

Museum
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Maat

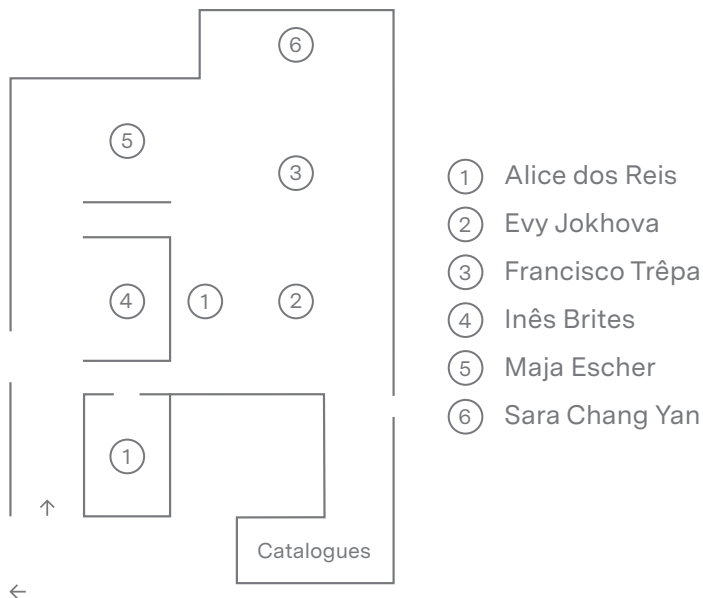
EDP Foundation New Artists Award 2024

The EDP Foundation New Artists Award was created in the year 2000 with the aim of supporting and granting visibility to the work of emerging artists of all ages, embracing the entire spectrum of contemporary visual and plastic arts. After fourteen editions, this biannual award, whose public profile – recognised as one of the most relevant and ambitious in the panorama of the arts in Portugal – continues to grow, has contributed to mapping the trajectory of successive generations of artists on the national scene.

This year's edition presents the work of six finalists: Alice dos Reis, Evy Jokhova, Francisco Trêpa, Inês Brites, Maja Escher and Sara Chang Yan. These artists were selected from among around 600 candidates, appraised by a jury consisting of Catarina Rosendo (university professor and curator), Luís Silva (curator and director of Kunsthalle Lissabon) and Sérgio Mah (deputy director of MAAT and university professor). In the course of the exhibition, an international jury shall name the winning artist, to whom the EDP Foundation will award the sum of 20,000 Euros.

EDP Foundation New Artists Award 2000–2022

Joana Vasconcelos (2000), Leonor Antunes (2001), Vasco Araújo (2002), Carlos Bunga (2003), João Maria Gusmão and Pedro Paiva (2004), João Leonardo (2005), André Romão (2007), Gabriel Abrantes (2009), Priscila Fernandes (2011), Ana Santos (2013), Mariana Silva (2015), Claire de Santa Colomba (2017), Diana Policarpo (2019) and Adriana Proganó (2022).



The exhibition continues in the High-Pressure Boilers, with works by Evy Jokhova

Alice dos Reis (1995, Lisbon) is a Portuguese artist living and working in Hong Kong, where she is doing a PhD in Creative Media from City University of Hong Kong. She graduated in Art and Multimedia from the Fine Arts Faculty of Lisbon University and completed her Master's in Fine Arts from the Sandberg Instituut in Amsterdam. In 2019, she received the Novo Banco Revelation Award, and in 2020, she was given a Mondriaan Fonds scholarship for emerging artists. Her artistic practice frequently explores science-fiction narratives, recontextualising individual and collective histories to question the relationships between technology, the body and identity.

For the EDP Foundation New Artists Award 2024 exhibition, Alice dos Reis is presenting a video installation entitled *Oh Be a Fine Girl, Kiss Me*, as well as *Freiras caminham de madrugada, meio-dia, crepúsculo e noite* [Nuns walking morning, noon, evening and night], a tapestry fraught with narrative tension, in the Renaissance manner, where a group of nuns – some pregnant – and domestic animals walk towards a mysterious unidentified flying object. Traditionally associated with the painstaking labour of womenfolk, the tapestry here becomes a medium for images that evoke parallel dimensions and hybrid beings, while the video compounds a feeling of temporal displacement, projecting a near-future in which techno-optimism and the normative control of the body come together to reconfigure modes of existence that present themselves to us as inevitable.

Luís Silva

Evy Jokhova (1984, Geneva) is a multidisciplinary artist whose practice explores the relationship of nature with social structures and architecture from an anthropological, philosophical and artistic point of view. In the work *The Maritime Tale of the Hermit Crab*, the artist uses a hermit crab's life story as a metaphor for a reflection on a changing city faced with the catastrophic effects of the housing crisis and its impact on the social sphere and urban landscape. The hermit crab is the only species of its kind to be born without a carapace, thus depending on the shells of other molluscs to protect itself and survive. With this as reference, the artist speaks not only of her own experience adapting to the social and cultural context of a new city, but also about the growing number of homeless people, whether in Lisbon or other world cities. Jokhova highlights the paradoxical relationship these people have with the city, which to some extent belongs to them because it is their home, but simultaneously expels and ignores them.

Graduated in Fine Arts from the London Royal College of Art and in Political Communications from Goldsmith College, Evy Jokhova has developed a practice founded on drawing, sculpture, installation, video and performance. In this installation, the artist makes use of several textile techniques – embroidery, crochet, natural dyeing – traditional music and performance, creating an environment as mythological as it is real, where one can reflect on ideas of belonging, protection and shelter.

