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Alexandre
Farto AKA

Alexandre Farto
aka
Vhils

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Alexandre Farto aka Vhils

2017

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A selection of
works and projects

Alexandre Farto
aka
VHILS

Alexandre Farto aka Vhils



Hong Kong, 2015



WHO IS VHILS?

Portuguese visual artist Alexandre Farto aka Vhils (1987) has become renowned for developing a unique visual language based on the removal of the surface layers of walls and other media with non-conventional tools and techniques, establishing symbolic reflections on identity, the relationship of interdependence between people and the surrounding environment, and life in contemporary urban societies, as well as the impact of the passage of time, material transformation and development. Hailed as one of the most innovative artists of his generation, Vhils has been cutting new ground in the urban and contemporary art scenes since coming into the global public eye in 2008. His poignant, poetic portraits chiselled into flaking walls can be seen adorning city landscapes around the world. Based on his aesthetics of vandalism, Vhils destroys as a means to create. He carves, cuts, drills, etches and blasts his way into the surface layers of materials. Yet, like an archaeologist, he removes in order to expose, bringing to light the beauty that lies trapped beneath the rubble.

He has presented his work in over 30 countries around the world in solo and group exhibitions, site-specific art interventions, events and art projects in various contexts - from working with communities in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, to collaborations

with reputed artistic and museological institutions such as the EDP Foundation (Lisbon), Centre Pompidou (Paris), Barbican Centre (London), CAFA Art Museum (Beijing), or the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (San Diego), among others. Singled out by leading US business magazine Forbes in 2015 in the "Art and Style" category of their "30 Under 30s" success list, as well as by US news channel CNN in their 2015 series "Ones to Watch", Vhils has participated in some of the most prestigious urban and contemporary art events around the world, having also placed a site-specific piece aboard the International Space Station in 2015. An avid experimentalist, besides his groundbreaking bas-relief carving technique - which forms the basis of the "Scratching the Surface" project -, Vhils has been developing his personal aesthetics in a plurality of media: from stencil painting to metal etching, from pyrotechnic explosions and video to sculptural installations. He has also directed several music videos and short films.

Vhils works with several leading galleries, including Vera Cortês Gallery (Portugal), Lazarides Gallery (United Kingdom), and Magda Danysz Gallery (France and China). His work is represented in several public and private collections in various countries. He presently divides his time between Lisbon and Hong Kong.



“Vhils is a Portuguese artist who constantly innovates with new techniques and approaches to his art. Much of his work is created in situ and focuses on the transitory nature of the city, its history, and the lives of its inhabitants.”

Tristan Manco, in The Guardian

WHERE IS VHILS?

Selected solo exhibitions

2016 *Debris*, Hong Kong
Contemporary Art (HOCA)
Foundation, Hong Kong,

2015 *Dissonance*, Lazarides
Gallery, London, UK

2014 *Vestiges*, Magda Danysz
Gallery, Paris, France

Dissecção / Dissection,
EDP Foundation, Lisbon,
Portugal

Incisão, Caixa Cultural
Curitiba, Curitiba,
Brazil

2013 *Fragmentos*, Clark Art
Center, Rio de Janeiro,
Brazil

Dissolve, Skalitzers
Gallery, Sydney, Australia

2012 *Devoid*, Lazarides
Gallery, London, UK

Entropy, Magda Danysz
Gallery, Paris, France

Diorama, Vera Cortês Art
Agency, Lisbon, Portugal

Visceral, Magda Danysz
Gallery, Shanghai, China

2011 *Detritos*, Galeria
Presença, Porto, Portugal

2009 *Scratching the Surface*,
Lazarides Gallery,
London, UK



Vhils's
work is
present
in over 30
countries
around the
world, where he
has worked in solo
and group exhibitions,
site-specific art
interventions, art events
and projects in a variety of
contexts.





Selected group exhibitions and projects

- 2016 *Art from the Streets*, CAFA Art Museum, Beijing, China
Dubai Walls, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- They Would Be Kings*, Sotheby's Hong Kong Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2015 *Station to Station*, Barbican Centre, London, UK
- Iberian Suite - Installation*, The Kennedy Center, Washington, USA
- 2014 *#Street Art*, Espace Fondation EDF, Paris, France
- Do Valongo à Favela*, Museu de Arte do Rio, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Obras da Coleção António Cachola*, MACE, Elvas, Portugal
- 2013 *Wooster Collective 2003-2013*, Jonathan Levine Gallery, New York, USA
- Hecho en Oaxaca*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Oaxaca, Mexico
- Ex Situ*, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
- 2012 *Au-delà du Street Art*, Musée de la Poste, Paris, France
- Domination*, Hegemony and the Panopticon, Traffic Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2011 *Shadows and Reflections*, Magda Danysz Gallery, Paris, France
- Observadores*, Museu Berardo, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2010 *Contemporary Prints From the V&A*, Herbert Art Gallery, Coventry, UK
- Viva la Revolución*, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, USA



