ESPASSO



Xibô Armchair

by Sergio Rodrigues, 2013

An incomplete prototype was presented in 1991 during a great retrospective exhibit of Sergio Rodrigues' work in the Museum of Modern Art of Rio de Janeiro. About three prototypes were made for the occasion and one of them was kept in the studio's storage unit. The project's conclusion only depended on the shape of the headrest, a few options were tested unsuccessfully. In the beginning of 2013, Sergio Rodrigues sketches a simple line defining the contour of the headrest in a croquis of the armchair - the design was complete! The chair called by the creator's nickname, Xibô, finally came to life.

- Base structure made of natural and stained freijó
- Belt leather in black or brown
- Made to order

DIMENSIONS
W 31" x D 31" x H 43"

PRODUCT TYPE
Made To Order

LEAD TIME
17–19 weeks

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Sergio Rodrigues

Sergio Rodrigues was born in Rio de Janeiro in 1927 and passed in 2014. He has been dubbed the father of Brazilian furniture. Indeed, he was responsible for establishing a new paradigm in design, setting himself apart with his very own language in his quest for a clearly recognizable Brazilian identity. He became notorious for his use of robust woods like jacaranda, peroba and imbuia to create quintessential icons. His iconic Mole armchair was an immediate success, comprised of jacaranda and upholstered cushions supported by leather straps. The piece informed by Rodrigues' playfulness and wit, readily became associated with a typically relaxed Brazilian attitude and lifestyle.

The designer graduated from the Faculdade Nacional de Arquitetura in 1952, and shortly after founded one of the first modern furniture and art stores in Curitiba. In 1955, Rodrigues opened the more established company Oca, which he referred to as 'a laboratory for Brazilian furniture and handicrafts' and became one of the most critical components in the evolution of furniture in Brazil. Rodrigues later set out on his own designing furniture, hotels, residences and notorious pre-fabricated dwellings. His work represents Brazil in many ways – relaxed, comfortable, sensual and humorous, yet sophisticated and contemporary.

Amongst his well-known works are pieces of furniture designed for the Brazilian Embassy in Rome, for the UNB (Brasília University) and the Teatro Nacional (National Theater in Brasília). The designer has worked closely with Oscar Niemeyer, as the latter's interior designer of choice for his buildings in Brasilia.