maria villares

Born in 1940, Maria Villares is a multidisciplinary visual artist known for a career defined by a wide range of techniques and continuous experimentation. Her work encompasses drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, collage, ceramics, and installation, with a strong focus on nature and organic objects found by chance, such as seeds, fruit, dried flowers, shells, and twigs.

She began studying art as a teenager, taking classes with modernist artist Nélson Nobrega. In 1957, while a student at MAM/SP, she participated in her first group exhibition. Over the decades, she refined her skills in a variety of techniques, studying with Ângela Leite, Dudi Maia Rosa, and Carlos Fajardo, as well as attending Escola Brasil de Artes and other renowned institutions in Brazil, the United States, and Italy.

Villares gained national recognition for her ceramic work, but expanded her practice across multiple media, participating in solo and group exhibitions in Brazil and abroad. Her best-known series include *Muito Além da Maçã* (*Far Beyond the Apple*), which explores metaphors of the female body and the origins of life, and *Nexus*, inspired by spiderwebs and memories woven through time.

MAIN SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 **Maria Villares, Sendas**. A Hebraica Art Gallery, São Paulo, Brazil.

2023 **Maria Villares, Flor e Pedra**. Fundação Stickel, São Paulo, Brazil.

2019 ***Maria Villares Tecendo o Tempo*.** University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil.

2008 ***Maria Villares paintings, monotypes, and objects.*** Galeria Berenice Arvani, São Paulo.

2001 ***Papéis: 1998–2001***. Galeria Nara Roesler, São Paulo, Brazil.

1999 ***Muito Além da Maçã.*** Galeria Nara Roesler, São Paulo, Brazil.

1997 ***Maria Villares*** paintings. Brazilian-American Cultural Institute, Washington, D.C., USA.

1994 ***Maria Villares*** paintings. Galeria Nara Roesler, São Paulo, Brazil.

MAIN GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025 **Correspondência 3**. Espaço Nexus, São Paulo.
Linha d'Água, with Coca Rodrigues, Espaço Nexus, São Paulo.

2024 ***Esplendor.*** Casa do Jasmin Arte, São Paulo, Brazil.
Correspondência 1 e 2. Espaço Nexus, São Paulo.

2019 ***VIII International Biennial of Contemporary Textile Art WTA.*** Madrid, Spain.
Tramares, Un recorte del têxtil brasileño. Centro Cultural Casa do Brasil, Madrid, Spain.
4th Global Print, Douro 2019. Portugal.

2017 ***MADE, Art and Design Market***, represented by Casa Contemporânea. Fundação Bienal de São Paulo, São Paulo.
3rd Global Print, Douro 2017. Portugal.

2011 ***2nd Bem Querer Mulher Art Auction.*** Pinacoteca do Estado, São Paulo, Brazil.
Contemporary Brazilian Printmakers. Instituto Veracruzano de la Cultura- IVEC, Jardín de las Esculturas, Xalapa, Mexico.

2010 *El Camino del Grabado*. Instituto Cultural Brasil-Venezuela, Caracas, Venezuela.
Caminos del Grabado: Brazil/France/Venezuela. Galeria Gravura Brasileira, São Paulo.
Estéticas, Sueños y Utopías de los Artistas de Brasil por la Libertad - Nuevas Donaciones, curated by Emanuel Araujo. Museo de la Solidaridad Salvador Allende, Santiago, Chile.

2009 *Contemporary Brazilian Printmakers.* University Cultural Center, Universidad Autónoma de Aguascalientes, Mexico.
Água Wasser Water. Museu de Arte Contemporânea Dragão do Mar, Fortaleza, Brazil.

2008 *Contemporary Brazilian Printmakers.* Museo de Arte de Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, Mexico;
Contemporary Brazilian Printmakers. Fundación Sebastian, Mexico City, Mexico;
Contemporary Brazilian Printmakers. Institute of Graphic Arts of Oaxaca- IAGO, Oaxaca, Mexico.
Made in Brazil: Small Prints and Drawings. Goloborotko's Studio, New York, USA. *Brazilian Contemporary Printmakers*. Hillyer Art Space, Washington, D.C., USA.

2007 *Brazilian Contemporary Printmakers*. Pratt Institute, New York, USA.
Prints: Gravura Brasileira. Goloborotko's Studio, New York, USA.
Zig Zag. Atica Galeria de Arte, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

2006 *Zig Zag*. Galeria Berenice Arvani, São Paulo, Brazil.

2003–2005 *Palmo Quadrado*. Traveling exhibition in Brazil and the USA.

1996 *Aquarela Brasil México 96*. Museo Nacional de la Acuarela, Mexico City, Mexico.

1991 *Panorama of Current Brazilian Art Three-Dimensional.* Museum of Modern Art, São Paulo, Brazil.
Curitiba Arte 7. Teatro Guaíra, Curitiba, Brazil.

AWARDS

2003 7th Prize: Module D. *1st FASM International Watercolor Quadrennial.* Faculdade Santa Marcelina- FASM, São Paulo.

1996 1st Prize: Painting. *25th Bunkyo Visual Arts Salon.* Brazilian Society of Japanese Culture, São Paulo.

1992 1st City of Ribeirão Preto Prize: Drawing. *XVII SARP Ribeirão Preto Art Salon.* Ribeirão Preto.

1991 1st Prize: Sculpture. *Curitiba Arte 7*. Curitiba.

WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

Fundação Iberê Camargo, Porto Alegre, Brazil;
Itaú Cultural Institute, São Paulo, Brazil;
Museo de la Solidaridad Salvador Allende, Santiago, Chile;
Museu Afro Brasil, São Paulo, Brazil;
Museum of Contemporary Art of Rio Grande do Sul, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.
Museum of Modern Art, São Paulo, Brazil;
Museum of Latin American Art, Long Beach, USA;
Pinacoteca do Estado, São Paulo, Brazil.