Selected commissions & public art projects

- 2016 *Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire*
- Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal
- WindArt Project*, Serra de Leomil, Moimenta da Beira, Portugal
- Distrito de Arte Urbano*, Punta del Este, Maldonado, Uruguay
- 2015 *Heavenly Hundred Garden*, Kiev, Ukraine
- Hyundai Card Music Library*, Seoul, South Korea
- 2014 *Projeto Memória*, Teatro Nacional Dona Maria II, Lisbon, Portugal
- Phytology Project*, Bethnal Green Nature Reserve, London, UK
- Le Freeport Luxembourg*, Luxembourg

Selected public & private collections

- China Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA) Art Museum*, Beijing, China
- Coleção de Arte Contemporânea Portugal Telecom*, Lisbon, Portugal
- Coleção de Arte Fundação EDP*, Lisbon, Portugal
- Hong Kong Contemporary Art (HOCA) Foundation*, Hong Kong
- Hyundai Art Collection*, Seoul, South Korea
- MACE – Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Elvas*, Elvas, Portugal
- MAR – Museu de Arte do Rio de Janeiro*, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego*, San Diego, USA
- Perez Art Museum Miami*, Miami, USA



Alexandre Farto aka Vhils

“Vhils’ most common theme is urban decay; he uses peeling billboards and crumbling walls as his canvas, carving large-scale faces using scalpels, hammers and pneumatic drills. A recent solo show at a museum in Lisbon attracted more than 65,000 visitors in three months. In 2014 he directed a music video for the rock band U2.”

Forbes magazine

Sunday Morning Post

南華早報 PUBLISHED SINCE 1906 / VOLUME 91 / NO. 24 Sunday, November 22, 2008 / See live updates at www.scmp.com

LI HOTEL SIEGE

CHINESE EXECUTIVES KILLED IN MALI SIEGE

President Xi Jinping vows deadly hotel attack | strengthen his country's resolve to fight terrorist activities that hurt innocent lives

Scratching the surface



LAW AND ORDER

Mainland sec to police Kow railway termini

Confirmation from Hinsky Yuen rail eyebrows over 'one country, two systems'

by Secretary for Security & Security Commission Charles Liang-Liang, from law department King and Iden Living will 'most important' meet 2008-2009

Missed officers will be taking up law enforcement duties in Hong Kong when the border-crossing cross-border railway linking Kowloon with Guangzhou opens in 2010. Security for border. Security Yuen. Evolving has confirmed, in a move likely to fuel what is already a mounting controversy.

The new, announced in Beijing, met with such opposition back home. Chief Pater leader Alan Leong had called it "an affront to the principle of 'one country, two systems'" and demanded an explanation in the Legislative Council.

Forbes

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Lists 30 Under 30 2014

Sourcing Industry Laser Equipment?

You Need The Leading Global B2B Platform

2014 30 Under 30 Art & Style 28 of 31



Vhils, 27
Street artist

THE TIMES

Friday May 2 2008 timesonline.co.uk No 69313 70p

Revealed: Banksy's renaissance for a railway tunnel



An exhibition of street art organized by Banksy in London, which opens to the public tomorrow, features his Cave Paintings. Next to it, the graffiti artist Vhils works on his piece Rome, page 27

Row over plans to recycle 24,000 failing teachers

Alexandra Press Education Editor

Up to 24,000 incompetent teachers should teachers who had "never had days that good". He said that it was unacceptable that only 46 teachers, from a workforce of Mr Bartley's comments provoked immediate response, allowing them to transfer, often with a possible job reference, to another school. This is easier than embarking on lengthy and

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41 COMMENTS 0 CREDITS

MUSIC December 6, 2014 RELATED STORIES

U2: Raised by Wolves

Portuguese street artist Vhils lifts off films of Innocence

A pack of wolves roam the suburbs of Lisbon in U2's explosive collaboration with Vhils for films of Innocence. The 26-year-old artist teamed up with NOWNESS on

"Vhils is definitely an artist to watch. He's a young guy, I think that he's got a great vision. He's given people a new medium in street art. Vhils has charted a new course and he's the best at it so far."

Shepard Fairey in CNN's "Ones to Watch"



Alexandre Farto aka Vhils



OUTDOOR WORKS

Alexandre Farto aka Vhils

"His art is often described as destructive, but he considers it no more destructive than poetry is to a clean sheet of paper."

