

[Arruda at David Zwirner](#)

[Aruda at Mendes Wood DM](#)

[Arruda on Instagram](#)



[Lucas Arruda: Deserto-Modelo](#) at Mendes Wood DM was one of the artist's first solo exhibition with the gallery. Launched in 2012, the exhibition centered on Arruda's growing *Deserto-Modelo* series.

Lulu in Mexico City opened [Lucas Arruda: Deserto, Modelo](#) in 2015, his first solo exhibition in Mexico.

Mendes Wood DM opened [Lucas Arruda: Deserto-Modelo as above so below](#) in 2016, continuing his series of imagined landscapes. Read a review of the exhibition in [Artforum](#).

[Read](#) about Arruda's experiences in Northern France as he took a residency at the Pinault Collection in 2017. That same year, Arruda had his first solo show with [David Zwirner](#) in London. Read an interview in [Studio International](#) and a review of the exhibition in [TimeOut](#).

In 2019, David Zwirner hosted Arruda's first [solo show](#) in New York with the gallery. Read a review by Lucy Rees for [Galerie Magazine](#) and another by Osman Can Yerebakan for [The Observer](#).

[Lucas Arruda: Deserto-Modelo](#) was on view at Fridericianum in Kassel, Germany, in 2019.

In 2021, Mendes Wood DM in São Paulo launched the solo exhibition entitled [Lucas Arruda: Assum Preto](#), the debut of a new framework for Arruda's ethereal paintings.

[Lucas Arruda: Assum Preto](#) was on display at David Zwirner Paris in 2022.

In 2024, David Zwirner New York launched [Lucas Arruda: Assum Presso](#), including paintings and a site-specific light installation from the *Deserto-Modelo* series. Read a review of the exhibition in [The Brooklyn Rail](#).



Arruda in the studio, c. 2019  
Photograph: Gui Gomes

Lucas Arruda (Brazilian, b. 1983)

**Untitled (from the Deserto-Modelo series), 2023**

Oil on canvas

Private Collection; L2024:71.2

São Paulo-based painter Lucas Arruda is interested in memory and imagination. His works are often categorized as landscapes, but the artist sees them as reflections of his state of mind rather than the depiction of a place. **Untitled (from the Deserto-Modelo series)** is titled after Brazilian poet João Cabral De Melo Neto's idea of "desert models." To the poet, deserts are beyond time and cannot be fully grasped through language. Arruda extends this idea to painting, depicting landscapes as metaphysical places that escape visual understanding. As the artist describes: "The only reason to call my works landscapes is cultural – it's simply that viewers automatically register my format as landscape, although none of the images can be traced to a geographic location. It's the idea of landscape as structure, rather than a real place."

*On view October 2, 2024 – January 5, 2025*

