

NEW RELEASE

## José Gomes Über den Wipfeln / Over the Treetops / Sobre as Copas

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### First monograph about the Brazilian artist José Gomes

The environment, development, and violence, as well as the fate of humanity and the planet, are some of the themes which José Gomes (b. 1968) addresses with his artistic work. The content of his art focuses on the landscape, human intervention in nature, and the paradox between man's dependence on nature and his destructive actions.

With their scientific and investigative character, the aerial photographs shot by satellites and drones depicting forests before and after deforestation are transferred to paper and coated with layers of graphite in geometric shapes. A graphic processing of and with nature.

From the Foreword by **Bernd Melzer**:

*The present book, Over the Treetops, is a plea for the jungle and a recognition of its true masters with their irreplaceable culture, who are powerless in the face of exploitation by the outside rule that has spread over them in the form of nation states.*

*It is to remind us how much of an impact we personally have and how much we can influence the future of the forests, despite our distance to them.*

From the Introduction by **Ralf-P. Seippel**:

*José Gomes is a draughtsman, an observer, who depicts the world surrounding us with the most delicate of lines.*

*He refers to the world and its constitution using pencil and paper. Beyond pure reproduction, he sensitises us and steers our attention to the forest, specifically the rainforest and the dramatic changes it has undergone, in this group of works entitled*

*Over the Treetops. The preoccupation with forests is often described as a romanticised German subject; José Gomes globalises this forest perspective. He uses aerial photographs of the rainforest as the basis for his works onto which he then draws. These superimposed drawings visualise the intrusion and violation at the hands of man. The tender fragility of the ecological biotope of the jungle is illustrated in the contrast between amorphous natural forms and the serial indigenous geometric formal language.*

**José Gomes** was born 1968 in Cariacica, Espírito Santo, Brazil, where he later studied Visual Arts and, from 1996 to 2000 taught as a professor at the University of Espírito Santo. In 2000, he organized and curated the 1st international exhibition for printmaking Vitória at the Museu de Arte do Espírito Santo (MAES). 2004 and 2005 he studied with AR Penck at the Düsseldorf Academy. Since 2005 he lives and works in Cologne, Germany. His works have been shown in numerous exhibitions in Latin America, Germany, Spain, and in the USA.

### Exhibition

Galerie Biesenbach, Cologne, Germany  
07.05. – 19.06.2021

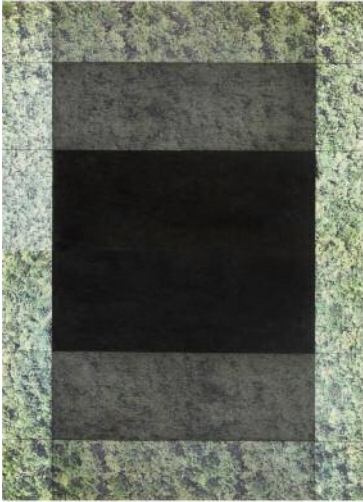
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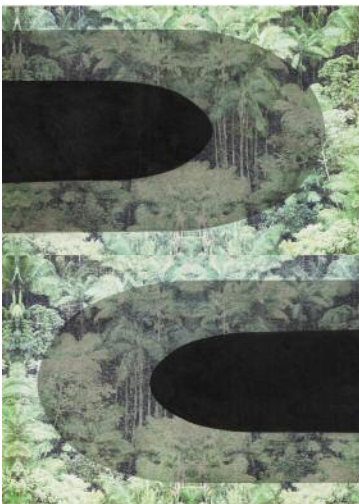
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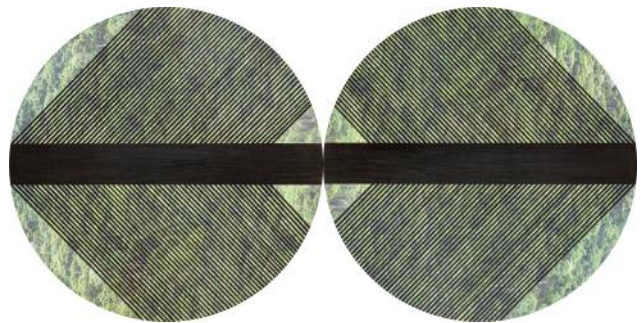
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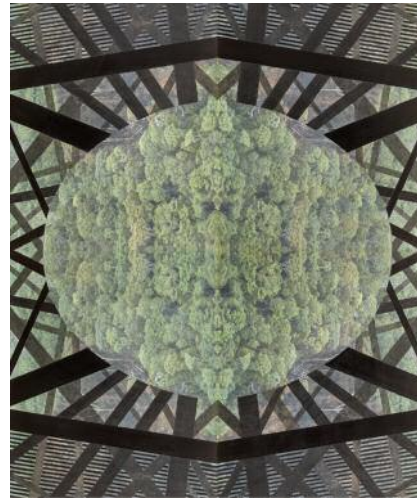


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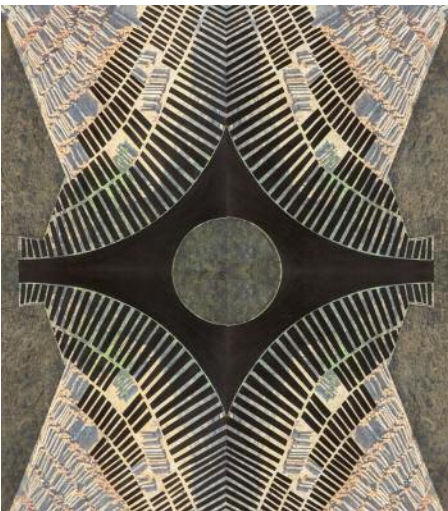




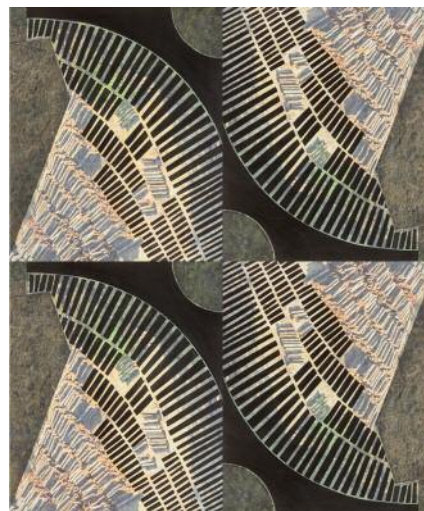
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