

## Edgar Martins

### At a glance

Edgar Martins was born in Évora (Portugal) but grew up in Macau (China), where he published his first novel entitled “Mãe deixa-me fazer o pino”. In 1996 he moved to the UK, where he completed a BA in Photography and Social Sciences at the University of the Arts, as well as an MA in Photography Fine Art at the Royal College of Art (London). His work is represented internationally in several high-profile collections, such as those of the V&A (London), the National Media Museum (Bradford, UK), RIBA (London), the Dallas Museum of Art (USA); Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian/Modern Art Centre (Lisbon), Fundação EDP (Lisbon), Fondation Carmignac (Paris), MAST (Italy), amongst others. His first book—Black Holes & Other Inconsistencies—was awarded the Thames & Hudson and RCA Society Book Art Prize. A selection of images from this book was also awarded The Jerwood Photography Award in 2003. Between 2002 and 2012 Martins published 10 separate monographs, which were also received with critical acclaim. These works were exhibited internationally at institutions such as PS1 MoMA (New York), MOPA (San Diego, USA), MACRO (Rome), Laumeier Sculpture Park (St. Louis, USA), Centro Cultural de Belém (Lisbon), Centro de Arte Moderna de Bragança (Bragança, Portugal), Centro Internacional de Arte José de Guimarães (Guimarães, Portugal), Museu do Oriente (Lisbon), Centro de Arte Moderna (Lisbon), MAAT (Lisbon), Centro Cultural Hélio Oiticica (Rio de Janeiro), The New Art Gallery Walsall (Walsall, UK), PM Gallery & House (London), The Gallery of Photography (Dublin), Ffotogallery (Penarth, Wales), The Wolverhampton Art Gallery & Museum (UK), Open Eye Gallery (Liverpool), among many others. In 2010 the Centre Culturel Calouste Gulbenkian (Paris) hosted Edgar Martins’ first retrospective exhibition. Edgar Martins was the recipient of the inaugural New York Photography Award (Fine Art category, May 2008), the BES Photo Prize (Portugal, 2009), a SONY World Photography Award (Landscape category, 2009), 1st prize in the Fine Art—Abstract category of the 2010 International Photography Awards and nominated for the Prix Pictet 2009. Edgar Martins was selected to represent Macau (China) at the 54th Venice Biennale. Edgar Martins works and lives in the UK

1977	Born Évora, Portugal
1996	Philosophy & Humanities, Liceu de Macau
1997	BA (Hons) Photography, University of the Arts, London
2000	MA Photography and Fine Arts, Royal College of Art, London

### Selected Solo Exhibitions

2017

*Destinerrance: the Place of the Dead is the Place of Photography,*  
Centro de Arte José de Guimarães, Guimarães (Portugal)

2016

*Siloquies and Soliloquies on Death, Life and Other Interludes*, Cristina Guerra Contemporary Art Lisbon

*Siloquies and Soliloquies on Death, Life and Other Interludes*, MAAT, Lisbon

*Siloquies and Soliloquies on Death, Life and Other Interludes*, Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool

2015

*The Wayward Line*, Château Gruyères, part of the Alt+1000 Festival, Switzerland

*The Poetic Impossibility to Manage the Infinite*, The Wolverhampton Art Gallery (Wolverhampton, UK)

*The Rehearsal of Space & The Poetic Impossibility to Manage the Infinite*, Centro Cultural Paço Imperial (Rio de Janeiro)

2014

*The Rehearsal of Space & The Poetic Impossibility to Manage the Infinite*, Sala da Cidade, Museu Municipal de Coimbra (an initiative by the Faculty of Sciences and Technology of Coimbra and The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation) (Coimbra)

*The Rehearsal of Space & The Poetic Impossibility to Manage the Infinite*, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian / Modern Art Centre (Lisbon)

*The Rehearsal of Space & The Poetic Impossibility to Manage the Infinite*, The Wapping Project Bankside (London)

*The Rehearsal of Space & The Poetic Impossibility to Manage the Infinite*, Galerie Melanie Rio (Nantes)

2013

*The Time Machine (touring show)*, Galeria Fundação EDP (Porto, Portugal)

*This is not a House (touring show)*, Gallery of Photography, Dublin (Ireland)

*The Time Machine (touring show)*, Ffotogallery, Penarth (Wales)

