

EMCMP COLLECTION

Art and nature



As heir to the collecting tradition of the Masaveu family, the Fundación María Cristina Masaveu Peterson has assembled an art collection focused primarily on contemporary art and alternating iconic pieces by grand masters of the twentieth century with more recent works by artists of the twenty-first century. While photography makes up a large proportion of the collection, over the last few years the Foundation has acquired a growing number of paintings and sculptures by established authors as part of its patronage and support for emerging art.

This exhibition at the Foundation's Morasverdes Centre, featuring works from the collection, explores the relationship between art and nature through different media and formats. Based on the unique quality of the selected works and designed to facilitate shared experiences and intergenerational encounters, the exhibition adopts a didactic approach, suggesting itineraries with the following points in common: landscape, memory, action, matter and a particular way of viewing territory.



Land art has been establishing dialogues between the materials of the plastic language, landscape and environment since the 1960s, prompting artists from different parts of the world to develop an ephemeral, site-specific form of expression. With its roots in conceptual art, the movement first emerged in the United States with artists like Robert Smithson and Richard Long, both represented in the FMCMP Collection. It has since extended to the international scene alongside other trends such as the actions and performances practised by iconic figures like Marina Abramović, another artist featured in our collection. These international movements do not merely constitute aesthetic categories but speak to social and artistic phenomena associated with public spaces. Of particular relevance to our case, they also highlight close relationships with nature based on multiple registers.

The idea of the road as a metaphor for life is the central theme of all the works on display: travelling the road to grow and learn, remembering the road to keep on creating, living in the essence of things and establishing a dialogue with the road to form one's own footprints. Each piece in the exhibition is assigned to one of the five thematic sections (Landscape and territory;



Symbol and memory; Spaces for action; Living matter; Our footprints) to facilitate its appreciation and the distribution of the visual relationships. However, there are no strict boundaries; the works speak for themselves and interact with the exhibition discourse.

Both the structure of the exhibition and the resources offer places that lend themselves to shared social experiences, encourage encounters between viewers of different ages and promote a dynamic aesthetic universe with connectors such as territory, identity and poetic reflection. The texts of the explanatory labels and the introductory panels are colour coded for each section so that less experienced audiences can establish relationships between the works and their authors.



Ellen Kooi
Spaarndam-wolken, 2011
FMCMP Collection





LANDSCAPE AND TERRITORY

A large proportion of the Fundación Maria Cristina Masaveu Collection is made up of photographs by celebrated national and international artists. This section includes five photographers who adopt a mystical, post-Romantic approach to their work, producing stunning compositions that nevertheless conceal deeper dialogues, with frequent interactions between artist, landscape and territory. We can travel through the poetic gaze of Elger Esser and Axel Hütte to magical, timeless places, examine the social metaphors and contemporary tragedies exposed in the work of Richard Mosse, and witness sisters Jane and Louise Wilson's explorations of the mind and human psychology through seemingly serene images that mask very different emotions: anxieties and phobias that we all have felt at one time or another.



Acclaimed on the international scene, in their prolific careers all of these authors have used nature to conceive contemplative experiences that revolve around the notion of landscape. Beyond their seductive appearance, these powerful projects seek a meaningful engagement with the audience.



Elger Esser
La Grande Be (France), 2009
FMCMP Collection





SYMBOL AND MEMORY

Nature contains all the mysteries of the world, whether in the tiniest details of the smallest corners or in the majestic panoramas of large open spaces. Some artists explore these places to convey symbolic messages and allude to history, memory and the passage of time, as we see here in the works of various photographers who focus their gaze on specific moments of human evolution. In certain cases they refer to historic events, like Bleda and Rosa who recall the Battle of Covadonga, the legendary cradle of the Reconquest; others simulate hours passing and the importance of fate in the development of life on earth, like Maria Laet who reinterprets ordinary images and carefully filters them through her camera.