Reuters.com



Alexandre Farto aka Vhils



Hong Kong, 2016



Dubai, UAE, 2016

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Hong Kong, 2015

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Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, 2014



Alexandre Farto aka Vhils

Almada, Portugal, 2014



Lisboa, Portugal, 2014

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Sydney, Australia, 2013



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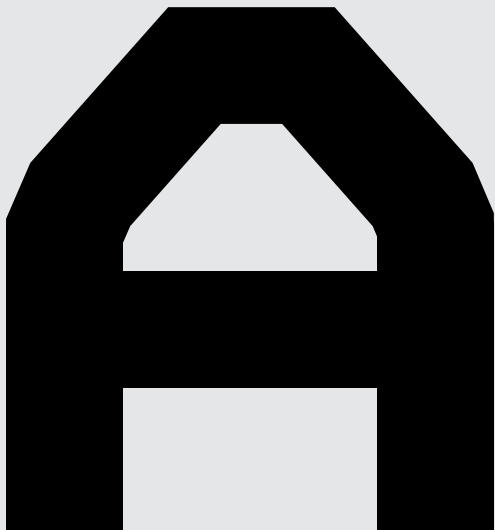
Alexandre Farto aka Vhils

Los Angeles, USA, 2010 (collaboration with JR)

BILLBOARDS

“With his creative reductive techniques, Vhils helped push the boundaries of outdoor art in Lisbon and internationally.”

The Washington Post





Matter Series #01, 2016
Hand-carved advertising posters
185 × 137 cm



LOVEHATE, 2015
Hand-cut advertising posters
Love: 45 × 116 × 26 cm
Hate: 40.5 × 116 × 26 cm

Sobreposição Series #06, 2014
Hand-carved and laser-cut advertising posters
186 × 133 cm





Vestige Series #01, 2014
Hand-carved and laser-cut
advertising posters, cut and
assembled
203 × 223 cm

"I first saw Alex's work back in 2007 and was totally floored. Here was this crazy Portuguese kid, doing these mad portraits on the street by chopping out bits of walls. It was one of the most innovative techniques I'd ever seen. It has been a pleasure to see how much he has come on from those early days to his most recent museum show in Lisbon. Long may it continue."

Steve Lazarides in www.blouinartinfo.com

Alexandre Farto aka Vhils

WOOD





Still Series #02, 2016
Hand-carved old wooden doors
187 × 109 cm



Lancetar Series #14, 2014
Old wooden doors, hand-carved,
cut and assembled
276 × 243 cm

Insculpt Series #17, 2014
Laser-engraved old wooden door
216 × 80 cm



Desvaecer Series #04, 2014
Laser-engraved old wooden door
216 × 80 cm





Ataxia Series #03, 2012
Old wooden doors, hand-carved, cut and
assembled
223 × 193 cm