*The Time Machine*, Photofusion (London)

*The Time Machine (touring show)*, Pátio da Inquisição / Fundação Eugénio Almeida, Évora (Portugal)

*Ruins, the logic of facts and the logic of fictions*, Laura Marsiaj Arte Contemporânea (Rio de Janeiro)

2012

*The Time Machine*, Centre de Arte Contemporânea Graça Morais, Bragança (Portugal)

*This is not a House (touring show)*, The Wapping Project Bankside, London (UK)

*This is not a House (touring show)*, The Wapping Project, London (UK)

*This is not a House*, MouraMarsiaj Arte Contemporânea (S. Paulo)

*The Time Machine*, Melanie Rio Gallery

2011

*The Time Machine*, Yamamoto Gendai, Tokyo  
*The Time Machine*, Museu da Electricidade, Lisbon  
*The Time Machine*, The Wapping Project Bankside, London  
*A Metaphysical Survey of British Dwellings*, Galerie Melanie Rio  
*This is not a House (touring show)*, The New Art Gallery Walsall, Walsall (UK)  
*This is not a House (touring show)*, Camera16, Milan

2010

*This is not a House*, The Photographers' Gallery (PSG), London  
*A Metaphysical Survey of British Dwellings*, HS Gallery, London  
*Reluctant Monoliths*, The Photographer's Gallery, London  
*The Wayward Line*, Centre Culturel Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Paris

2009

*Topologies*, Orient Foundation Museum, Lisbon  
*Reluctant Monoliths*, Galerie Melanie Rio, Nantes, France  
*When Light Casts no Shadow*, Galeria Graça Brandão, Lisbon  
*The Accidental Theorist*, Paul Kopeikin Gallery, Los Angeles  
*When Light Casts no Shadow*, Porta 33, Madeira  
*When Light Casts no Shadow*, Galerie Caprice Horn, Berlin

2008

*When Light Casts no Shadow*, Galerie Melanie Rio, Nantes, France  
*Topologies*, La Caja Negra, Madrid  
*Topologies*, Laura Marsiaj, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
*Topologies*, Paul Kopeikin Gallery, Los Angeles

2007

*Aproximações*, Galeria Graça Brandão, Lisbon  
*The Diminishing Present*, BCA Gallery, Bedford, England  
*The Diminishing Present*, Visual Arts Centre, Coimbra, Portugal

2006

*The Diminishing Present*, Betty Cuninghame Gallery, New York  
*The Diminishing Present*, La Caja Negra, Madrid  
*The Rehearsal of Space*, The Photographer's Gallery (PSG), London  
*The Accidental Theorist*, Galeria Graça Brandão, Oporto, Portugal

2005

*The Diminishing Present*, Photofusion, London

2004

*The Rehearsal of Space*, Macau Art Museum, Macau, China  
*Black Holes and Other Inconsistencies*, Cadeia da Relação (Portuguese Centre of Photography), Oporto, Portugal

## Selected Group Exhibitions

2018

*Civilisation: The Way we live now*, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul

2017

*The Power of Images: An Iconic Selection of Photographs o Industry and Work from the MAST Collection*, MAST (Italy)

*Habitat*, FORMAT 2017, UK

*10 years SONY World Photography Awards*, Sommerset House (London)

*Oxford Photography Festival*, UK

*The Power of Images: An Iconic Selection of Photographs on Industry and Work from the Collection*, MAST Foundation, Bologna (Italy)

*From La Biennale di Venezia to MACRO*, curated by Paolo De Grandis, MACRO – Museum of Contemporary Art, Rome (Italy)

*Este Lugar lembra-te algum sítio?*, curated by Miguel Sousa Ribeiro, Círculo de Artes Plásticas de Coimbra, Portugal,

*Este Lugar lembra-te algum sítio?*, curated by Miguel Sousa Ribeiro, Centro de Artes e Cultura de Ponte de Sor, Portugal,

2016

*Este Lugar lembra-te algum sítio?*, curated by Miguel Sousa Ribeiro, Centro para os Assuntos da Arte e Arquitectura (CAAA), Guimarães  
*Dubai Photo 2016*

*Linhas de Diálogo*, Works from the collections of Fundación Coca-Cola and Novo Banco, Espaço Novo Banco