Yet others, like Reynier Levya, reconstruct the absence of historical figures and capture the true energy of the universe: bare nature in all its glory, unspoiled by human presence. We can also trace symbol and memory in powerful volumes and sculptures that alternate natural and industrial materials to convey specific cultural environments and question certain aesthetics, as in the works of Eva Lootz and Remigio Mendiburu, or that blend eastern with western culture to formulate quasi-sacred allusions, as we find with Anish Kapoor.



Maria Laet
Untitled (Sand, London), 2008
FMCMP Collection





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SPACES FOR ACTION

In the 1960s the capacity of contemporary art to develop new languages in the framework of actions in nature gave rise to art movements characterised by direct intervention in open spaces. Related to the spread of conceptual art, these movements attach more importance to the idea of the *process*—the pleasure of the experience and the creative moment—than to the end result. This is one of the key elements of American land art, which in this section is illustrated by Richard Long's large-scale installation of green quartz stones, Robert Smithson's delicate photograph and Dennis Oppenheim's piece in the display case. All of these works highlight humanity's connections with matter and its evolution.



Present as well are examples of European and Latin American artists influenced by these movements, such as Eugenio Ampudia, Nicolás Bonilla, Hannah Collins, Miler Lagos and Ana Mendieta, with works that also embrace social activism and ethical commitment.



Agustín Ibarrola
Untitled, 2009
FMCMP Collection





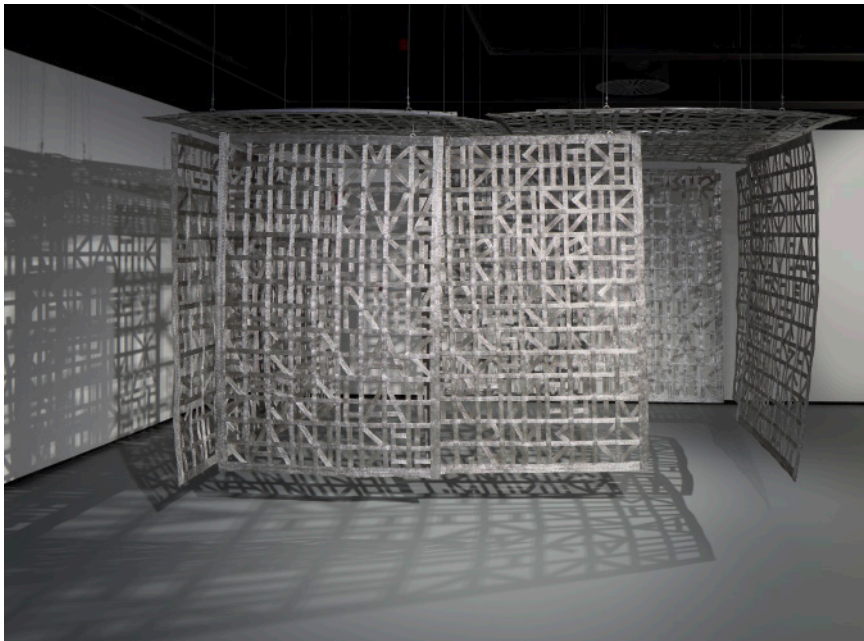
LIVING MATTER

One of the key characteristics of artists who create work in contact with nature is the close dialogue they establish with the materials and their analysis of the forms and volumes in order to build enduring pieces that combine strength and delicacy. This passion is typical of painters like Anselm Kiefer, who incorporates organic elements and mythological references, and César Manrique, who pays tribute to the energy of the nature of his native land.

This section features major international sculptors who embrace diverse construction methods, from the wood and stone carvings of Mitsuo Miura, Tadanori Yamaguchi and Claudia Comte to figures like Aitor Ortiz, Diana Fonseca and María Luisa Fernández who recover original textures to investigate the traces left by the passage of time.

