

BRAZIL

The prosperous classes of Rio de Janeiro



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Andrea Chicaro, a Brazilian architect and international interior designer, in the sitting room of the home she designed and built for a client.



Inside the Waterways residential complex, a gated community in Barra da Tijuca with private access and a swimming pool.

In the “cidade maravilhosa” privilege is a question of perspective

Rio de Janeiro, with its population of almost 7 million, is Brazil’s second largest city and is set in a spectacular natural landscape of beaches, forests and mountains. But it is also home to some of the country’s most glaring social inequality.

On one hand are the city’s prosperous classes, composed of fashion designers, architects, gallery owners and Brazilian and foreign business people who lead privileged lives in the new urban paradise of Barra da Tijuca and the richest parts of the city, like the historic neighbourhoods of Ipanema, Leblon and Copacabana.

On the other hand are the inhabitants of the favelas, who make up more than 23 per cent of the city’s population and for whom the lifestyles of their wealthy neighbours are simply unimaginable.

However, paradoxically, in the eyes of the well off, the inhabitants of the favelas are the privileged ones. In a city where the value of real estate is increasingly determined by location – in particular, an elevated position and views over the natural landscape – buildings in the favelas perched on the hilltops have ended up being the most desirable: so much so, in fact, that some members of the prosperous classes are moving to live precisely there.



A young woman rides her horse at Itanhangá Polo Club.



At her atelier in Leblon, fashion designer Julia Golldenizon attends a meeting with her assistant Bruna.



Itanhangá Golf Club, one of Brazil's most exclusive golf courses, is situated in shadow of Pedra de Gavea and the Tijuca Forest.



The Abuassi private paediatric clinic in Barra da Tijuca. Carlotta, an Italian architect who lives in Brazil, takes her son Pietro to see a paediatrician.



Teatro Prudential, Gloria. People dance while wearing a facemask at an outdoor concert of Chico Brown.



Teresa, a housemaid, cleans Carlotta and Carlo's jacuzzi on the top floor of their luxury residence in Barra da Tijuca.



Brazilian tourists admire the view from the terrace of Christ the Redeemer. As a result of the pandemic, international tourism has plummeted but there has been an increase in numbers of local visitors.



The Museum of Modern Art, Rio de Janeiro. A visitor interacts with installations by the Campana brothers, two Brazilian designers that are among the most renowned and revered in the world of contemporary design. The installation was created specifically for the museum.



Humaitá. Mauricio Nobrega, a Carioca architect who works on interior design projects for homes in Brazil and abroad, pictured in his living room.



Itanhangá Golf Club. Japanese businessmen, representatives of Japanese companies (Japan Ferrous Enterprise and the Mitsui group) who live and work in Brazil, play golf during the weekend.



Dinner at Nosso, a rooftop restaurant in Ipanema, one of the trendiest areas of Rio.



Haight Clothing Boutique, Leblon. Raissa, a model, organises the swimwear on display.



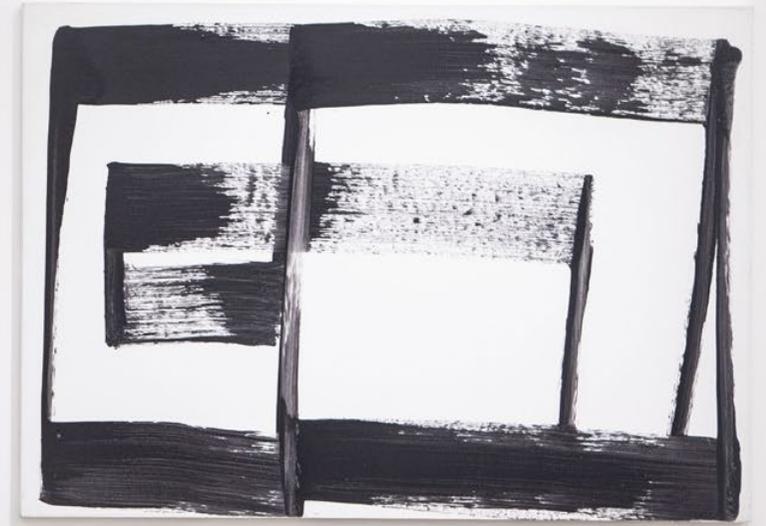
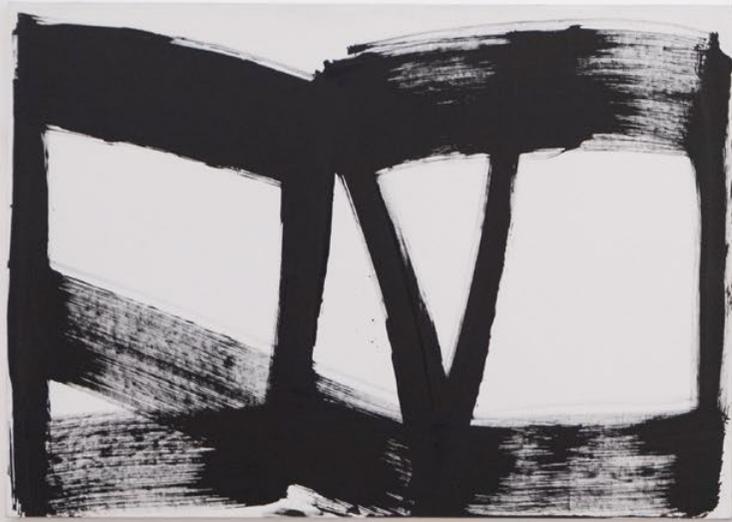
Various statues adorn the botanical garden, which spans 12,000m², at the Villa Brando Barbosa, the venue chosen for the 30th anniversary of CASACOR, Latin America's largest architecture and interior design event.



Villa Brando Barbosa, Jardim Botânico (the Botanical Garden). The supervisor of Cooking Buffet, one of Rio's top catering firms, prepares the lunch boxes for participants at a preliminary meeting for CASACOR.



The Waterways gated community in Barra da Tijuca, a new residential area for the city's wealthier inhabitants, is characterized by condominiums with rigorous security specifications.



Silvia Continentino de Assunção, owner of the Silvia Cintra Gallery, poses for a portrait next to artworks by Amilcar de Castro.



Ipanema, Nosso Restaurant. Nosso's special cocktails are prepared and tasted at the restaurant.



Private boats in the bay in front of the Urca neighbourhood.



Carlotta, an Italian living in Rio, plays with her son Pietro in her house overlooking the sea.



A permanent installation on the second floor of the Modern art Museum in Rio de Janeiro.



A view of São Conrado, an area known for its nightlife, from a private home in the Rocinha favela.

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