

A watercolor illustration on a light green background. A thin, light-colored branch curves from the top left towards the center. A larger, darker green branch curves from the bottom left towards the center. A single, large, dark green leaf with prominent veins is positioned at the bottom right. In the top right corner, there is a small, faint illustration of a person riding a horse.

Benoît Fournier

b. 1981, Carpentras, France
lives and works in Rio de Janeiro



My work begins with the soil as a living system. I consider the Earth not as a resource, but as a milieu upon which the continuity of life depends. I work with soils, clays, organic matter, vegetal, animal, and mineral traces, as well as residues, as active agents.

The works emerge from situations in which biological processes continue their action or leave their imprint.

My practice is grounded in careful listening to living processes and in an attention to slow temporalities: decomposition, transformation, regeneration.

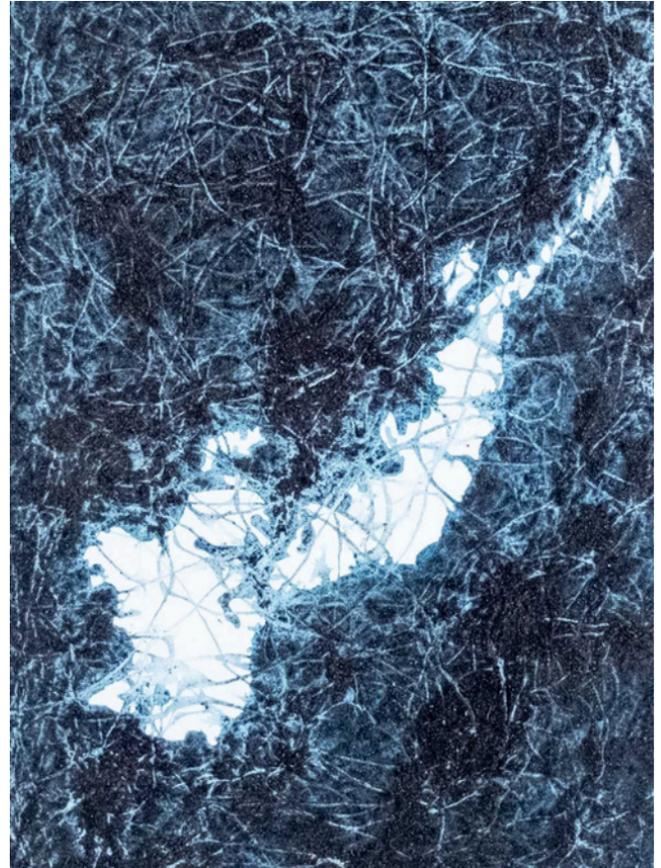
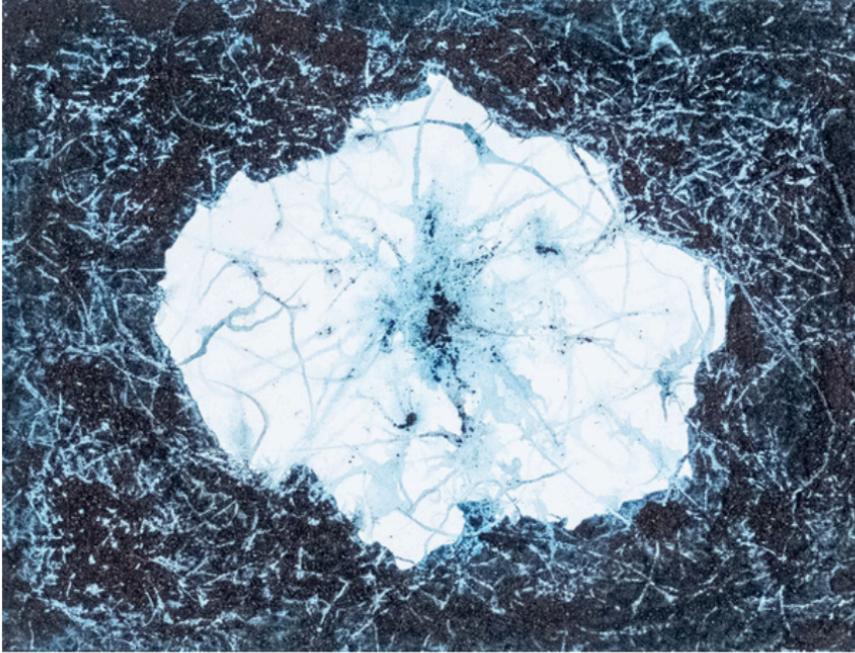
In a context of soil depletion, this research seeks to reactivate a sensitive attention to the Earth.