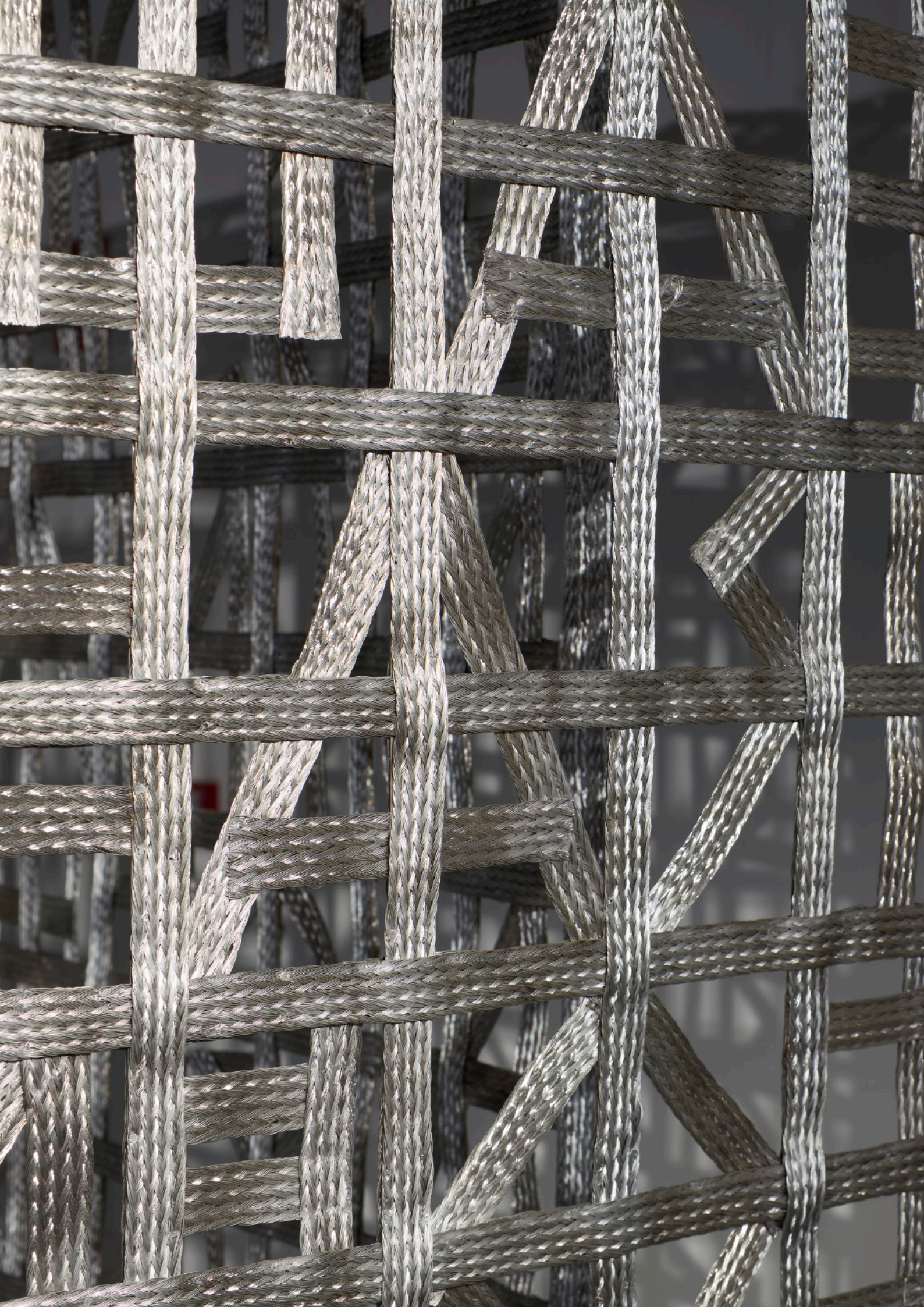


The dialogues intrinsic to the work of Perejaume offer another valid vehicle for revealing the balance between tradition and innovation, which is also perceived in the intellectual complicity proposed by Adolfo Schlosser and Cristina Iglesias with their large installations designed for multiple perspectives.



