Brazil Speaks!
Architecture Culture at Risk

Friday, April 1, 2022, 9:00am to 12:00pm

This event is virtual and will be held in English with simultaneous Portuguese interpretation. To register, click here.

Set in the context of the program Curating Architecture Across the Americas, the symposium Brazil Speaks! Architecture Culture at Risk seeks to establish a conversation on the state of architecture as a cultural artifact in Brazil. We bring together historians, curators, and cultural agents to examine exhibitions, archives, and curatorial practices that bring architecture to the public eye. These diverse voices and practices will trigger a conversation on the methods, experiences, and aims of past, present, and future actions.

Speakers: Josemeire Alves Pereira, Professor, FLACSO- Brasil; Maria Cristina Cabral, Associate Professor of Architecture and Urbanism, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro; Sol Camacho, Architect and former Cultural Director of Instituto Bardi (2017-2021); Sabrina Fontenele, Cultural Director, Brazilian Institute of Architects; José Lira, Professor of Architecture and Urbanism, University of São Paulo; Renata Marquez, Associate Professor of Architecture, Federal University of Minas Gerais; Junia Mortimer, Associate Professor of Architecture, Federal University of Bahia; Guilherme Wisnik, Associate Professor of Architecture and Urbanism, University of São Paulo.

Organized by the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies and the Department of History of Art and Architecture at Harvard University.

Symposium Agenda

Welcome Remarks
Introduction by Patricio del Real - 15 minutes

Session 1: Activating the Archives
Josemeire Alves Pereira, Maria Cristina Cabral, José Lira, Junia Mortimer - 40 minutes
Discussion moderated by Patricio del Real + Victor Próspero - 20 min

Break - 10 min

Session 2: Reimagining Curatorial Practices
Sol Camacho, Renata Marquez, Sabrina Fontenele, Guilherme Wisnik - 40 minutes
Discussion moderated by Patricio del Real + Catarina Flaksman - 20 min

Town Hall
Moderated by Carolina Sepúlveda + Cristina López Uribe - 30 minutes
Speakers

Josemeire Alves Pereira holds doctoral and master's degrees in History from the State University of Campinas, São Paulo (Unicamp). She is Professor at FLACSO-Brasil, Cultural Advisor at Casa do Beco, and a member of the research group Rede de Historiadorxs Negrxs and Africanidades-BH. She co-curated the exhibition Ndê! Afro-Brazilian Trajectories in Belo Horizonte.

Maria Cristina Cabral is Professor at the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism and at the Graduate Program in Urbanism (PROURB) of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ). She is a researcher supported by CNPQ and FAPERJ, Federal and State agencies. She holds an MS in Architecture and Urban Planning and a Ph.D. in History, specializing in modern architecture and city planning. She is the author of the book Foreign Presence: Architecture in Rio de Janeiro (1905-1942).

Sol Camacho is an architect and curator. She is the former Cultural Director of Instituto Bardi/Casa de Vidro (2017-2021) and is the founder of São Paulo-based architecture studio RADDAR, today in charge of the adaptive reuse of the Historic Pacaembu Urban Sports Complex. She has curated exhibitions on architecture internationally, including Walls of Air for the Brazilian Pavilion for the 16th Venice Architecture Biennale (2018).

Sabrina Fontenele is Director of Culture of the Institute of Architects of Brazil – São Paulo Department (2020-2022). She is an architect and urban planner with master's and doctoral degrees from the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism of the University of São Paulo (FAUUSP). In 2019, she completed her postdoctoral studies at the University of Campinas. She is a Professor and Research Coordinator at Escola da Cidade. She is the author of Modos de Morar nos Apartamentos Duplex: Rastros de Modernidade (2021) and Edifícios Modernos e o Traçado Urbano de São Paulo, 1938-1960 (2014).

José Lira is Professor at the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism of the University of São Paulo (FAUUSP), with post-doctorates at Columbia University and École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris-Malaquais. From 2010 to 2014 he was in charge of the policies for the university collections when he directed USP’s Center for Cultural Heritage. He is the author of Warchavchik, fraturas da vanguarda (2011) and O visível e o invisível na arquitetura brasileira (2017) as well as editor of Memória, Trabalho e Arquitetura (2013), Domesticidade, Gênero e Cultura Material (2017), and Patrimônio construído da USP: preservação, gestão e memória (2015).

Renata Marquez is Professor at the School of Architecture and at the Transversal Formation in Traditional Knowledge of the Federal University of Minas Gerais. She is a researcher at the Cosmopolis group and one of the founders and editors of PISEAGRAMA magazine. She co-organized the book Atlas Ambulante (2011) and co-authored Domesticidades: guia de bolso (2010).

Junia Mortimer is Associate Professor at the Architecture School of the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA) in Salvador. She teaches courses on the theory and history of art, architecture, and urbanism and her research interests focus on questions of photography, archives, and visual culture. She holds a BA in Architecture and Urbanism (UFMG, 2007), an MA in Arts and Humanities (Université de Perpignan and Universidade Nova de Lisboa - Erasmus Mundus Scholarship, 2010), and a Ph.D. in Architecture (UFMG, 2015) with a one-year doctorate internship at The Cooper Union (2013-2014, CAPES/PDSE Scholarship).
Guilherme Wisnik lives and works in São Paulo, Brazil. He is an architectural and art researcher, curator, and Associate Professor at the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism of the University of São Paulo (FAUUSP). He is the author of Dentro do Nevoeiro (2018) and curator of several exhibitions of art and architecture including the 10th International Architecture Biennial of São Paulo (2013) and Infinito Vão (2018).

Presented by

Patricio del Real is an architectural historian who works on modern architecture and its transnational connections with a focus on the Americas. His new book, Constructing Latin America: Architecture, Politics, and Race at the Museum of Modern Art, examines multiple architecture exhibitions and MoMA as a cultural weapon. It looks at the museum’s Department of Architecture and Design as it navigated the thorny politics of Pan Americanism and the cultural conflicts of the second postwar era. He is Associate Professor of History of Art and Architecture at Harvard University.

Moderators

Catarina Flaksman is a Ph.D. student in History of Art and Architecture at Harvard University. She holds an MS in History of Art and Design from Pratt Institute and a B.Arch. from Pontifícia Universidade Católica of Rio de Janeiro. She has worked on architecture and design exhibitions, publications, and public programs in Brazil and the United States.

Cristina López Uribe is an architectural historian, editor and curator. She holds a BA in Architecture from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) and an MA in History of Art, Architecture and the City from the Universitat Polytecnica de Catalunya, where she is currently a Ph.D candidate in Architecture History and Theory. She teaches History of Architecture and is a member of the Laboratorio Editorial de Arquitectura at the Facultad de Arquitectura, UNAM.

Victor Próspero is a Ph.D. Candidate in Architectural History at University of São Paulo and currently a Fulbright Visiting Fellow at Harvard University, Department of History of Art and Architecture. He works on the relationships between architecture and politics, with a focus on the Brazilian military dictatorship, and he is co-editor of the forthcoming book Arquitetura e Escrita: relatos do ofício (2022).

Carolina Sepúlveda is an architect and curator from Chile. She holds a Master in Design Studies from Harvard GSD and a B. Arch. from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. She is co-curator of Curating Architecture Across the Americas. She has researched and produced architecture exhibitions at Harvard GSD, the Inter-American Development Bank, LIGA DF, the Chilean Architecture Biennial, among others.