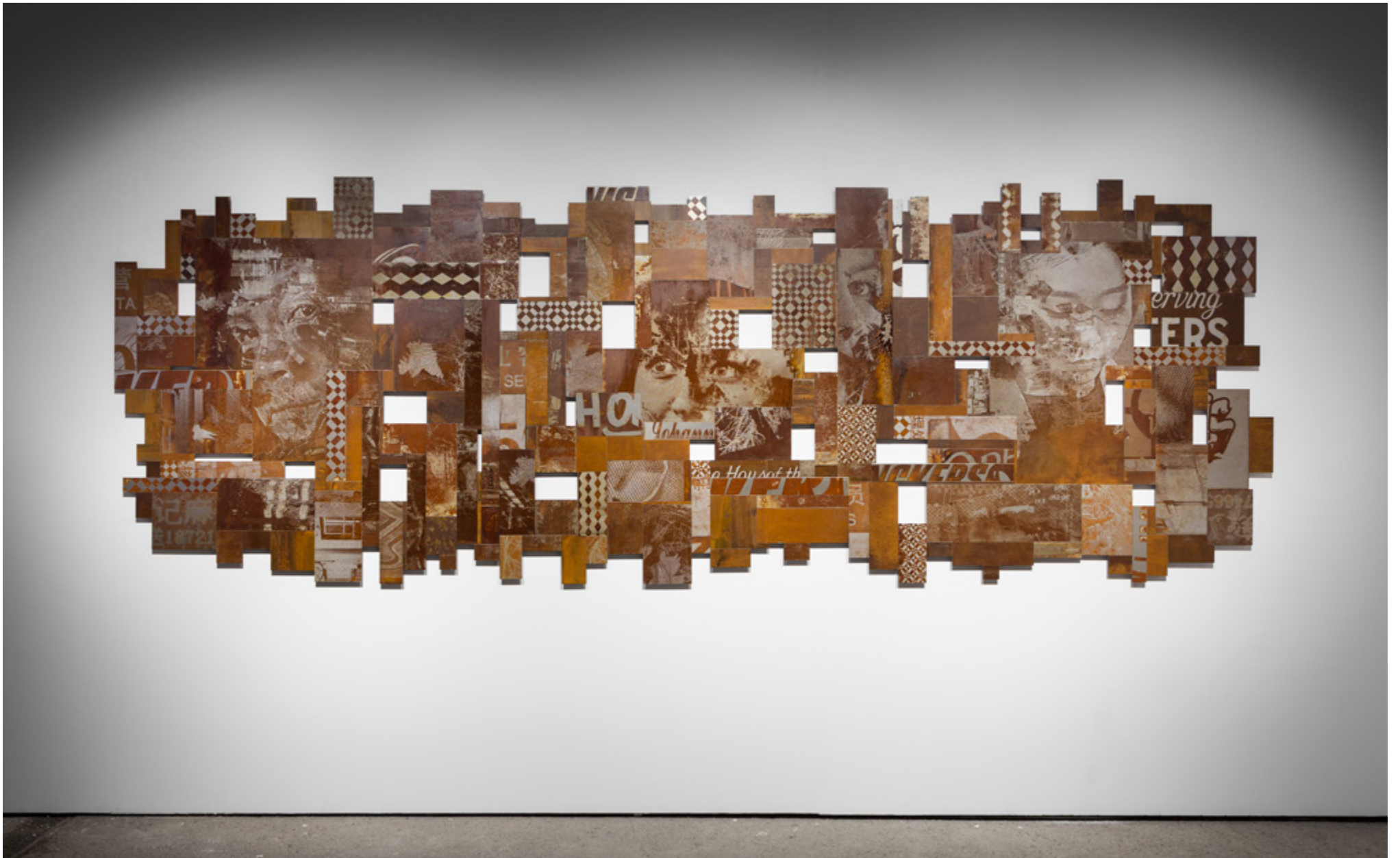
METAL



Alexandre Farto aka Vhils



Rust, 2016
Acid-etched metal plates, cut and assembled
Dimensions variable



Untwined Series #03, 2016
Acid-etched metal plates, cut and assembled
140 × 422 cm



Tempo Series #07, 2015
Acid-etched metal plate
100 x 70 cm



Anagrama Series #03, 2014
Acid-etched metal plates, cut and assembled
100 x 150 cm

Anagrama Series #01, 2014
Acid-etched metal plates, cut and
assembled
130 × 115 cm



DIORAMAS



Alexandre Farto aka Vhils

“Presented by the Magda Danysz Gallery as «the new rising star of contemporary art», Alexandre Farto has already exhibited in several countries, including Brazil, USA, Italy and Colombia.”

