



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Kreeger Museum Presents Exhibition of Contemporary Portuguese Art

Second Nature: Portuguese Contemporary Art from the EDP Foundation Collection

On view June 12 to July 31



Washington, DC — The Kreeger Museum will present ***Second Nature: Portuguese Contemporary Art from the EDP Foundation Collection*** in the summer of 2018. The first group exhibition of Portuguese art of the 21st century to be presented in the United States, *Second Nature* is both a portrait of recent artistic production in Portugal and an exploration of the relationship between human culture and the environment. Working in media ranging from watercolor to photography to video, artists in the exhibition consider the tension between the concept of an untouched natural world—a popular subject in art history—and the ways humans have dominated and reshaped the environment using modern technology.

The exhibition includes approximately 30 works and is the first to go on tour from the Museum of Art, Architecture, and Technology (MAAT) in Lisbon, which opened to the public in October 2016. It is curated by art historian Luisa Especial and MAAT Director Pedro Gadanho, formerly Curator in the Department of Architecture and Design at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

“We are honored to collaborate on this significant exhibition with the Museum of Art, Architecture, and Technology, a cutting-edge and interdisciplinary cultural center,” says Helen Chason, Director of The Kreeger Museum. “*Second Nature* continues The Kreeger Museum’s long tradition of presenting diverse currents in contemporary art and engaging with Washington’s international community. Its exploration of artists’ treatment of nature is especially fitting as we continue to integrate the Museum’s exhibition space with its surrounding woods.”

The exhibition brings together works created over the past two decades by sixteen artists from different generations, each of whom employs modern technology and materials to capture, filter, and reinvent the natural world, thereby generating a “second nature.” Highlights include an installation centered on an orange tree root by sculptor **Alberto Carneiro** (1937–2017); two multimedia sculptures by artist **Vasco Araújo** (b. 1975) that explore the relationship between nature and colonialism; a 24-foot multi-perspectival drawing by **Gabriela Albergaria** (b. 1965); and arresting photographs of illegal fishing and hunting traps by **João Grama** (b. 1975).

All of the works are drawn from the EDP Foundation Art Collection, the collection of contemporary Portuguese art that comprises the MAAT’s permanent collection.

A press preview for *Second Nature: Portuguese Contemporary Art from the EDP Foundation Collection* is scheduled for Wednesday, June 12, 2018, from 9 to 10:30 am.

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About The Kreeger Museum

The Kreeger Museum is an art museum located in the former residence of Carmen and David Kreeger. Designed by renowned architect Philip Johnson, the Museum houses the Kreegers’ permanent collection of 19th and 20th-century painting and sculpture and outstanding examples of traditional African and Asian art. The Kreeger Museum is located at 2401 Foxhall Road NW in Washington, DC.

<http://www.kreegermuseum.org>

Image Captions

Left: Alexandre Estrela, *Wood Cuts, Wood Rings*, 2009, video projection, DVD (PAL), color, mono sound, 4:3; loop and wood structure, 64 1/8 x 34 1/4 x 79 1/8 in. Photo by André Cepeda.

Right: Sandra Rocha, *Untitled* (from the series *DR – Um Diário da República*, 2012), 2014, inkjet print (Epson Ultrachrome K3) on hot press paper, 15 3/4 x 22 3/4 in.