2015

*Alt+1000 Festival*, Switzerland

*Everywhere is the same sky – A perspective on landscape from the collection of Norlinda and José Lima*, Centro de Cultura

Contemporânea de Castelo Branco, Portugal

2014

*Da Cartografia do Poder aos Itinerários do Saber*, Museu Afro-Brasileiro, S. Paulo

*Grid Festival*, Art'Otel, Amsterdam

*Landscape*, Galerie Melanie Rio, Nantes

2013

*Landmark: Fields of Photography*, Sommerset House, London

*Heuristic Shinonome*, Shinonome Photo Festival 2013, Tolot, Japan

2012

*Intersections*, Weizmann Institute, Rehovot (Israel)  
*Square Up*, Espozizione di fotografia contemporanea, Atelier dell'Arco Amoro, Ancona, Piazza del Plebiscito, Ancona, Italy (curated by: Daniele De Luigi and promoted by Associazione white.fish.tank)  
*FOTOGRAFIA – Festival Internazionale di Roma*, MACRO – Museum of Contemporary Art, Rome (Italy)  
*A man is walking down the street. At a certain moment, he tries to recall something, but the recollection escapes him. Automatically, he slows down*, Cristina Guerra Contemporary Art, Lisbon  
*Edition IV Group Show*, The Wapping Project Bankside, London  
*Paisagem Humana # 15*, BES Arte & Finança, Lisbon  
*Arte Portuguesa do Séc. XX 1850-2010*, MNAC, Museu do Chiado, Lisbon  
*Dead Cities*, Galerie Melanie Rio, Nantes  
*Da Cartografia do Poder aos Itinerários do Saber*, Museu de Arte Moderna de Brasília  
*Da Cartografia do Poder aos Itinerários do Saber*, S. Paulo Museu Afro-Brasil  
*The Near and the Elsewhere*, PM Gallery & House (London), also featuring Frances Alÿs, Sarah Beddington, Edward Burtynsky, James Casebere, Tacita Dean, Thomas Demand, Andreas Gursky, Peter Piller and Rachel Whiteread.  
*'Camp Out: Finding Home in an Unstable World'*, Laumeier Sculpture Park, St. Louis (USA)  
*Concurso Purification Garcia 2012*, Círculo de Belas Artes, Madrid  
*Concurso Purification Garcia 2012*, Sala de Exposições da Biblioteca Central de Cantabria, Santander (Spain)  
*Concurso Purification Garcia 2012*, DA2 Salamanca (Spain)  
*Concurso Purification Garcia 2012*, Museu de Pontevedra (Spain)  
*Concurso Purification Garcia 2012*, Centro Cultural Deputación Ourense (Spain)

2011

*International Photography Festival*, Bursa (Turkey)  
*Infinite Balance*, Museum of Photographic Arts (MOPA) San Diego  
*Migration & Nomadic Living, Backlight Festival*, Tampere Kunsthalle  
*The 54<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale International Art Exhibition, Memory & Mobility, Macau, China Pavilion*  
*Something That I'll Never Really See, Contemporary Phot. From the V&A*, Salar Jung Museum (Hyderabad, India)  
*Da Cartografia do Poder aos Itinerários do Saber*, Museu da Ciência da Universidade de Coimbra (a FCTUC & Museu Nacional - Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro co-production. This exhibition will also be presented at Museu Nacional, Rio de Janeiro.)  
*The Burrow*, SIAKOS.HANAPPE House of Art, Athens

2010

*Détournement*, Galerie Melanie Rio, Nantes  
*Abrstraction*, Château d'Eau, Toulouse  
*Aperture Presents*, Boutique Montblanc, Paris

*Impresiones Y Comentários: Fotografia Contemporânea Portuguesa*, Sala Parpaló, Valência

*Impresiones Y Comentários: Fotografia Contemporânea Portuguesa*, Fundació Foto Colectania, Barcelona

*Da Outra Margem do Atlântico: alguns exemplos de videoarte e fotografia portuguesa*, Centro de arte Hélio Oiticica

*Something That I'll Never Really See, Contemporary Phot. From the V&A*, BHAU Daji Lad Museum (Mumbai)

*A Culpa não é minha* (obras da coleção António Cachola), Centro Cultural de Belém, Lisbon