Público

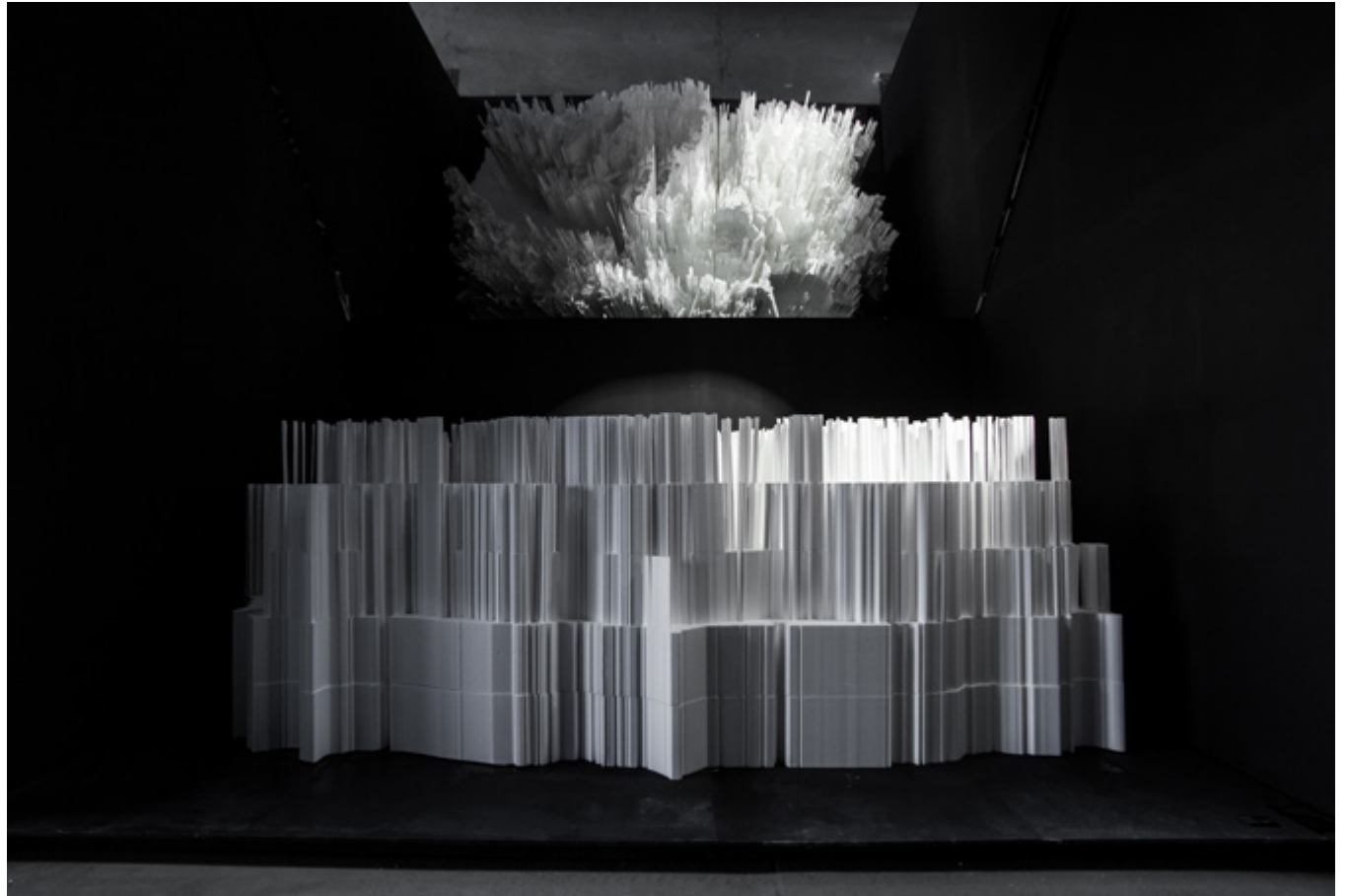
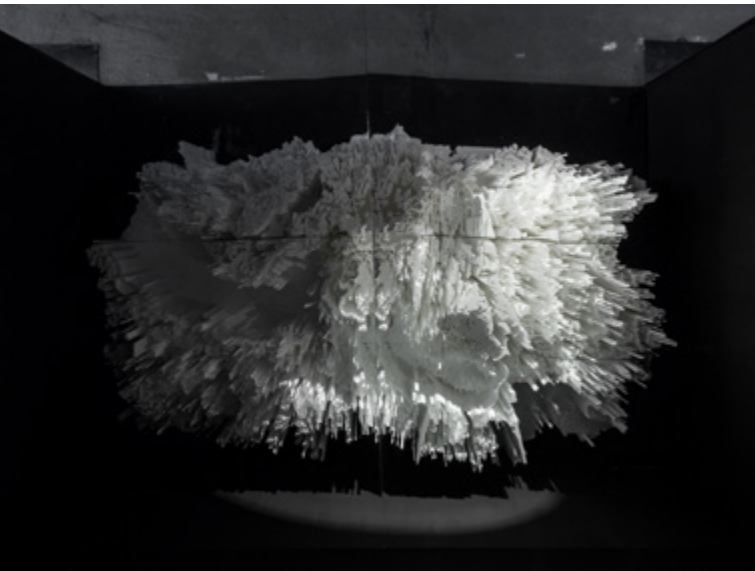