Cristina Iglesias
Suspended Pavilion V, 2015
FMCMP Collection





OUR FOOTPRINTS

Nature is a powerful scenographic device and therefore an ideal setting for artists who carry out performative actions in the landscape, blending into its contours and exploring their own and others' footprints. The FMCMP Collection features major pieces by Marina Abramović, whose fascination with mysticism is clearly exemplified in the photograph on display here. This same communion between body and territory, as the base and repository for our footsteps, is also evident in the photographic series of younger artists like Daniel Canogar, Soledad Córdoba and Guibert Rosales.



Footprints are often indictments, calls to defend life, sustainable ecology, identity or territory, as we find in the works of Cristina García Roderó, Ellen Kooi, Glenda León and Eulàlia Valldosera. Olafur Eliasson's works invite quiet reflection, meditation and introspective consideration of the intimate landscapes of the soul's light.



Daniel Canogar
Tide, 2011
FMCMP Collection



LANDSCAPE AND TERRITORY

Elger ESSER
Axel HÜTTE
Richard MOSSE
Wolfgang TILLMANS
Jane y Louise WILSON

SYMBOL AND MEMORY

BLEDA Y ROSA
Anish KAPOOR
Maria LAET
Reynier LEIVA NOVO
Eva LOOTZ
Chema MADDOZ
Remigio MENDIBURU
Óscar MUÑOZ
David NASH

SPACES FOR ACTION

Eugenio AMPUDIA
Nicolás BONILLA
Hannah COLLINS
Irene GRAU
Agustín IBARROLA
Miler LAGOS
Richard LONG
Ana MENDIETA
Dennis OPPENHEIM
Javier RIERA
Adolfo SCHLOSSER
Robert SMITHSON

LIVING MATTER

Juan ASENSIO
Claudia COMTE
María Luisa FERNÁNDEZ
Diana FONSECA
Rafael GÓMEZBARROS
Cristina IGLESIAS
Anselm KIEFER
César MANRIQUE
Pablo MAOJO
Mitsuo MIURA
Aitor ORTIZ
PEREJAUME
Ulrich RÜCKRIEM
Tadanori YAMAGUCHI

OUR FOOTPRINTS

Marina ABRAMOVIĆ
Daniel CANOGAR
Soledad CÓRDOBA
Olafur ELIASSON
Cristina GARCÍA RODERO
Ellen KOOI
Glenda LEÓN
Guibert ROSALES
Eulàlia VALLDOSERA



**FMCMP. Collection.
Art and Nature
Footprints are the road**

ORGANISED BY

Fundación María Cristina Masaveu Peterson

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Fundación María Cristina Masaveu Peterson



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Zurich (Roces Mediación)



Soledad Córdoba
Pilgrim VI, 2019
FMCMP Collection





WINTER OPENING TIMES

1 October–Holy Week

Thursday and Friday (Public Holidays included):

11:00 – 14:30 h / 15:30 – 17:00 h

Saturday and Sunday:

10:00 – 15:00 h / 16:00 – 19:00 h

Closed: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

(Public Holidays included), 24, 25 and 31 December, and 1 and 6 January.

SUMMER OPENING TIMES

Holy Week–30 September

Wednesday (July and August only):

11:00 – 15:00 h / 16:00 – 19:00 h

Thursday and Friday (Public Holidays included):

11:00 – 15:00 h / 16:00 – 19:00 h

Saturday and Sunday:

10:00 – 15:00 h / 16:00 – 20:00 h (Exhibition)

10:00 – 15:00 h / 16:30 – 20:00 h (Cafeteria)

Closed: Every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
(Public Holidays included)

Free admission





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COVER

Axel Hütte

Sandia Mountains 1, 2008

(detail)

FMCMP Collection

© Elger Esser, Axel Hütte, Agustín Ibarrola, Cristina Iglesias
Daniel Canogar Mckenzie, Ellen Kooi, Jane and Louise Wilson,
VEGAP, Madrid, 2026



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**MARÍA CRISTINA
MASAVEU
PETERSON**

MORASVERDES

ARTE y
NATURALEZA

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