15 min exhibition, Paraty em Foco, Paraty (Brazil)

15 min exhibition, Ateliê da Imagem Espaço Cultural, Rio de Janeiro

*Da Outra Margem do Atlântico –alguns exemplos de videoarte e fotografia portuguesa*, Centro de Arte Hélio Oiticica, Rio de Janeiro

*Des lendemaisn qui chantent*, Galerie Melanie Rio, Nantes

*What Lies Beneath*, Swedish Embassy, Washington, Foto DC Week

Prix Pictet Show, Thessaloniki Museum of Photography, Thessaloniki

Prix Pictet Show, The Empty Quarter, Dubai

Prix Pictet Show, Eindhoven University of Technology, Eindhoven

*Jogo de Espelhos*, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Elvas, Elvas

2009

*Lá Fora*, Portuguese Artists, Museu da Electricidade, Lisbon

BES Award Berardo Museum (Belém Cultural Centre), Lisbon

Format Festival, Derby

International Photography Festival, Lodz, Poland

*Opções e Futuros*, PLMJ Collection, Museu da Cidade, Lisbon

*Estuaire*, Nantes Art Biennial 2009

NYPHA, Invitational Pavilion, Tobacco Warehouse, New York

Scope Basel, The New Empire, Contemporary Chinese Photography, Miami

*Paisagem*, Centro de Artes Visuais, Coimbra

*Entre o Céu e o Mar*, organized by Centro de Artes Visuais for Centro Cultural de Lagos in the context of "Art Algarve 2009"

Prix Pictet Award, Passage de Retz, Paris

2008

Lianzhou International Photo Festival, Lianzhou, China

Terry O'Neil Award, Fulham Palace, London

ING Real Photography Award, Las Palmas Museum, Rotterdam

*Opções e Futuros*, PLMJ Foundation, Lisbon

*Linha do Horizonte*, Centro Cultural da Caixa Económica Federal, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

*Contemporary Portuguese Photography*, Museu da Presidência da República, Viana do Castelo, Portugal

*That Was Then... This is Now*, P.S. 1, MoMA, New York

*Immoral Facts & Fables*, Galerie Caprice Horn, Berlin

2007

*On the Wall: Aperture Magazine '05-'06*, Aperture Gallery, New York

Migratory Phenomena: Photography and Video + Film Cycle, Economic and Social European Committee, Brussels, Belgium

2006

Alentejo Elementar, Galeria Municipal de São Sebastião, Portalegre;  
(this show toured other Portuguese Museums)

Constelações Afectivas, Galeria Graça Brandão, Lisbon, Portugal

Selections from the Permanent Photography Collection, Victoria and Albert Museum, London

2005

Represented, The Photographer's Gallery (Print Sales Gallery), London

Newly Commissioned Work Coimbra Visual Arts Centre, Portugal

Extensão do Ohar, Coimbra Visual Arts Centre, Portugal

2004

The Jerwood Photography Awards Winners Exhibition 2003, Jerwood Space London (this show toured other UK galleries)

## **Publications**

2016

*Siloquies and Soliloquies on Death, Life & Other Interludes*, The Moth House, Bedford

2015

*0:00.00*, The Moth House, Bedford

*Crude Metaphors: A Dark Sky*, Hot Shoe, London

2014

*Art and Ecology Now* (edited by Andrew Brown), Thames & Hudson, London

*Landmark: the Fields of Photography* (curated by William Ewing), Thames & Hudson, London

*Perspectives on Place: Theory and Practice in Landscape Photography* (edited by Jesse Alexander, Bloomsbury, London

*The Rehearsal of Space & The Poetic Impossibility to Manage the Infinite*, La Fabrica / The Moth House

2013

*Collector's Edition* (edited by Stuart Trolley), Thames & Hudson, London

2012

*The Time Machine (Ltd. Edition)*, The Moth House/EDP Foundation

*This is not a Hose (Ltd. Edition)*, Dewi Lewis

*Vu Par David Lynch*, Paris Photo/Steidl

*Audible Silnece*, in *Exploring the Senses: Beyond the Frame*, The trout Gallery, Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania,

2011

*The Time Machine*, The Moth House/EDP Foundation

*This is not a Hose*, Dewi Lewis

*On the surface: public space and architectural images in debate* (curated by Pedro Leão & Pedro Bandeira) FAUP/EUAM, Porto