Concrete, 2016
Concrete cast sculpture
300 × 300 × 31 cm



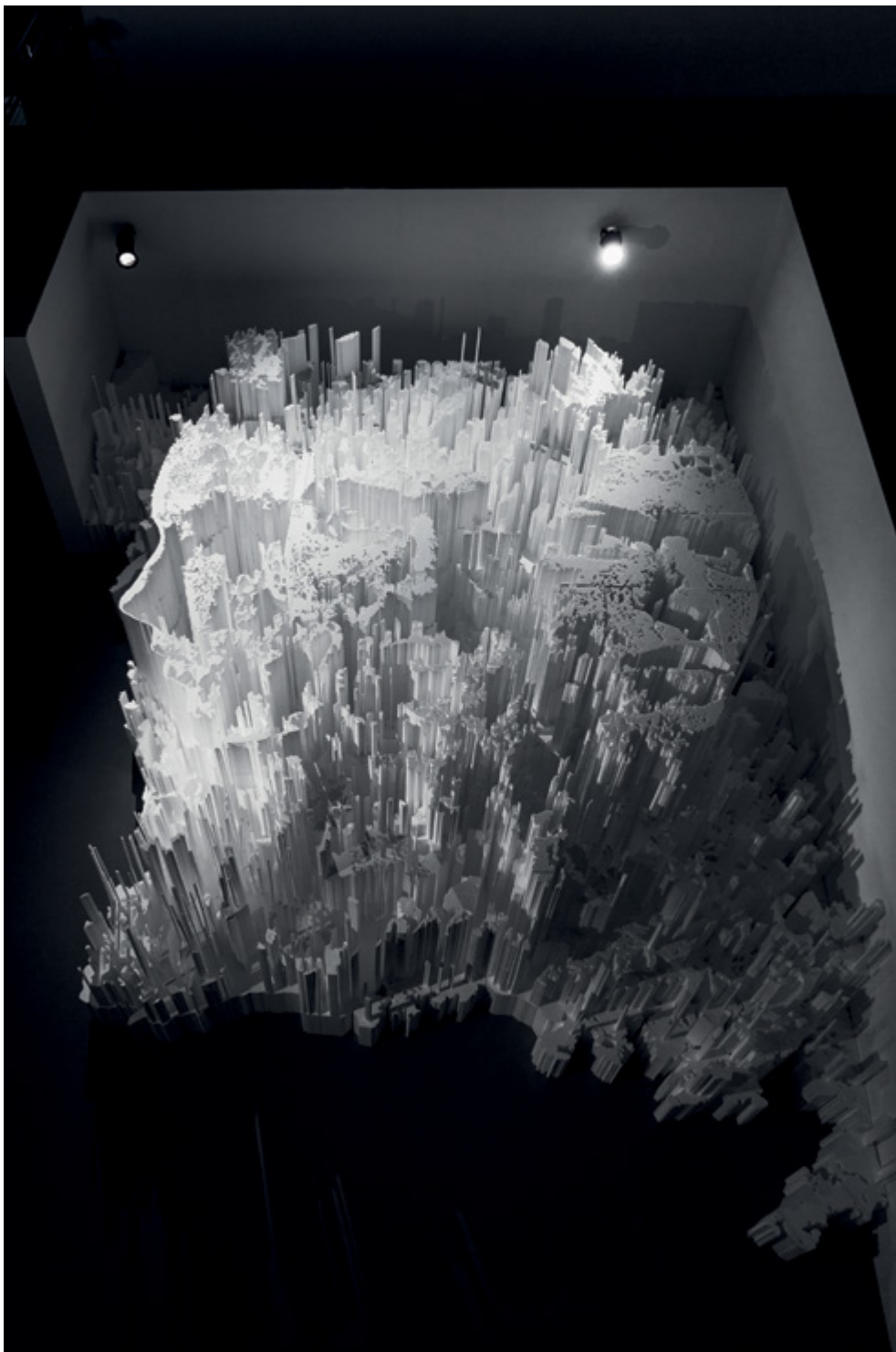
Alexandre Farto aka Vhils

Scope, 2016
Lost-wax cast white
bronze sculpture
198.68 × 195.13 × 28
cm



Shadows, 2016
Styrofoam cut with hot-wire, as-
sembled and glued by hand
300 × 510 × 195 cm

DIORAMAS



Diagrama, 2014
Styrofoam cut with hot-wire, assembled and glued
by hand
700 × 800 × 200 cm



Diorama Series #05, 2012
Styrofoam cut with hot-wire, assembled and
glued by hand
190 × 160 × 28 cm



Contraste, 2013
Cork sheet and cork agglomerate on steel structure
400 x 1700 x 40 cm



Contraste, 2013
Cork sheet and cork agglomerate on steel structure
400 x 1700 x 40 cm

SCREEN PRINTS

“Whether it’s blowing up a building façade in Berlin to reveal a carving of a man’s face or drilling portraits into favela walls in Rio de Janeiro, raucous street artist Alexandre Farto, who goes by the tag “Vhils,” has left an imprint on urban landscapes across the globe.”

CNN (Hong Kong)



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Moment Series #03, 2016
Quink, bleach, and screen print ink on paper
180 × 120 cm

Alexandre Farto aka Vhils



Moment Series #01, 2016
Quink, bleach, and screen print ink on paper
180 × 120 cm

Alexandre Farto aka Vhils



Dilacerar Series #08, 2015
Screen print ink, Quink, and bleach on
paper
205 × 151 cm



Dilacerar Series #01, 2014
Screen print ink, Quink, and bleach on
paper
200 × 150 cm

OTHER MEDIA

Alexandre Farto aka Vhils



[VIEW VIDEO >](#)





Untitled, 2016
Centre for Innovation and
Competitiveness | GS1 Portugal
headquarters
Precast concrete moulding
49 panels, each 778 × 137 × 30 cm

