

Mendes Wood DM is pleased to participate in the second edition of Paris+ par Art Basel

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18 – 22 October 2023

[Mendes Wood DM](#)

[Paris+ par Art Basel](#), Booth A18

Grand Palais Éphémère, Paris

Mendes Wood DM is pleased to participate in the second edition of **Paris+ par Art Basel** with a presentation highlighting the production of female artists from the gallery's program and to unveil a new sculpture installation by Brazilian artist **Solange Pessoa** for *Sites*, the exhibition of public artworks which will unfold across the Tuileries Garden organized in collaboration with the Musée du Louvre. Ahead of the fair, Mendes Wood DM will inaugurate its new gallery outpost in the French capital (October 14), within the Place des Vosges, the oldest planned square in Paris, opening with a group exhibition curated by Fernanda Brenner and titled *I See No Difference Between a Handshake and a Poem*.



Image: Sanam Khatibi, *A Series of Great Fires*, 2021. Courtesy of the artist and Mendes Wood DM, São Paulo, Brussels, Paris, New York. Photo credit: © Hugard & Vanoverschelde

For this year's fair, Mendes Wood DM will showcase a special presentation of small-scale paintings by Belgian artist **Sanam Khatibi**, which were never exhibited before. Khatibi is an avid follower of the burgeoning true crime genre, fascinated by depictions of the most odious human impulses embedded in everyday circumstances. Her painterly world may be swathed in bygone nature and bathed in radiant dawn light, but held within this beauty is the basest of human violence: merciless, reckless refusals of any social contract. Her narratives unfold around crystalline lakes and streams, amongst verdant backgrounds, raw wood board enacting a pinkened sky. However idyllic, Khatibi confronts us with the depths of our primal impulses. These recurrent themes that feature in her work question our relationship with excess, loss of control, bestiality, the male-female dynamics, domination, and submission.

Also on view, Brazilian painter **Patricia Leite** presents new paintings made with oil paint on wood, a signature style for the artist, including *Fatiado* (2023) a polytypic comprised of 9 small paintings made on reappropriated wood. Navigating various references, Patricia Leite gives an outlet to her memories and latent affections through an extremely peculiar pictorial exercise. Bucolic scenes from trips or images extracted from videos that caught her attention trigger a process towards paintings that come into existence in a rare combination between seriousness and leniency. In her cohesive body of work, we find recurring echoes and resonances from themes and styles that are well represented in the history of art, such as landscape painting and pop art elements. However, these resources are always used as a support to express intimate manifestations that could be in a diary or in a map with organically collected and carefully edited images.



Image: Patricia Leite, *Untitled / Sem título*, 2023. Courtesy of the artist and Mendes Wood DM, São Paulo, Brussels, Paris, New York. Photo credit: Bruno Leão

Wood is also transformed in the new series of sculptures presented by Brazilian textile artist, **Sonia Gomes**. For the *meu amarelo é ouro* series [my yellow is gold] Gomes repurposed a group of thick wood logs that originally served as cattle grid in a farm, incorporating subtle interventions with threads, lace, gold leaf and paint. For the artist, who is currently highlighted at the 35th edition of the São Paulo Biennial

with a survey consisting of over 20 textile sculptures, the choice of materials brings with them colors, textures, trims, and an indefinable set of memories. Each fabric, article of clothing, and accessory she uses has traveled its path, was dressed, stored, and altered before undergoing a final transformation in her studio.

Also included at this year's presentation for Paris+ par Art Basel, are new works by **Patricia Ayres, Varda Caivano, Nina Canell, Mimi Lauter, Castiel Vitorino Brasileiro, Maaïke Schoorel, Paula Siebra** alongside works from the estate of **Heidi Bucher**.



Sites 2023 – La Cinquième Saison

Solange Pessoa presents a group of 8 bronze sculptures entitled *Bronzôcos* at the Tuileries Gardens, for this year's edition of Sites. Created to be specifically shown in a garden, the Bronzôcos will be organically placed around acting like stones in a natural landscape with the color and property of the grass strikingly contrasting with that of the bronze. Although the sculptures are alien to their surroundings they do not feel out of place or unfamiliar, as the artist believes they are an imaginary memory of an ancient landscape that exists in the collective consciousness. As in her artistic practice to date, Pessoa makes the site, local nature, and regional cultural history itself the subject of her exhibition.

A version of *Bronzôcos*, containing only 5 bronze sculptures was presented in 2005 in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, within the context of a solo exhibition presented at the *Museu de Arte da Pampulha*. True to the artist's own practice Solange constantly revisits and expands installations presented in the past. Solange Pessoa's expansive practice draws inspiration from a plethora of sources: archaeology and ancestry, the history of her land and the ancient civilizations that made their mark on it, ancient pictographs and traditional craft, Brazilian Baroque and poetry.

Organized in collaboration with the Musée du Louvre and curated for the second year by Annabelle Ténèze, Director of Les Abattoirs, Musée - Frac Occitanie Toulouse and incoming Director of the Louvre-Lens Museum, an exhibition of public artworks will unfold across the Tuileries Garden, in the center of Paris. Titled *La Cinquième Saison* ('The Fifth Season'), it draws from Ténèze's 2022 Tuileries show *La Suite de l'Histoire* and explores the garden as a mineral, aquatic, and vegetal space of activity and cohabitation – from growing plants and flowing water to strolling visitors and foraging animals.

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