*The 54<sup>th</sup> International Venice Biennale Exhibition, Macau Museum of Art, Macau/Macao (China/China)*  
*The 54<sup>th</sup> International Venice Biennale Exhibition, La Biennale, Venice/Venise*  
*Nomadic Living and Migration, Backlight Festival of Photography 2011, Tampere (Finland)*

2010

*The Wayward Line, Centre Culturel Caloust Gulbenkian*

2009

*When Light Casts no Shadow, Dewi Lewis*  
*BES Photo Award, Berardo Museum*  
*'Future Images', guide to top 100 contemporary artists –*  
 published by 24ore Motta Cultura and curated by Raul Cresci & Radu Stern  
*Sotheby's Guide to collecting Photography –*  
 published by Thames & Hudson and written by Jocelyn Phillips  
 Peter D. Osborne *'The Unreachable Landscape: Some Themes in Photography in England from 1990 to 2007'* in Cahier Fotografie nr. 2, 09, Belgium  
*Prix Pictet: Earth, teNeues*  
*BES Photo Award 2008, Museu Berardo, Lisbonne / Lisbon*  
*Flash Forward '09, Magenta Foundation*

2008

*Edgar Martins: Topologies, Aperture*  
*Topologies, Centro de Artes Visuais*  
*Fomat Festival 2008, QUAD*  
*Flash Forward '08, Magenta Foundation, Toronto*  
*Anamnese: The Book, Fundação Ilídio Pinho, Porto*  
*Linha do Horizonte: o motivo da paisagem na arte portuguesa contemporânea, Caixa Económica Cultural do Rio de Janeiro*

2006

*The Diminishing Present, The Moth House*  
*Approaches, ANA*

2003

*Black Holes & Other Inconsistencies, The Moth House*

## **Selected Awards**

2013

New York Photography Awards Finalist, Fine Art Category, 2013

2012

Brigton Photo Biennale and Photobook Show 2012

2011

Selected for AI-AP  
 Finalist in Voies off 2011  
 Winning Entry Pro Photographer Awards 2010



	2010 Artist Level Runners-Up: Photography Contest, Forward Thinking Museum
2010	<p>Winner International photography Awards, Fine Art Abstract Category</p> <p>Finalist LICC</p> <p>Selected for AP+AI Annual, USA</p>
2009	<p>Second Prize for SONY World Photography Awards</p> <p>Winner BES Photo Award</p> <p>Finalist Prix Pictet Award</p>
2008	<p>Selected for ING Real Photography Award</p> <p>AOP Awards, Winner, Contemporary Landscape &amp; Cityscape</p> <p>Semi-finalist in the Hasselblad Photography Masters</p> <p>New York Photography Awards, Winner, Fine Art Category</p> <p>Shortlisted for Arles and Photo Espanã Book Awards</p> <p>Second Prize for Terry O Neil Award</p> <p>Selected for the Format Festival 2009</p> <p>Awarded National Media Museum Bursary</p>
2007	<p>Magenta Foundation Emerging Photographers Competition, Winner, UK Category, Toronto, Canada</p> <p>Awarded Arts Council Grants for Arts</p>
2004	<p>Infinity Awards, Finalist, Young Photographers Category</p>
2003	<p>RCA Society and Thames &amp; Hudson Art Book Prize for 'Black Holes &amp; Other Inconsistencies'</p> <p>The Jerwood Photography Awards, Winner</p>

## Selected Collections

Victoria and Albert Museum, London (UK)  
 National Media Museum, Bradford (UK)  
 Museum Caloust Gulbenkian, Lisbon (Portugal)  
 PLMJ Foundation, Lisbon (Portugal)  
 Ilídio Pinho Foundation, Porto (Portugal)  
 MACE (Contemporary Art Museum), Elvas (Portugal)  
 Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas (USA)  
 EDP Foundation/MAAT, Lisbon (Portugal)  
 Fondation Carminac, Paris (France)  
 RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects), London (UK)  
 CAV (Centro de Artes Visuais), Coimbra (Portugal)  
 Novobanco, Lisbon (Portugal)  
 Museu Casa das Mudas (Madeira, Portugal)  
 Fundação Leal Rios (Portugal)  
 MAST (Italy)