OTHER MEDIA

Untitled, 2016

Centre for Innovation and
Competitiveness | GS1 Portugal
headquarters

Precast concrete moulding

49 panels, each 778 × 137 × 30 cm

Alexandre Farto aka Vhils

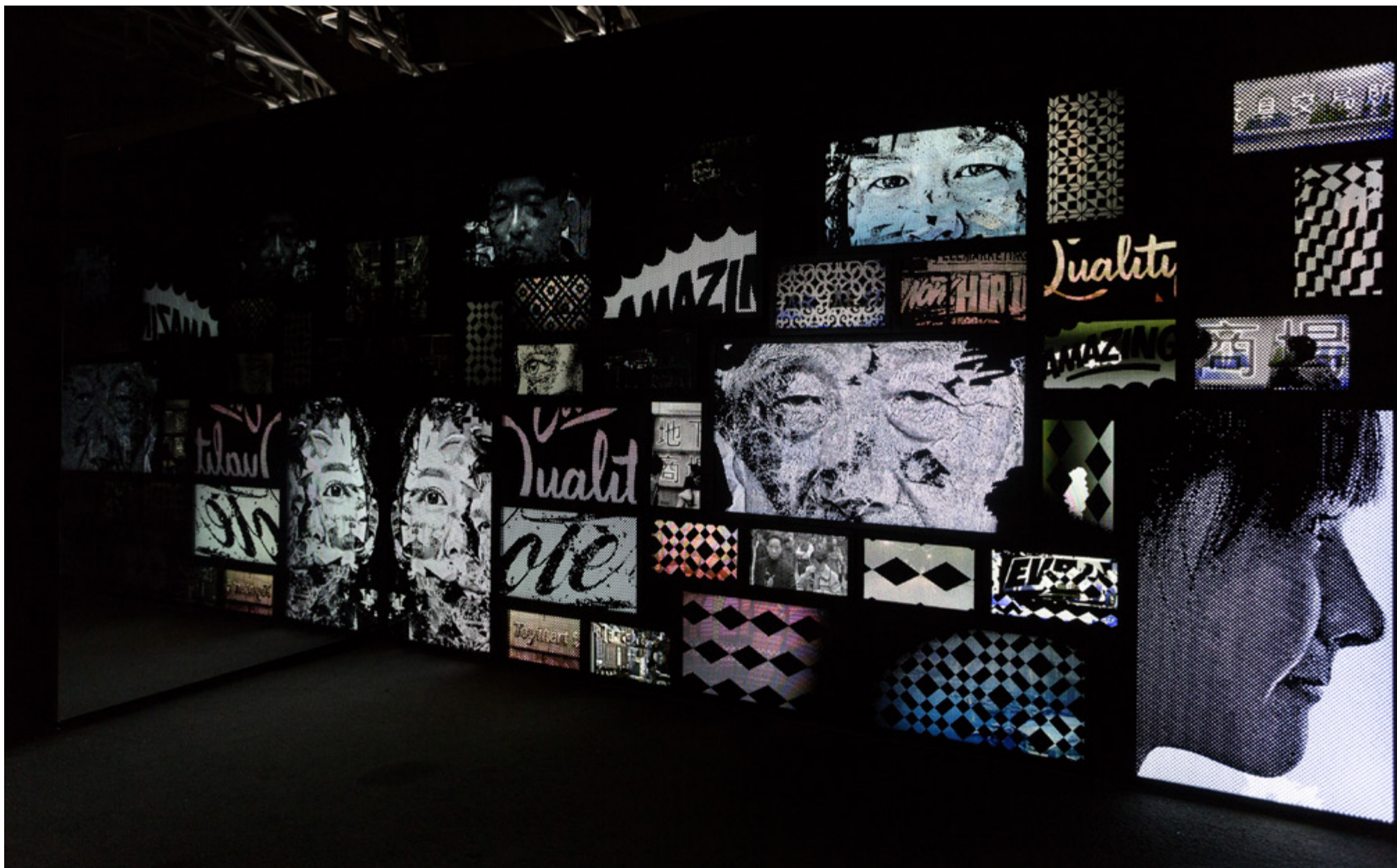




Olhar, 2016
Newspaper cut-outs on superimposed acrylic sheets mounted on cement base
Piece: 200 × 135 × 26 cm
Base: 34 × 135 × 72 cm



Olhar, 2016
Newspaper cut-outs on superimposed acrylic sheets mounted on cement base
Piece: 200 × 135 × 26 cm
Base: 34 × 135 × 72 cm



Flicker Series, 2016
Video installation with laser-cut acrylic boards
Approx. 330 × 610 × 20.5 cm



Flicker Series, 2016
Video installation with laser-cut acrylic boards
Approx. 330 × 610 × 20.5 cm

Gleam Series, 2016
Site-specific neon lights installation
Approx. 200 × 840 × 360 cm

Alexandre Farto aka Vhils





Portrait of Andreas Mogensen, 2015
Site-specific installation
International Space Station
70 cm ø



