular Brasileira: olhares contemporâneos  
WMF Martins Fontes, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- A Beautiful Elsewhere  
Power Station of Art, Shanghai, China
- VÉIO  
Itaú Cultural, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2017** Catálogo da exposição "VÉIO – De surpresa no mundo"  
Lis Gráfica, São Paulo, SP -Brazil
- 2015** Mensagem de uma nova América  
Fundação Bienal de Artes Visuais do Mercosul, Porto Alegre - RS, Brazil
- 2014** Cícero Alves dos Santos [Véio]  
WMF Martins Fontes, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2010** Catálogo da exposição "Véio | Esculturas"  
Lis Gráfica, São Paulo - SP, Brazil



EXHIBITIONS



Photo: André Seiti

2018

## Vóio - the imagination of wood

Itaú Cultural  
São Paulo - SP, Brazil



2017

## Véio suddenly into the world

Gustavo Rebello Arte  
Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil



2016

## VÉIO

SEEDS Gallery  
London, England



Photo: Courtesy Marni

2015

## Becoming Marni | 56th Venice Biennale

Abbey of San Gregorio  
Venice, Italy



Photo: Courtesy Marni

2015

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Abbey of San Gregorio  
Venice, Italy



WORK



**Cícero Alves dos Santos - Véio**

1948, Nossa Senhora da Glória – SE, Brazil, Brazil

Acaninãna, 2010

Acrylic paint and wood

320 x 14 x 54 cm | 125.98 x 5.51 x 21.25 in

Photo: Germana Monte-Mór



**Cícero Alves dos Santos - Véio**

1948, Nossa Senhora da Glória – SE, Brazil

O quexada, 2012

Carved and painted wood

36 x 17 x 17 cm | 14.17 x 6.69 x 6.69 in

Photo: Germana Monte-Mór



**Cícero Alves dos Santos - Véio**

1948, Nossa Senhora da Glória – SE, Brazil

Black Soul, 2012

Carved and painted wood

100 x 49 x 38 cm | 39.37 x 19.29 x 14.96 in

Photo: Germana Monte-Mór



**Cícero Alves dos Santos - Véio**

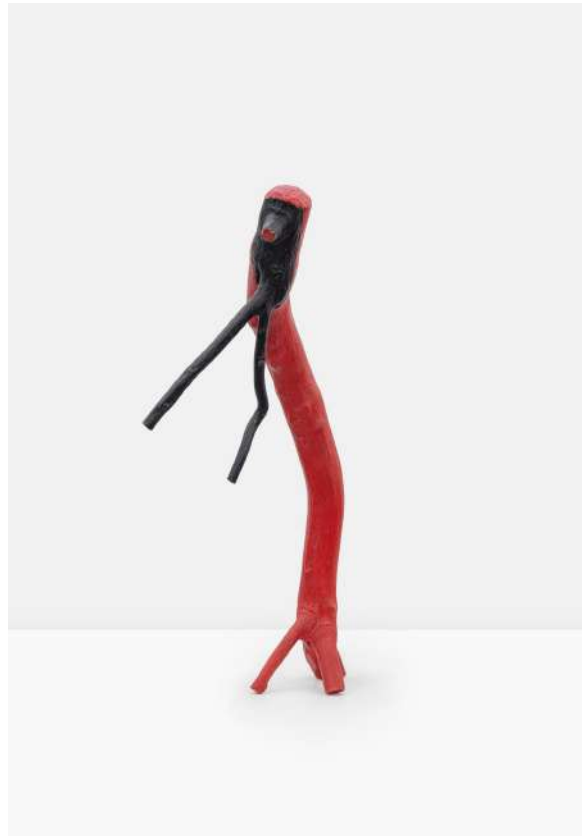
1948, Nossa Senhora da Glória – SE, Brazil

Untitled, 2012

Carved and painted wood

70 x 134 x 121 cm | 27.55 x 52.75 x 47.63 in

Photo: Germana Monte-Mór



**Cícero Alves dos Santos - Véio**

1948, Nossa Senhora da Glória – SE, Brazil

Tripod, 2014

Carved and painted wood

95 x 38 x 17 cm | 37.40 x 14.96 x 6.69 in

Photo: ©Filipe Berndt



**Cícero Alves dos Santos - Véio**

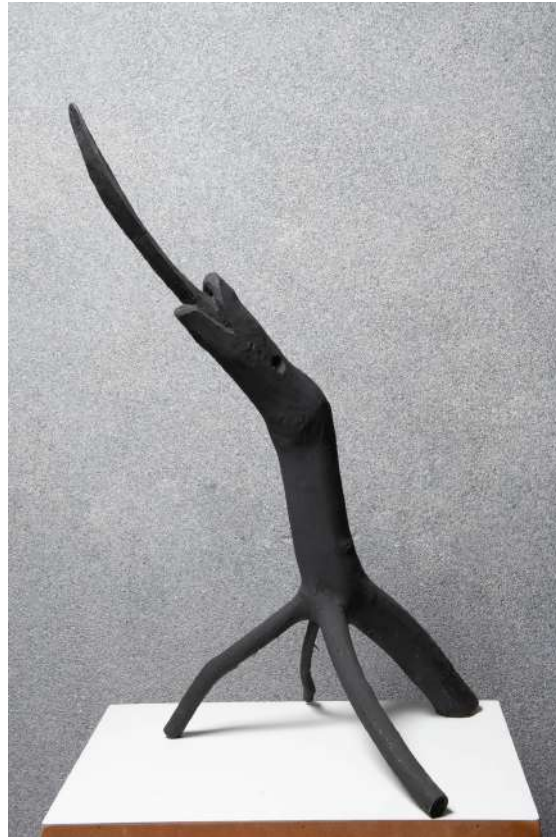
1948, Nossa Senhora da Glória – SE, Brazil

O mascarado, 2014

Carved and painted wood

80 x 40 x 13 cm | 31.49 x 15.74 x 5.11 in

Photo: ©João Liberato



**Cícero Alves dos Santos - Véio**

1948, Nossa Senhora da Glória – SE, Brazil

Untitled, 2015

Carved and painted wood

104 x 70 x 65 cm | 40.94 x 27.55 x 25.59 in

Photo: ©João Liberato



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 and Zica Bergami.

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

# GALERIA ESTAÇÃO

RUA FERREIRA DE ARAÚJO, 625 - PINHEIROS  
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