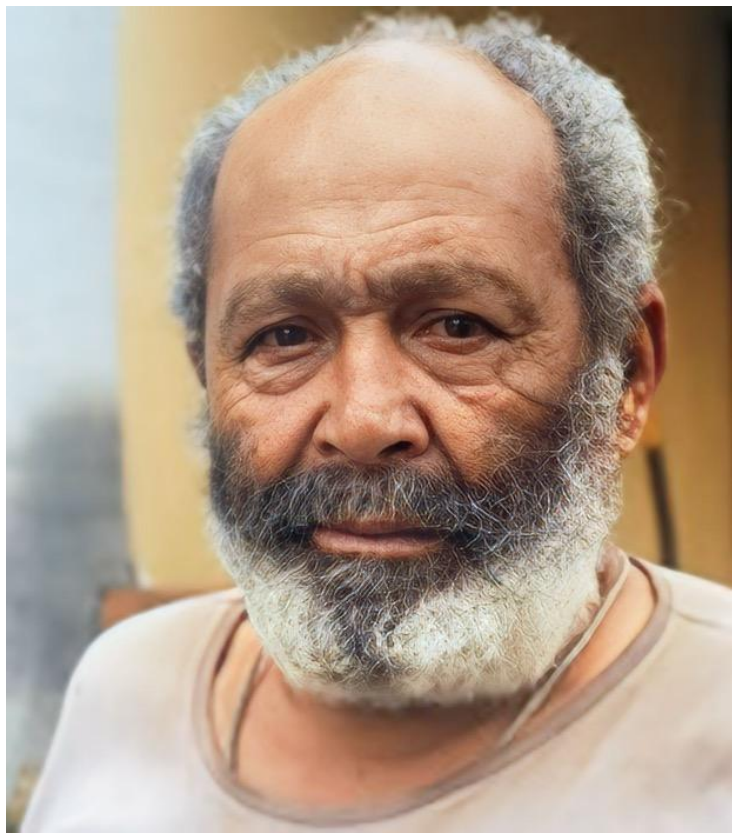




CHICO TABIBUIA

ARTIST'S PORTFOLIO



CHICO TABIBUIA

Francisco Moraes da Silva

1936 - 2007, Casimiro de Abreu - RJ, Brazil

BIOGRAPHY

Francisco Moraes da Silva, known as Chico Tabibuia, was born in 1936 in Casimiro de Abreu, RJ, where he lived until his passing in 2007. His life story is deeply connected to wood and marked by the unique character of his sculptural work. At 22, he began working as a lumberjack along the São João River, cutting tabebuia and jenipapo trees to support his family. The tabebuia tree, which grows exclusively in swamps, became a constant in his life and the primary material of his art. This dense, resilient wood symbolized for Chico the strength and endurance he found in his own journey.

It was only at 40 that Chico Tabibuia returned to sculpture, an activity he had explored as a teenager and that would, from then on, become his main form of expression. His sculptures are infused with elements of magic and eroticism, themes that interlace in his work with a unique sense of dignity and symbolic depth. These two aspects harken back to ancient fertility rites, where art and sensuality intertwine as expressions of the unconscious.

ARTIST'S PORTFOLIO

Geza Roheim, in *Magie et Schizophrénie*, emphasized that the phallus, symbolized by the erect penis, represents creative energy with “the power to heal and fertilize.” This archetype is evident in Chico’s sculptures, which explore both eroticism and spirituality.

Chico Tabibuia’s sculptures transcend the material; he transforms the tabebuia wood into true entities: some resemble phallic deities, symbols of vital, creative energy; others evoke the image of “great mothers,” expressing a profound connection to ancestry and the sacred. His creations reflect a magical stance, engaging with the unconscious roots of humanity and connecting the viewer to something primitive and timeless, as noted by Nise da Silveira in *Images of the Unconscious*.

Throughout his life, Chico established himself as one of the great names in Brazilian folk art. In each carving and form, he preserved the symbolic power and vitality of the wood, transforming it into a bearer of stories, myths, and desires that transcend time.



INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITIONS

2019

Chico Tabibuia

Galeria Estação, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

1996

Chico Tabibuia

Galeria Nara Roesler, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

1989

Chico Tabibuia

MHN - Museu Histórico do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

- 2025** Histories of Ecology
MASP - Museu de Arte de São Paulo Assis Chateaubriand, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 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** Essay on Earth
Galeria Simões de Assis, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2023** "Reverses and Transverses": Artists Outside the Mainstream (and Friends) at the Biennials
Galeria Estação, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- Navegar é Preciso – paisagens fluminenses
Casa França Brasil, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

2021 - 2022

Memory is an invention

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

2021

Earth and Temperature

Almeida & Dale, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

2020

Between Fragments and Cracks

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

2019

Folk Art – no museum less

Escola de Arte Visuais do Parque Lage, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Unforeseen Dialogues

Galeria Passado Composto, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

2017

Stories of Sexuality

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

2016

Orixás

Casa França-Brasil, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

2013

Our Imaginary

Galeria Estação, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 2012 | Janete Costa "The Gaze"
Museu Janete Costa de Arte Popular, Niterói - RJ, Brazil |
| 2011 | Where are we Africa?
Caixa Cultural Sé, São Paulo - SP, Brazil |
| 2010 | Brazilian Art: Beyond the System
Galeria Estação, São Paulo - SP, Brazil |
| 2007 | Live Culture Live the Brazilian People
Museu Afro Brasil Emanuel Araújo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil |
| | The size of Brazil - Popular Art Exhibition
Sesc Paulista, São Paulo - SP, Brazil |
| 2006 | Replica and Rebellion
MAB/BA - Museu de Arte da Bahia, Salvador - BA, Brazil |
| | Replica and Rebellion
MAM/RJ - Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil |
| | Replica and Rebellion
Centro Cultural Português, Luanda, Angola |

COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

- 2006** **Replica and Rebellion**
Museu Nacional de Arte de Maputo, Maputo, Mozambique
- 2005** **Our Pleasure**
Galeria Brasileira, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2000** **Brazil: Psychoanalysis and Modernism**
MASP - Museu de Arte de São Paulo Assis Chateaubriand, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- Art and Eroticism**
Galeria Nara Roesler, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- Here Between Us**
São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- Rediscovery Exhibition**
Fundação Bienal de São Paulo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 1998** **Frontiers, Utopian Dimensions**
Itaú Cultural, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 1987** **Brazil's Folk**
Grand Palais, Paris, France

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Museu Afro Brasil Emanuel Araújo

São Paulo - SP, Brazil

Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo

São Paulo - SP, Brazil

MASP - Museu de Arte de São Paulo Assis Chateaubriand

São Paulo - SP, Brazil

Pavilhão das Culturas Brasileiras

São Paulo - SP, Brazil

MNBA - Museu Nacional de Belas Artes

Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

IPEAFRO - Museu de Arte Negra

Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

El Museo del Barrio

New York, USA

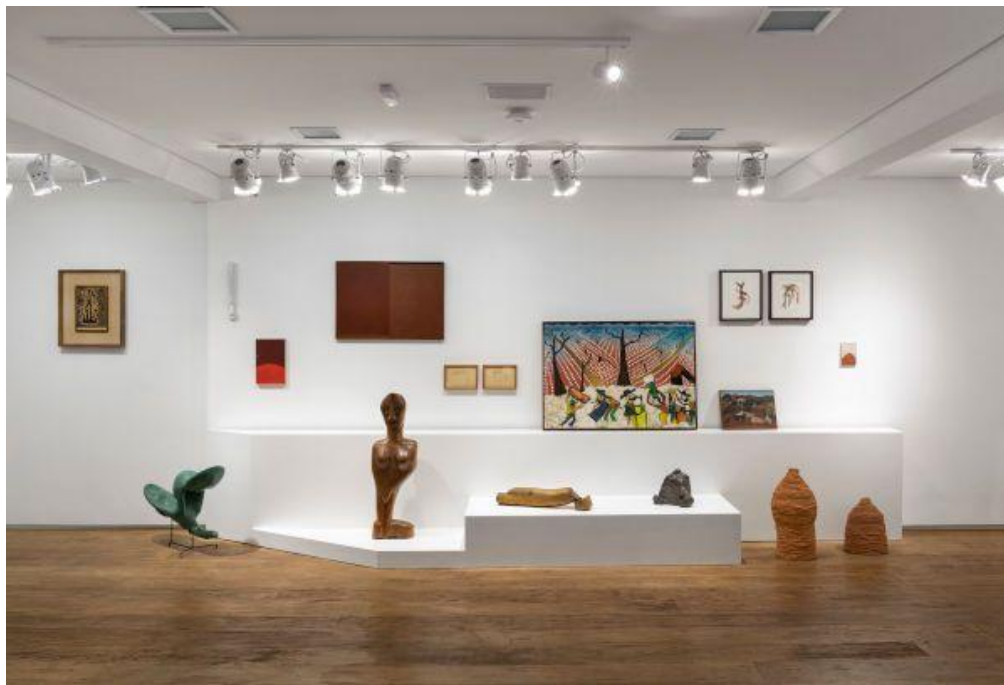
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