The works take shape as dispositifs: the action of the living becomes a force of imprint and memory. The soil retains, transforms, and metabolizes traces of the past, like an organism that digests what it receives.

Benoît Fournier (b. 1981, Carpentras, France) lives and works in Rio de Janeiro.

His recent solo exhibitions include **Espace Krajcberg – Centre d’Art Contemporain**, Paris (2024); **Artnow Projects Gallery**, Geneva (2023); **Z42 Arte Cultural Center**, Rio de Janeiro (2021); **Espace L Gallery**, Geneva (2019); **Blue Sky Gallery**, Portland, (2017).

His work has also been featured in group exhibitions at institutions such as **Instituto Inclusartiz**, Rio de Janeiro (2024); **Reginart Collections**, Este Arte, Punta del Este (2021-2024); **Matias Brotas Gallery**, Vitória (2023); **Hélio Oiticica Municipal Art Center**, Rio de Janeiro (2022); **Photo Basel | Galerie L’Antichambre**, Basel (2022); **Art Genève | Simon Studer Art and Rosa Turetsky Galleries**, Geneva (2020); **Biennale d’Issy**, Paris (2019); **A Gentil Carioca Gallery**, Rio de Janeiro (2017); **National Historical Museum (MNH)**, Rio de Janeiro (2017); and the **Museum of Art of Rio (MAR)**, Rio de Janeiro (2016).



Activated through earthworm-mediated transformation processes

Benoît Fournier, *Paisagens Metabólicas* (Metabolic Landscapes), Diptych, 2024
Earth, blue pigment, and earthworm pathways on canvas | 50 × 68 cm (19 3/4 × 26 3/4 in) (each)



These works extend my research into soil as a surface of inscription and slow transformation

Developed within agroforestry contexts in Brazil



Benoît Fournier, 2025

1. *Sulcos e córregos* (Furrows and Streams) — 2. *Linhas tortas* (Crooked Lines)

Clay, mineral pigments and earthworm pathways on canvas | 50 × 68 cm (19 3/4 × 26 3/4 in) (each)



Materials activated through worm-compost transformation processes

Benoit Fournier, *O solo que a gente não vê* (The Soil We Don't See), 2024
Blown glass, biochar, worm tea, crystal quartz | 270 × 250 × 250 cm (106 1/4 × 98 3/8 × 98 3/8 in)
Terra Comum (Z42 Art Gallery), Rio de Janeiro — Curator: Lucas Albuquerque



Benoît Fournier, *Quête des origines* (Quest for Origins), 2024

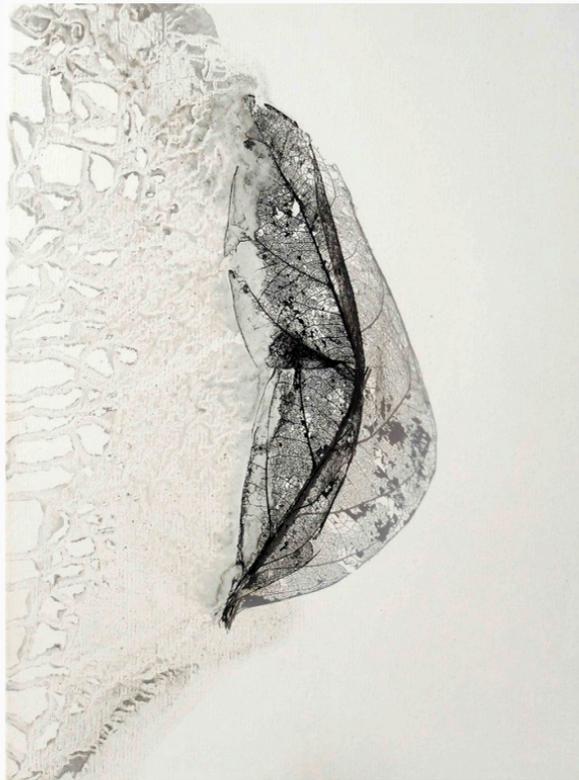
Blown glass, compost leachate, crystal quartz, root | 60 × 5 × 5 cm (23 5/8 × 2 × 2 in)

Regarder l'invisible (Espace Frans Krajcberg), Paris — Curators: Sylvie Depondt & Capucine Boutte