Leonor Carrilho

Francisco Trêpa (1995, Lisbon), a Portuguese artist graduated in Sculpture and Multimedia Art from the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon, has developed a practice based on the ambiguous relationship between plants, animals, technology and other beings from both the natural and artificial worlds, which the artist endows with new meaning in his sculptures.

In *Cicconia Cicconia*, Francisco Trêpa presents a series of ceramic, wood, paraffin and wool elements which suggests an urban landscape we know but somehow appears reinterpreted, whether because of the scale of the sculptures – nests where large, entwined storks embrace intimately – or the ruins of a tower, symbolising the fragility of our existence and the Anthropocene, a world in the throes of collapse and destruction. And yet, in this complex “baroque sci-fi” setting, as the artist likes to put it, where fiction, futurism, exaggeration and humour meet, we also see a rebirth, represented by the giant egg suggesting renewal and hope. It is perhaps a pronouncement of a new era or social and ecological structure where a just, collaborative relationship and cooperative spirit between human and non-human species replaces the competitiveness of the past.

Leonor Carrilho

Inês Brites (1992, Coimbra) is a Portuguese artist living and working in Lisbon. She graduated in Painting from the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon, and studied at KASK & Conservatorium / School of Arts Ghent, Belgium. Between 2019 and 2022, she developed a series of short-term exhibitions in her studio, the “Ciclo de Amizades” [Cycle of Friendships], where fellow artists were invited to think together about artistic processes in terms of collaborative logics. Affections, vulnerability and chance are the basis for her sculptures and installations, which, by appropriating everyday and found objects, question their objectual condition through the haptic, visual and sensory connections they establish with living beings and nature.

The works presented for the EDP Foundation New Artists Award 2024, made from resins and silicon that suggest a laboratorial process both handcrafted and experimental, are made from objects which we can still recognise for their references to intimacy and caring while combining disparate elements from all sorts of origins, always respecting their actual scale if rendered in unexpected colours. Water and energy animate these works from within, making them vibrate, blow, throb, drip, sweat, and breathe, transforming them into singular, humorous and alive presences.

Catarina Rosendo

Maja Escher (1990, Santiago do Cacém) is a Portuguese artist who lives and works between Lisbon and Odemira, on the Alentejo coast. Her varied academic background includes multimedia and ceramics studies at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon, the University of East London's Architecture and Visual Arts School, and Ar.Co – Centre for Art and Visual Communication in Lisbon, as well as studies in biological farming at AgroBio Portugal and the Waldorf Teaching Method at the Waldorf Institut Witten-Annen, in Germany. Her installations are based on the ideas of meeting and celebration and the ties of reciprocity and mutualism we maintain with the living world. Attention to the ecology of places and relationships results from fieldwork which includes collecting oral expressions and found objects, studying agricultural techniques and equipment, drawing and co-creation.

The works presented for the EDP Foundation New Artists Award 2024 create a dialogue with the architecture and materials of the exhibition space, from the several suspended, seemingly organic objects, the ceramics and the cotton fabrics dyed with earth collected near Torres Vedras, the forms that are reminiscent of decorative items from regional festivities, or the floor ceramic piece that abuts a raised step. As a whole, they imply an active engagement of the body while experiencing them and question the dualist paradigm which separates subject from object and perceives nature as something outside of us.

Catarina Rosendo

Sara Chang Yan (1982, Lisbon) is a Portuguese artist whose work explores the relationship between drawing, space and sensory perception. Currently living and working between Lisbon and the Azores, she graduated in Architecture from Lisbon University's School of Architecture, in 2006, and in 2010 attended the Drawing Course at Ar.Co – Centre for Art & Visual Communication, where she also completed the Advanced Course in Visual Arts in 2013.

Her artistic process is characterised by a subtlety of line and sensitivity to the invisible which create compositions that defy the distinction between the real and the intuited. In *Sentir o coração pleno e seguro, saber espontâneo* [feel the heart safe and full, spontaneous knowledge], which she has submitted to the EDP Foundation New Artists Award 2025 exhibition, Sara Chang Yan expands the limits of drawing and explores how it might exist beyond the sheet of paper, interacting with light, space and the observer's own body. Although working, in this case, on a monumental scale, the work incorporates minimal elements – delicate lines, almost imperceptible markings or random fragments – that require a willingness to linger in patient contemplation.

Luís Silva

EDP Foundation
New Artists Award 2024
10/04 → 08/09/2025

Artists

Alice dos Reis, Evy Jokhova,
Francisco Trêpa, Inês Brites,
Maja Escher, Sara Chang Yan

Curators

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Sérgio Mah

Production

Adriane Kampff

Communication and media relations

Elisabete Sá, Leonor Carrilho

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Graphic design

Claudia Lancaster

Installation
SGLDA
GGG Production

Media partner
Público

MAAT patron



Agenda

Guided tour with curators and
artists: 10/04/2025, 18.00
Performance in the work *The Maritime
Tale of the Hermit Crab* by
Evy Jokhova, with Mirjam Külm
(composer and lead singer),
Ellen Hörnberg, Hannah Smithies,
Ricardo Gil Machado Pereira,
Daria Morozova, Roberta Ba:
29/05/2025, 17.30; 28/08/2025, 17.30

Publications

A catalogue will be published during
the exhibition, with texts
by Catarina Rosendo, Luís Silva
and Sérgio Mah, and views of all the
works in the exhibition.

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exhibition guide



10/04/2025 → 08/09/2025



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