2025

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

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2019** Chico Tabibuia, Vilma Eid and Thais Rivitti
Lis Gráfica, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2018** Brazilian Popular Art: contemporary views, Vilma Eid and Germana Monte-Mór
Editora WMF Martins Fontes, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2012** Janete Costa "The Gaze", Mário Santos
Lis Gráfica, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2010** Brazilian Art: Beyond System
Galeria Estação, Lis Gráfica, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2007** Live Culture Live the Brazilian People
Museu Afro Brasil Emanuel Araújo, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- The size of Brazil - Popular Art Exhibition
Sesc Paulista, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 2000** Rediscovery Exhibition
Fundação Bienal de São Paulo, Associação Brasil 500 Anos, São Paulo - SP, Brazil
- 1989** The magical erotic sculpture by Chico Tabibuia
Paulo Pardal, UERJ ERCA, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil



2021

Photo: Almeida & Dale

Earth and Temperature

Galeria Almeida & Dale
São Paulo - SP, Brazil



Photo: Almeida & Dale

2021

Earth and Temperature

Galeria Almeida & Dale
São Paulo - SP, Brazil



Foto: ©João Liberato

2019

Chico Tabibuia

Galeria Estação
São Paulo - SP, Brazil

2019

Chico Tabibuia

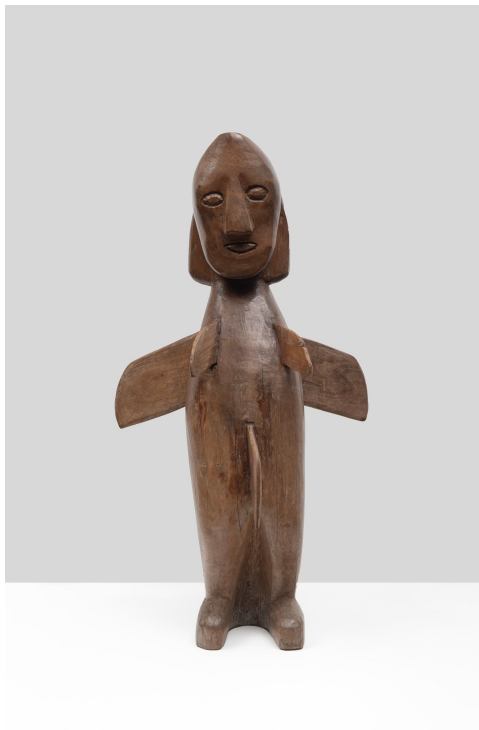
Galeria Estação
São Paulo - SP, Brazil



Foto: ©João Liberato



WORK



Chico Tabibuia - Francisco Moraes da Silva

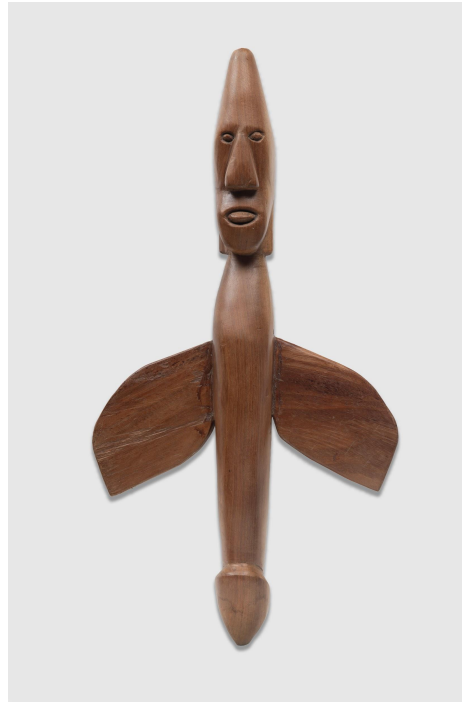
1936 | 2007, Casimiro de Abreu - RJ, Brazil

Untitled, undated

Wooden sculpture

58 x 32 x 30 cm | 22.83 x 12.59 x 11.81 in

Photo: João Liberato



Chico Tabibuia - Francisco Moraes da Silva

1936 | 2007, Casimiro de Abreu - RJ, Brazil

Untitled, 90's

Wooden sculpture

66 x 35 x 08 cm | 25.98 x 13.77 x 3.14 in

Photo: João Liberato



Chico Tabibuia - Francisco Moraes da Silva

1936 | 2007, Casimiro de Abreu - RJ, Brazil

Untitled, 90's

Wooden sculpture

68 x 22 x 10 cm | 22.83 x 8.66 x 3.93 in

Photo: João Liberato



Chico Tabibuia - Francisco Moraes da Silva
1936 | 2007, Casimiro de Abreu - RJ, Brazil

Barco Fantasma, 1980/1981
Wooden sculpture
55 x 37 x 110 cm | 21.65 x 15.57 x 43.30 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 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.

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