Benoit Fournier, *Terra Topografada series* (Topographed Land), 2023
Leaf and pigment on canvas | 30 × 20 cm (11 3/4 × 7 7/8 in) (each)



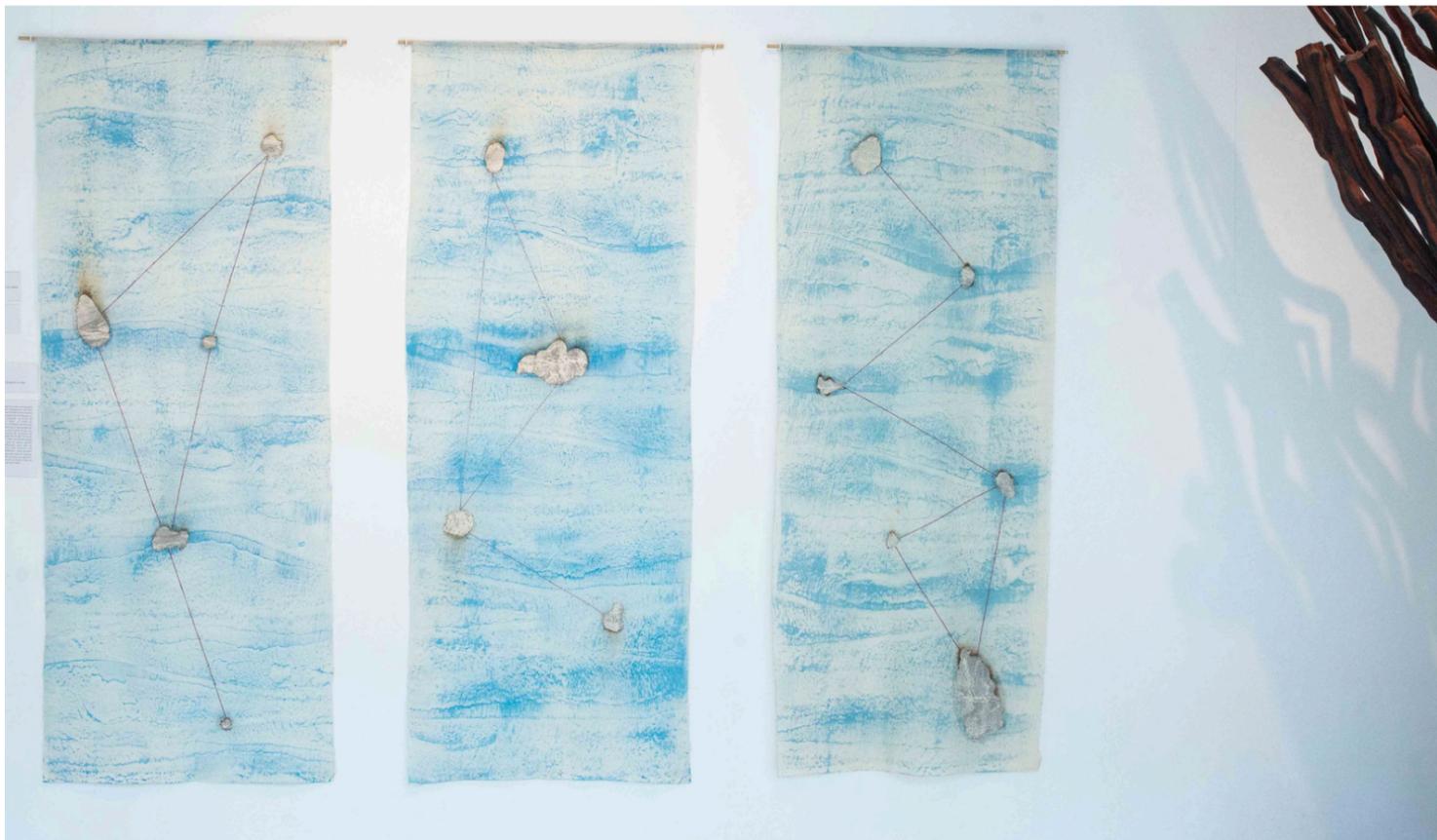


Benoît Fournier, *Sopro (Breath)*, 2024

Leaves and gray clay on canvas | 30 × 40 cm (11 7/8 × 15 3/4 in) (each)



