

Sergio Camargo (1930-1990, Brazil)

Sergio Camargo was born in Rio de Janeiro in 1930. He first studied at the Academia Altamira in Buenos Aires with Emilio Pettoruti and Lucio Fontana before attending the Sorbonne in Paris under the tutelage of Gaston Bachelard. He lived and worked in Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Massa (Italy), and Paris. Early on in his career Camargo made connections beyond Brazil. During his time in Paris (1961 - 1973), Camargo frequently visited Constantin Brancusi's studio along with admiring the work of Hans Arp, Henri Laurens, and Georges Vantongerloo.

Artistically, Camargo has often been linked with either the Neo-Concrete constructivism or Op Art kineticism of Brazilian colleagues such as Lygia Clark, Mira Schendel and Hélio Oiticica (a trio he introduced to Signals Gallery in London, after he showed there himself in 1964), but he was never clearly aligned with any one movement. Consequently, Camargo stands apart from many of his contemporaries, although he found a kindred spirit and a frequent collaborator in the father figure of Brazilian modernist architecture, Oscar Niemeyer – for whose Foreign Ministry building in Brasília (1965-67) he produced a 25-metre long wall composed of jagged, angular protrusions.

Camargo achieved international recognition at the Venice Biennale (1966 and 1982) and Documenta IV (1968). He was awarded the International Sculpture Prize at the 1963 Paris Biennale and the same honour at the VII Bienal de São Paulo in 1965. After his death in December 1990, an international travelling exhibition was held in several museums abroad and a permanent exhibition of his works is displayed at the Paço Imperial in Rio de Janeiro. The artist's archives are under the care of Instituto de Arte Contemporânea, São Paulo, and Galeria Raquel Arnaud, São Paulo has represented the artist's estate since 1990.

His work are in prestigious public and private collections including: the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York; the Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, Alabama; the Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas; the Fundación Cisneros, Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, New York; The Gromholt Collection, Oslo; the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC; the Kunstmuseum, Bern, Switzerland; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California; the Musée national d'art moderne—Centre Pompidou, Paris, France; the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; and the Tate Gallery, London, England, amongst others.

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Sergio Camargo

Born 1930 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 1964 *Camargo*, Signals Gallery, Londres, Inglaterra [Catálogo: Textos de Denys Chevalier, Gerald Turner, Karl K. Ringstrom e Sinclair Beiles]
- 1965 *Camargo*, Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil
- 1966 *XXXIII Biennale Internazionale d'Arte di Venezia (Sala Individual)*, Padiglione del Brasile, Veneza, Itália
- 1974 *Sergio Camargo*, Museo de Arte Moderno, Cidade do México, México
- 1975 *Camargo: relevos e esculturas (1963-1975)*, Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil
- 1980 *Camargo*, Museu de Arte de São Paulo Assis Chateaubriand, São Paulo, SP, Brasil Prêmio Melhor Retrospectiva do Ano pela Associação Paulista de Críticos de Arte – APCA
Sergio Camargo, Centro de Arte y Comunicación – CAYC, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1981 *Sergio Camargo*, Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil
- 1982 *XLI Biennale Internazionale d'Arte di Venezia Padiglione del Brasile, Veneza, Itália*, Representação brasileira com Tunga
- 1987 *Camargo*, Paço Imperial, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil [Catálogo: Texto de Paulo Sergio Duarte]
- 1988 *Sergio Camargo: O espaço do artista quando jovem*, Paço das Artes, São Paulo, SP, Brasil
Curadoria de Sérgio Pizoli
- 1989 *20ª Bienal Internacional de São Paulo (Sala Especial)*, Fundação Bienal de São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
- 1994 *Sergio Camargo*, Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil
Camargo: Esculturas, Centro de Arte Moderna José de Azeredo Perdigão, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisboa, Portugal
Curadoria de Guy Brett e Ronaldo Brito. [Catálogo: Textos de Guy Brett e Ronaldo Brito]
A exposição foi apresentada também no Henie Onstad Kunstsenter, Oslo, Noruega (1995); Charlottenborg Museum, Copenhagen, Dinamarca (1995); Stedelijk Museum, Schiedam, Holanda (1995); Oxford Museum of Modern Art, Oxford, Inglaterra (1996); Maison de l'Amérique Latine, Paris, França (1996).
- 2015 *Luz e matéria*, Itaú Cultural, São Paulo, SP, Brasil
Sergio Camargo: Mármore, Lisson Gallery, Londres, Inglaterra
- 2018 *Sergio Camargo*, Sean Kelly Gallery, Nova York, Estados Unidos

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 1955 *III Bienal de São Paulo* Pavilhão das Nações, São Paulo, SP, Brasil
- 1957 *IV Bienal de São Paulo* Pavilhão das Nações, São Paulo, SP, Brasil
Arte Moderno en Brasil, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina Org. Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro e Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes.
- 1960 *II Bienal Interamericana do México*, Cidade do México, México
- 1963 *III Biennale de Paris* Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris, França
- 1965 *III Bienal de São Paulo* Pavilhão das Nações, São Paulo, SP, Brasil
- 1968 *Documenta 4*, Museum Fridericianum e Orangerie, Kassel, Alemanha
- 1973 *VII Biennale Internazionale di Scultura* Carrara, Itália
- 1975 *13ª Bienal Internacional de São Paulo* US
- 1976 *XIII Bienal de São Paulo*, Sala Brasília
- 1979 *15ª Bienal Internacional de São Paulo*
- 1982 41ª Biennale di Venezia, Veneza, Itália
- 1983 *17ª Bienal de São Paulo* São Paulo, SP, Brasil
- 1984 *Portraits of a Country*, Barbican Art Gallery, Londres, Inglaterra
- 1989 XX São Paulo Bienal, Brazil
Panorama de Arte Atual Brasileira, MAM (São Paulo Museum of Modern Art), São Paulo, Brazil
Rio Hoje, Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Selected Public Collections

Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York
Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, Alabama
Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas
Fundación Cisneros, Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, New York
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC
Kunstmuseum, Bern, Switzerland
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California
Musée national d'art moderne—Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas
The Museum of Modern Art, New York
Tate Gallery, London, England