FILOMENA ALMEIDA

Sculptor · Visual Artist · Designer · Trainer . Investigator

BIOGRAPHY

Filomena Almeida is a Portuguese sculptor, visual artist, designer and trainer. Holding a degree in Fine Arts from the School of Arts and Design in Caldas da Rainha, she has been developing an artistic practice since the mid-1990s, focused on sculpture and the relationship between material, space and landscape.

Her work encompasses sculpture in stone, wood, metal and other materials, created for both public spaces and exhibition contexts. She has participated in international sculpture symposia in Portugal, France, Italy, Spain, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and Latvia, and has also presented projects in Japan.

Throughout her career, she has explored different artistic languages and creative processes, including photography, drawing, installation and video, combining material experimentation, artistic research and intervention in the landscape.

Alongside her artistic practice, she has developed work in design, education and creative empowerment. She is the founder of Feltrando, a sustainable design project dedicated to the reuse and valorisation of industrial felt waste from the hat-making industry.

EDUCATION

2000 — Degree in Fine Arts, School of Arts and Design, Caldas da Rainha (IPL).

1995 — Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts — Painting / Sculpture, School of Arts and Design, Caldas da Rainha (IPL).

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2013 — *Details in the Landscape*, Archaeological Museum of Citânia de Sanfins and Paços de Ferreira Municipal Museum – Furniture Museum, Paços de Ferreira.

2013 — *Details in the Landscape – II*, Casa Barbot – House of Culture, Vila Nova de Gaia.

2012 — *Details in the Landscape*, João Pedro Rodrigues – Atelier, Oficina das Artes e Galeria, Porto.

2007 — *Island-Benches*, Maus Hábitos, Porto.

2007 — *Islands Project: Communicating Islands II*, Stone Museum, Cantanhede.

2007 — *Islands Project: Scenarios for Island Benches*, Torres Vedras Communication and Culture Cooperative.

2006 — *Islands Project*, Casa do Moinho, Santa Maria da Feira.

2004 — *Close to the Plane*, São João da Madeira Art Centre and Barata Feio Museum, Caldas da Rainha.

2001 — *Landscape*, D. Ivone Gallery + Warehouse 7, Lisbon.

2000 — *Untitled*, D. Ivone Gallery, Caldas da Rainha.

1996 — *Margins for a Menhir*, Terreiro das Gralhas Gallery, Caldas da Rainha.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2013 — *Landscape: Virtuous Cycle*, Árvore – 50 Years / 50 Women, Cooperativa Árvore, Porto.

2010 — *Level / Unevenness*, annual exhibition of students from the Art Centre, São João da Madeira.

2009 — *Island View*, Former Visual Arts Students, Dr. Serafim Leite Secondary School, Art Centre, São João da Madeira.

2007 — *Landscape from Head to Toe*, 1st International Salon of Visual Arts, Hat Museum, São João da Madeira.

2004 — *Portion of Water*, International Exhibition of Contemporary Sculpture, Miyazaki Airport, Japan.

2001 — *Atmospheric Landscapes*, Purificación García Photography Prize, Madrid, Spain.

PUBLIC SCULPTURE AND SYMPOSIA — PORTUGAL

2011 — *Contemplation Benches*, 4th Iberian Sculpture Prize, City of Serpa.

2011 — *The Last Supper*, 1st International Wax Sculpture Symposium, Monchique.

2010 — *Contemplation Bench II*, Ruralidades em Portugal — Land Art, Portimão.

2010 — *Living Stage*, SIMPPETRA – Caldas da Rainha International Sculpture Symposium.

2008 — *Memorial to Aristides Sousa Mendes*, Granite Sculpture Symposium, Almeida.

2008 — *Landscape #3*, Sintra Public Art, Sintra.

2005 — *Contemplation Bench*, 5th International Sculpture Symposium of the City of Cantanhede.

2004 — *The Jungle – Ferreira de Castro*, 1st International Wood Sculpture Symposium, Oliveira de Azeméis.

2001 — *Islands*, multiples, São João da Madeira.

2000 — *Island*, 1st International Sculpture Symposium, CEVALOR, Borba.