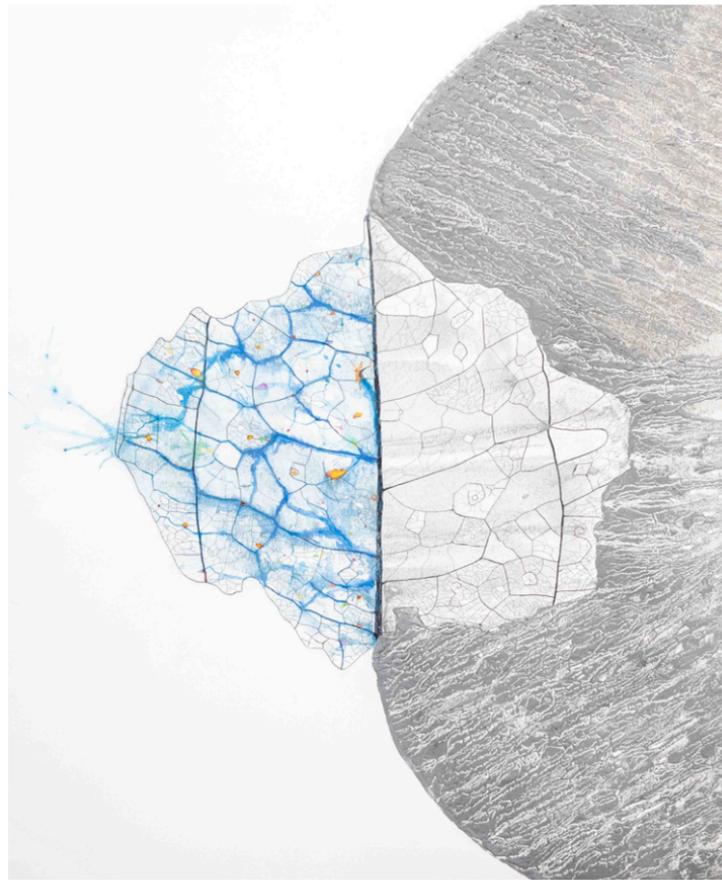
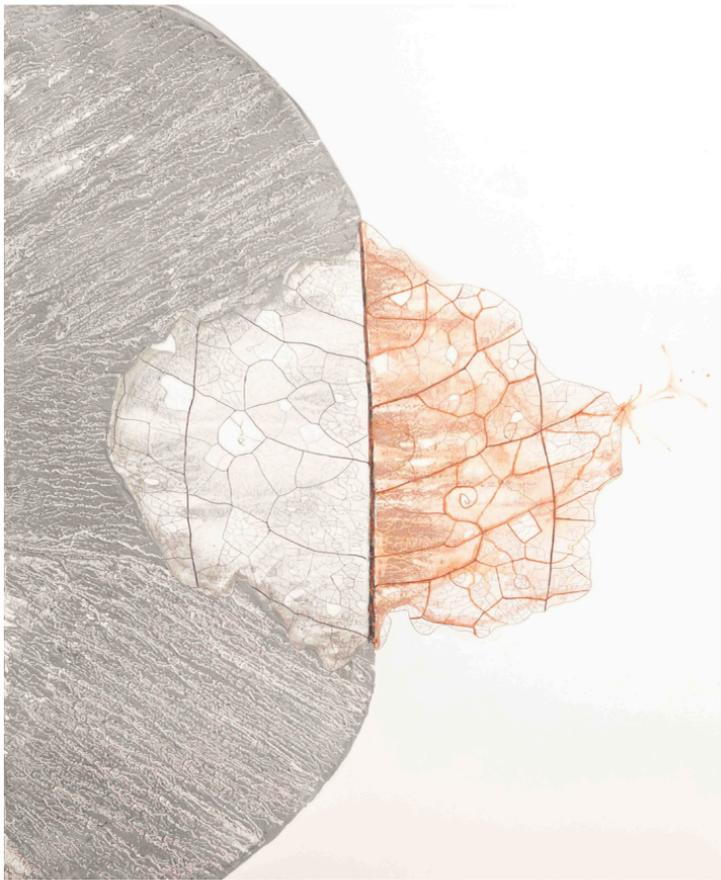
Benoit Fournier, Residency, Instituto Inclusartiz, 2024
Rio de Janeiro — Curators: Victor Gorgulho, Gabriela Davies



