

## Rio to New York

New York's Espasso gallery, which specializes in Brazilian design, is opening the first retail shop dedicated to the furniture of Sergio Rodrigues. This Brazilian modernist, now 84, has designed solid, emphatic pieces in wood, leather and wicker since the 1950s; he developed his style as a response to the architecture of Oscar Niemeyer and other modernists with whom he collaborated. Espasso's collection, much of it available in the U.S. for the first time, with some brand-new reeditions, is manufactured in Brazil by LinBrasil. It ranges from the plumply upholstered leather and wood Mole armchair (1961), the wildly exuberant Chifruda armchair (1962 – in a limited edition) and the demountable Kilin chair (1973), its wood frame slung with a single piece of leather, to the coolly sculptural Diz chair, designed in 2002. There are also sofas. lighting, stools and sideboards, all displayed, along with drawings by Rodrigues and photographs, in a newly designed space on the store's lower level. For information, visit espasso.com.

Right, top Sergio Rodrigues in the new shop at Espasso with his Mole armchair.

Right The Chifruda armchair of 1962.