1998 — *Morphogamic*, private commission, Foz do Arelho.

1996 — *The Water Cycle*, 1st International Iron Sculpture Symposium of the City of Abrantes.

1994 — *The Process*, 4th International Biennial of Sculpture and Drawing, Caldas da Rainha.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIA AND SCULPTURE

2011 — *Contemplation Bench III*, Pedvale Open Air Art Museum, Sabile, Latvia.

2010 — *Vegetal Arc*, 17th International Wood Sculpture Symposium, Ankara, Turkey.

2008 — *Landscape #4*, European Sculpture Symposium of Vigo, Spain.

2008 — *Land-Scape: Natura*, 6th International Stone Sculpture Symposium, Mersin, Turkey.

2007 — *Landscape #3*, 3rd International Sculpture Symposium of Camponaraya (León), Spain.

2007 — *Contemplation-Bench*, 11th International Symposium of San Benedetto del Tronto, Italy.

2007 — *Island-Bench #3*, EMAAR International Art Symposium, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

2006 — *Island-Bench 2*, 9th International Stone Sculpture Symposium of Friuli Venezia Giulia, Italy.

2004 — *Landscape #2*, 3rd International Sculpture Symposium of Castelraimondo, Italy.

2002 — *II Landscape*, International Stone Meeting, La Châtre, France.

2001 — *Island*, Buddusò International Symposium, Sardinia, Italy.

2000 — *Untitled*, 5th European Granite Sculpture Symposium, Vire (Écouché), France.

ARTISTIC PROJECTS

2011– — *Pocket Sculpture*, travelling sculpture and performance project presented in Guimarães, Santa Maria da Feira, Madrid and Riga.

1994 — *Street Installation*, project parallel to SIMPETRA '94, Caldas da Rainha.

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

1996 — 3rd Prize, 1st International Iron Sculpture Symposium of the City of Abrantes, with the work *The Water Cycle*.

WORKS IN COLLECTIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

Stone Museum of the Municipality of Cantanhede — *Communicating Islands*.

Rainha D. Leonor Thermal Hospital, Caldas da Rainha — *The Process*, acquired and on deposit.

PUBLICATIONS

2007 — *Projecto-Ilhas: Ilhas Comunicantes*. Municipality of Cantanhede. ISBN 978-972-8653-37-8.

2007 — *5th International Sculpture Symposium, City of Cantanhede*. Municipality of Cantanhede. ISBN 972-8653-25-5.

2004 — *Esculturas no Campus*. University of Aveiro. ISBN 972-789-143-8.

TEACHING AND TRAINING

2017–2022 — Trainer in technical specialisation courses in Footwear Design at CFPIC – Professional Training Centre for the Footwear Industry, São João da Madeira, working in the fields of design history, project methodology and project development.

2015– — Trainer at the Feltrando Occupational Workshop, Trilho – Santa Casa da Misericórdia de São João da Madeira.

2001–2014 — Trainer at the Sculpture Occupational Workshop, Trilho – Santa Casa da Misericórdia de São João da Madeira.

2001–2010 — Trainer in Metal Technologies, Materials and Technologies, Professional Course in Furniture Design, C.E.P. Professional School, Porto. Course coordinator.

1997–1998 — Visual Arts teacher, 5th and 6th grades, C+S School of Fajões, Oliveira de Azeméis.

1996–1997 — Visual Arts teacher, lower secondary education, D. João I Basic School, Caldas da Rainha.

2001–2002 — Visual Arts teacher, 7th, 8th and 9th grades, Vale de Cambra Basic School.

DESIGN AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

2017–2019 — Co-founder of Lemon Think, promoter of the OLIVES footwear brand, based at Oliva Creative Factory.

2014– — Founder of Feltrando, a sustainable design project dedicated to creating objects and products through the reuse of industrial felt waste from the hat-making industry, based at Oliva Creative Factory, São João da Madeira.

2011–2014 — Mentor and designer of the social project FELTRANDO – Redesign and Sustainable Design, developed at Trilho, Santa Casa da Misericórdia de São João da Madeira.

ASSOCIATIONS

Member of Cooperativa Árvore since 2009.