

## JULIANA FREITAS

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### Artist Statement

Embodiment Architectures

“Structured. Solid. Yet, in continuous motion. This tension is the core of my work. In this state of dynamic stillness, my sculptures claim the space for themselves. They are grounded and serene, as if they have always been there. They tend to be compact volumes. I think of them as landmarks. Like a boulder on a field, or a bridge, or a mountain peak... Imposing and strong, they dominate the landscape.



Like in a drawing, sharp lines guide every feature of the surface, enhancing the perception

of the form. This architecture of lines is the visual structure that balances the whole and creates movement and tension within the work.

The sculpting process I choose to work with determines the core values of my work. I subtract from a solid block while trying to keep a memory of the original volume. Ideas that show in my art, such as structure and balance, are born from this work process - the piece has to stand on its own.



And why use the human body? Because we are so familiar with it. It is a recognizable structure. It is so powerful and so capable of portraying a multitude of ideas... I like to manipulate the human form until it's hardly understandable. I want to create meaning in every structural possibility of it.

I apply these ideas in conjunction with cues I receive from observing the landscape. I learn the most from mountains and other rock formations, those fantastic sculptures shaped by wind and water. My attitude towards

sculpture evokes this natural process, as the form is gradually discovered and the lines develop along with the workflow. Each piece develops its own character.



*Embodiment Architectures* reflects the monumentality and the curves of the mountains of Rio de Janeiro. This series of bronze sculptures is available in limited editions, ranging from 8 to 15.”

#### **Artists Bio**

Born 1977, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.  
Lives and works in San Diego, California since 2003.

#### **Education**

2003 Visual Arts Graduate Program. Rio de Janeiro Federal University, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

2000 BA in Sculpture. Rio de Janeiro Federal University, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

#### **Selected Exhibitions**

2006 *Two Sculptors: Juliana Freitas and Joseph Bennet*. Earl & Birdie Taylor Library Art Gallery, San Diego, California.

*Synchronicity of the Soul*. Amsterdam Whitney Gallery, New York, New York.

2003 Galeria do Poste, Niteroi, Brazil.

2002 *IX Salão da Bahia*. Museum of Modern Art, Salvador, Brazil.

*III Salão de Arte*. Usina do Gasometro, Porto Alegre, Brazil.

*Visual Languages*. Rio de Janeiro Federal University, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

2001 *XI International Art Biennale*. Vila Nova de Cerveira, Portugal.

*Novísimos*. IBEU Gallery, Rio de Janeiro RJ, Brazil.

2001 *The Power of Matter*. São Jorge Studio, Arte de Portas Abertas Festival, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

#### **Exhibition Catalogs**

XI International Art Biennale, Projecto Nucleo de Desenvolvimento Cultural, exhibition catalog, 2001, p.132 (ilus.)

IX Salão da Bahia, exhibition catalog, 2003, p.34 (ilus.)

Botelho, Adir. “Novissimos”, IBEU Gallery, exhibition catalog, 2001, p.14 (ilus.)

Arte de Portas Abertas, featured artists, 2001, p.38 (ilus.)



#### **Awards**

2002 National Council for Research (CNPq) Graduate Scholarship, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