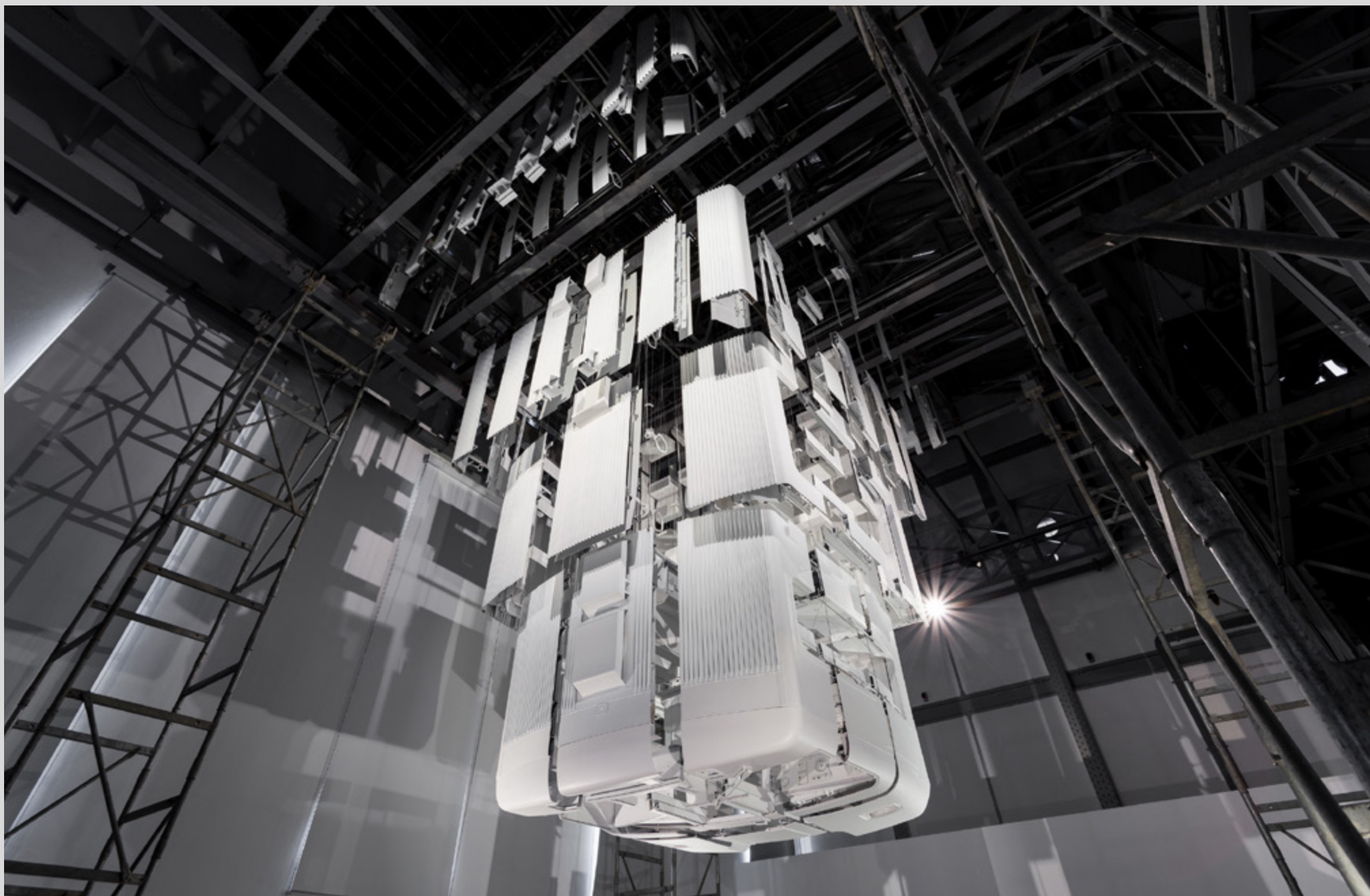
Calçada, 2015 (Portrait of Amália Rodrigues)
Paving stones
Lisbon, Portugal



Perspective, 2014
Site-specific installation with paper sheets and nylon thread
Approx. 300 × 900 × 1200 cm

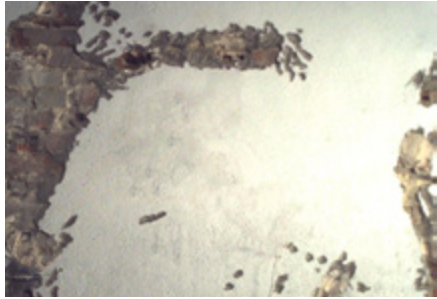


Perspective, 2014
Site-specific installation with paper sheets and nylon thread
Approx. 300 × 900 × 1200 cm



Dissecção, 2014
Old Metro train carriage, painted and cut
Approx. 800 x 500 x 800 cm

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Alexandre Farto aka Vhils

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