

THE GOOD LIFE

Sitting Pretty BY ELISA MALA

EVEN THE MOST HUMORLESS SOUL might appreciate the understated wit of Sergio Rodrigues's business card, which depicts the squat, mustachioed octogenarian dozing away blissfully in a well-padded reclining chair. After all, the 82-year-old architect and interior designer has built a lively career out of cheeky chairs. In September, Rodrigues unveiled his latest creation: the Chifruda, inspired by his 1962 design the Aspas, of which only two were produced. Named after the Brazilian Portuguese slang word for a woman with a philandering husband, the oversize armchair features an imbue-wood frame and a seat, back, and armrests made of cowhide, along with an inverted, crownlevel arc that resembles horns. A total of 40 pieces have been manufactured by the Brazilian design firm Mendes-Hirth (\$20,000; espasso.com).

More than any other article of furniture, the chair seems to be bucking the current climate of asceticism and frugality to take a boldly innova-

shopping Where to Buy the Best Seat in the House

The Chifruda chair.



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