Benoit Fournier, *Constelação babaçu* (Babaçu Constellation), 2025

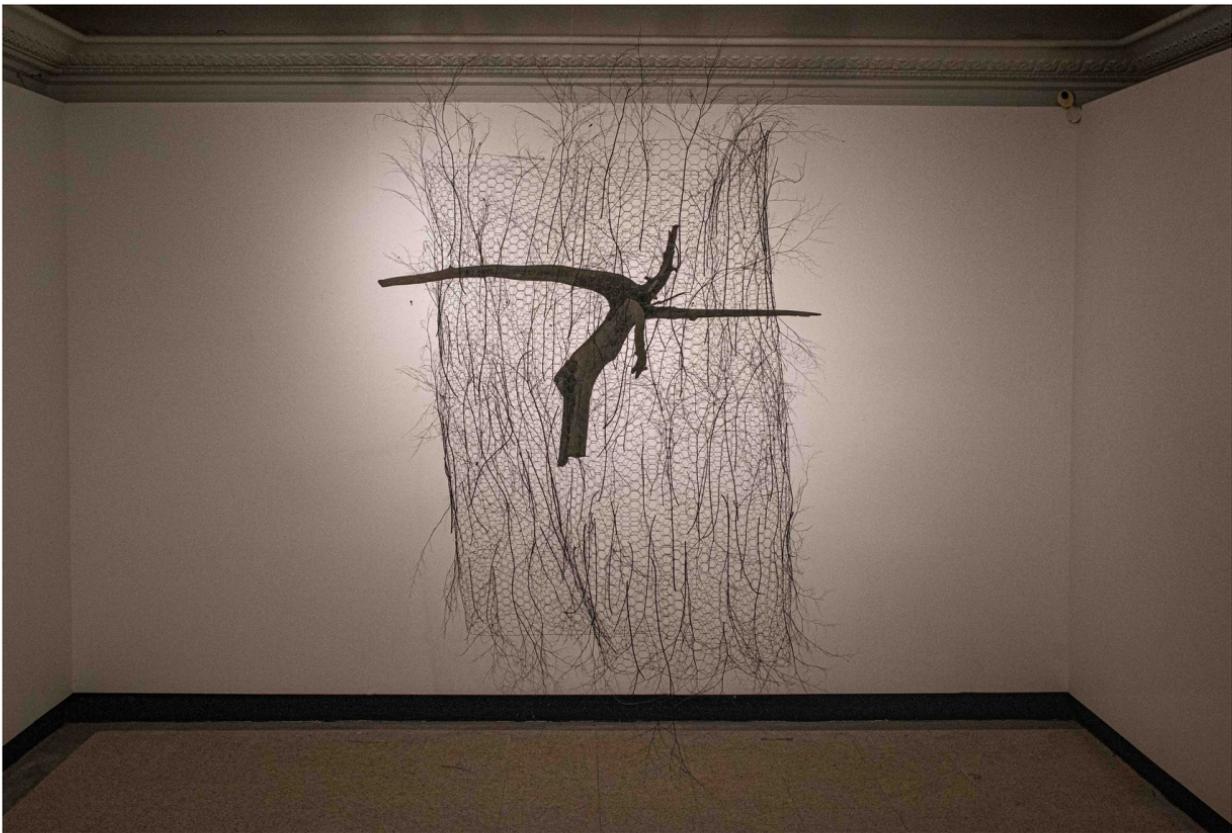
Traces of tree, pigments, and embroidery on fabric | 200 × 120 cm (78 3/4 × 47 1/4 in)

Regarder l'invisible (Espace Frans Krajcberg), Paris, 2024 — Curators: Sylvie Depondt, Capucine Boutte



Benoit Fournier, *Osmose* (Osmosis), 2025

Gray clay and pigment on canvas | 200 × 120 cm (78 3/4 × 47 1/4 in)



Benoît Fournier, *Erithacus Rubecula* (European Robin), 2025

Wire, wood, and avenca branches | 180 × 160 × 160 cm (70 7/8 × 63 × 63 in)

Education

- 2017-2022 | Contemporary Art Courses, Parque Lage EAV, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
2006 | Master's in International Management (Latin America), IAE de Bayonne (France) / PUC Curitiba (Br.)
2005 | Bachelor's in Economics and Management, Pierre Mendès-France University, Grenoble, France.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 | Espace Krajcberg - Contemporary Art and Nature Cultural Center, [Olhar o invisível], curated by Sylvie Depondt and Gabriela Davies, Paris, France.
2023 | Art Now Projects Gallery, [Osmose], curated by Agnaldo Farias, Geneva, Switzerland.
2021 | Z42 Art Gallery, [Everything in the world is spirit], curated by Bruna Costa & Ulisses Carrilho, with Ernesto Neto, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
2019 | Espace L Gallery, [The Spirits of the Plants], Geneva, Switzerland.
2018 | Edouard de la Marque Gallery, [Nipei Yuxi], Paris, France.
2018 | Deutsch Museum, [Nipêi Yuxi], Lausanne, Switzerland.
2017 | Blue Sky Gallery, [Babylon], Portland, USA.
2017 | Promenades photographiques Festival, [Percurso], Vendôme, France.
2015 | CEDAE Cultural Center, [Water memories], Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
2014 | Alliance Française Gallery, Prix Photo Web, [Land of water], Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Group Exhibitions

