

Workshop by **SOLANGE PESSOA**

Gardens of Delirium

From 21 to 29 September 2026

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The art workshop, *Gardens of Delirium*, will be led by Solange Pessoa in Santander from 21 to 29 September. It will offer an immersion in her artistic practice, which is deeply rooted in the earth and the cycles of nature. Organised by Fundación Botín, the workshop is structured as a space for visual, philosophical and poetic explorations focusing on gardens, squares, parks and natural environments in and around Santander, exploring their microcosms and memories.

Since the 1980s, Pessoa has been developing a body of work linked to nature, memory, the body, spirituality and the cycles of life. Through the use of organic materials—both ephemeral and noble—the artist establishes a direct relationship with the earth, evoking processes of metamorphosis and an oniric relation of landscape and matter. Participants will engage in processes of observation, reflection and creation in natural spaces, accompanied by photographic and audiovisual documentation of the activities.

The workshop is closely linked to the exhibition *Of Day or Night*, an exhibition that connects the artist's early research with its current materialization. It will take place at Centro Botín in Santander from 10 October 2026 to 28 March 2027 under the curatorship of Bárbara Rodríguez Muñoz.

Solange Pessoa (born 1961 in Ferros, Brazil) lives and works in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. Since 1993, for more than two decades, she was a professor at The Guignard University of Art of Minas Gerais (UEMG), making a significant contribution to Brazil's artistic and academic communities. In 1996–1997 she received a grant from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation.

Her solo exhibitions at institutions include *Outras escalas - Desenhos, vídeos, instalações*, Itaú Cultural, São Paulo (2026), *Catch the Sun with Your Hand*, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen (2025); *Pilgrim Fields*, Tramway, Glasgow (2025); *Solange Pessoa*, Kunsthaus Bregenz, Bregenz (2023); *Longilonge*, Ballroom Marfa, Marfa (2019); *Metaflor-Metaflora*, Museu Mineiro, Belo Horizonte (2013); Museu de Arte da Pampulha, Belo Horizonte (2008); Museu da Inconfidência, Ouro Preto (2000); Palácio das Artes, Belo Horizonte (1995); and Centro Cultural São Paulo, São Paulo (1992). She has also taken part in numerous group exhibitions in Brazil and abroad, notably *Arts of the Earth*, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao (2025); *More than Human*, Design Museum London (2025–2026) and Museum für Gestaltung Zürich (2026); *ERASURE*, Goodwood Art Foundation (2025); *Exposition Générale*, Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain (2025); *Collector #3*, Jardin Botanique de Bordeaux and La Petite Escalère (2025); *Unravel: The Power and Politics of Textiles*, Barbican Centre, London (2024) and Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam (2025); *The Milk of Dreams*, 59th Venice International Biennale, Venice (2022); *Reclaim the Earth*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2022); *Living Worlds*, Fondation Cartier, Lille (2022); *Invenção de Origem*, Estação Pinacoteca, São Paulo (2018).

Workshop led by
Solange Pessoa

Dates
21-29 September, 2026

Place
Fundación Botín, Santander (Spain)

Schedule
The agenda is yet to be confirmed, but the space at Fundación Botín will be available from 10 am to 8 pm, Monday to Friday.

Requirements
Artists and/or students of fine and visual arts, theatre, film, philosophy, biology or other disciplines related to art, nature and ecology.

Please note that the workshop will be carried out in English and that participants to the workshop are expected to stay for its entire duration.

Materials
Fundación Botín will provide workspace and materials per the instructions of the workshop director. Nevertheless, participants will be informed in advance if they need to bring any materials.

Support
Fundación Botín provides accommodation and breakfast to all participants who are not residents of Cantabria.

In addition, each participant will also receive a stipend of 315.-€ as support for the cost of living expenses. This amount will be paid at the beginning of the workshop, after filling in and providing the necessary administrative data.

Selection
A maximum of 15 participants will be chosen by the director of the workshop. Fundación Botín will make the decision public, which shall be final.

Deadlines
Deadline for applications is Monday, 17 August 2026. The selected candidates will be contacted by Fundación Botín from 24 August, 2026. All other candidates may consult the results on the website.

Required documentation

All applications must be submitted electronically in English, via <https://fundacionbotin.org/becas-convocatorias/talleres-de-arte/>

Please include the following in a single PDF document (max. 4Mb):

- Valid National ID Card or Passport.
- Current address of residency and updated contact details (full name, place of residency, email, telephone number).
- An up to date biography.
- A short text (300 words or less), which outlines the applicant's interest and motivation in participating in the workshop.
- Portfolio of recent work or a description outlining the areas or skills in which they have experience.
- 5 to 10 images illustrating the applicant's artistic practice.

Confirmation of participation

Those selected must confirm their acceptance within the terms and forms indicated by Fundación Botín.

The reservation of a place will be considered formalized once a copy of the travel tickets to Santander that certify the participant's travel plans on the dates of the workshop has been received.

The participants are responsible for the planning and financial underwriting of their travel to and from Santander.

Observations

The workshop will require creative openness, artistic skills and collaborative work.

Candidates from all over the globe, of all ages and with diverse artistic and academic backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Please note that applications missing any of the required documents will not be considered.