



DIOGO PIMENTÃO

DRAWING BODY

OPENING 26 MARCH 10 PM

26 MAR. 4 MAY 2019

Welcome, and know that you have already become a part of this exhibition. While reading these words, your feet are drawing. You are performing. You are being seen. You are making art.

So, pause for a moment. Go slowly. Be aware of your hand holding this paper and open your senses to the possibilities of graphite, paper, cement, and your body. Listen, see, and feel traces of the artist while understanding that you are bound by physicality, force, and gravity. From now you are a part of Diogo Pimentão's artworks. Participation itself is a creative act, and you are realized.

Sol Lewitt once said, "Obviously a drawing of a person is not a real person, but a drawing of a line is a real line." Yet here, the distinctions between line, gesture, and person are not so clear. And it is here, in the very space between inherency and representation, where Diogo Pimentão's art practice arises: a cosmic navigator with an unconventional captain's log from our post-internet age of discovery.

Now, the very distinctions between his body and your body, the materials at hand (and your feet), and the forces of transformation are blurred and born. From here, we begin.

Will Kerr

March, 2019

Diogo Pimentão was born in Lisbon, Portugal in 1973.

Best known for his experimental works on paper, he received his arts education at Ar.Co., Lisbon, Portugal, 1998; Sculpture Seminar, Gotland, Sweden, 1996; and Centro Internacional de Escultura, Pêro Pinheiro, Portugal, 1995. Using mainly paper and graphite, at times in combination with charcoal, wood and concrete, Diogo Pimentão constructs forms that complicate the categorical boundaries between drawing and sculpture. His works on paper are formed from lengthy strips of the material that have been shaded with graphite; this thoroughly applied mineral imparts the surface with a metallic sheen. These shimmery sheets are then folded and layered to form structures that appear to be composed of welded metal as opposed to pencil and paper. When working with wood, Pimentão employs similarly illusive applications. One such method involves first shaping wood, and then shading its exterior with charcoal; The resulting works appear as though they have been scorched by open flames.

Emulating the aesthetic values of Minimalist sculpture, Diogo Pimentão produces works that are notable for their inventive merging of medium and form. His works do not aim to represent extrinsic concepts, but rather entreat viewers to consider the materiality of their components. However, unlike the Minimalism of the movement's forebears, in which, as Frank Stella famously noted, "What you see is what you see", Pimentão's works are deceptive in their apparent simplicity. The culmination of an extensive and labor-intensive process of creation, Pimentão's works complicate this notion of minimalism. By transforming paper and graphite into sculptures that appear composed of iron or steel, Pimentão demonstrates the expansive potential of drawing-based media.

His recent solo shows include exhibitions at Museu Grão Vasco, Viseu, 2016 and the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, 2015. Works by Diogo Pimentão are included in the collections of Fonds National d'art Contemporain, Paris; Pomeranz Collection, Vienna; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; and the European Central Bank. He currently lives and works in London.