- 2025 | L'antichambre Gallery, [Découvertes], Chambéry, France.
2025 | Z42 Art Gallery, [Coletiva Z], Rio de Janeiro.
2025 | Artnow Projects Gallery, [Tout doit disparaître], Geneva, Switzerland.
2024 | Z42 Art Gallery, [Terra comum], curated by Lucas Alburquerque, Rio de Janeiro.
2024 | Instituto Inclusartiz, [Sambaqui], curated by Victor Gorgulho and Gabriela Davies, Rio de Janeiro.
2023 | Matias Brotas Gallery, [Séries MAC, Clube do Colecionador], Vitória.
2023 | Refresco, [O feitiço da Língua], curated by Daniela Avelar, Rio de Janeiro.
2023 | Salon H, [Dar Bandeira], Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
2022 | Artnow Projects Gallery, [60 rue ancienne], Geneva, Switzerland.
2022 | Hélio Oiticica Municipal Arts Center, [Arte em Resistência], Rio de Janeiro.
2022 | Espaço 8, [Amanhã será um novo dia], São Paulo.
2021 | Photo Basel, L'Antichambre Basel Gallery, Switzerland.
2020 | Art Genève, Simon Studer Art Gallery and Rosa Turetski Gallery, Geneva, Switzerland.
2020 | Este Arte, Reginart Collection, Punta del Este, Uruguay.
2019 | Issy Biennale, [Contemporary Portraits, selfie of the soul?], Paris, France.
2017 | Alliance Française Gallery, [Identity], Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
2017 | A Gentil Carioca Gallery, [Abre Alas 13 | Resurgence], Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
2017 | National Historical Museum, [Quando o mar virou Rio | Rio Life], Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
2017 | International Photography Festival In Cadaqués, [Percurso], Cadaqués, Spain.
2017 | Aniwa Gathering, [Seres da Floresta], Ibiza, Spain.
2016 | Casa França-Brasil, [Lá Fora | Resurgence], Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

- 2016 | Museu de Arte do Rio (MAR), [Body discourses | the vertigo of Rio], Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
2016 | Art Residence, [Hanging Garden | Resurgence], Babylon Favela, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
2016 | Red Bull Station, [Identity], São Paulo, Brazil.
2015 | Federal Justice Cultural Center [Ser Carioca de Luz], Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
2014 | Musée del Fiume, [Memory of Water], Biodiversity Festival, Nazzano, Italy.
2014 | Musée National d'Histoire Naturelle, [Prix photo], Paris, France.

Residencies

- 2024 | Instituto Inclusartiz, curated by Gabriela Davies, Rio de Janeiro.
2022 | Kaaysá, Art & Nature, curated by Agnaldo Farias, Boicucanga, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Awards

- 2017 | Prix ANI Portfolio, Promenades photographiques de Vendôme, France.
2016 | Honorable mention, Portfolio review, FotoRio, Rio de Janeiro.
2014 | Contest photo Natural History Museum – 'prix albums', Paris.
2014 | Honorable mention, Life Framer International photography award, London, UK.
2014 | 1st place, Prix Photo Web prize, sponsored by Aliança Francesa.

Books

- 2015 | Book [Memórias da água], published by Andrea Jakobsson, Brazil.
2014 | Book [A Cidade por Bandeira], published by Batel, Brazil.

Art Collections

- Geoffrey C. Koslov, Private Collection, Houston, USA.
Joaquim Paiva Collection | Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro (MAM-RJ), Brazil.
Mangroves Arts Foundation, Barcelona, Spain.
Museu de Arte do Rio (MAR), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
National History Museum, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
Reginart Collections, Geneva, Switzerland.
Simon Studer Art Collection, Geneva, Switzerland.
The Center of Fine Art Photography, Colorado, USA.
Zarabatana Collection / Z42, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
Zyan Zein Collection, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

*Benoit's work inhabits the earth
We too inhabit the earth
His work digs the earth,
With love it digs our earth
— Ernesto Neto*