



BIENAL BRASILEIRA DE DESIGN
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Brazilian Design Biennial

Held in Curitiba, the capital of Paraná in south Brazil, the biennial gathered work under the banner of innovation, sustainability and design. The event's curator, Adélia Borges, took the opportunity to present Brazil's design characteristics, in tune with world consumer trends of informality and sustainability.

Showcasing both established and emerging national designers, the event also celebrated international design and this year held an exhibition that paid homage to Danish design. Stylus selects work that embraced this year's themes and indicate the future of the Brazilian design scene.

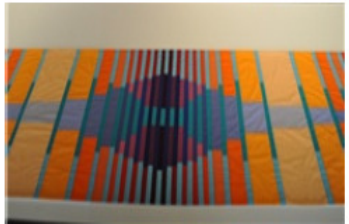
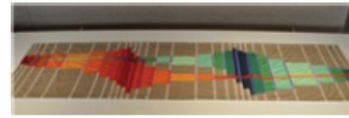
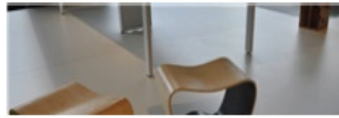
Design, Innovation and Sustainability

The Brazilian Design Biennial's main exhibition presented a variety of innovative and sustainable design:

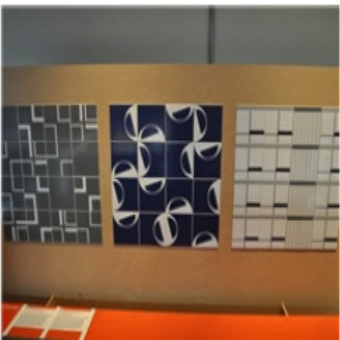
- Simplicity was key to sustainable-focused products. Using thin stainless-steel tubes and Brazilian walnut plywood, Alfio Lisi created simple structured lamps, *Lift* and *Pau de Luz* which exuded soft lighting effects.
- Self-assembly products were a clearly on trend and designers aimed to create environmentally aware products through materials and design. Oswaldo Mellone and Mariana Quinelato's wooden screen folds and extends to make it compact and portable.



- Exploring the re-use of materials, the *Caipira* stool by Carlos Simas was made from recycled wood from demolition sites.
- Designers also explored lightweight materials such as bamboo and bamboo laminates. The Campana Brothers created bamboo structures bound together for their latest range with Alessi. Designed by Paulo Foggiano for Bambu 5 and Marko Brajovic for Peque, curve-back chairs and stools were finished with bamboo laminate.



- Taking inspiration from Brazilian folk art, traditional patterns are applied to textile, ceramic and wooden surfaces. Key designers using this technique include Faz Bem. His ceramic tiles were inspired by iconic Brazilian imagery and modernist architecture.
- Using a block-printing technique, Heloisa Crocco carved into catuaba wood to create a stamp to print other wooden objects and textiles. Her *Topomorfose* collection explores wood markings as a pattern for shelves.
- Marcelo Rosembaum's *Pindorama* collection is composed of flannel-backed goods decorated with lavish, colorful prints based on Brazilian folk and nature-inspired motifs.
- Renata Rubim developed a flooring system using asymmetrical cut out shapes that allow for water drainage in outdoor areas.



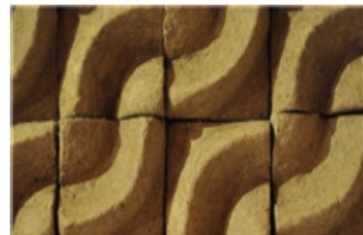
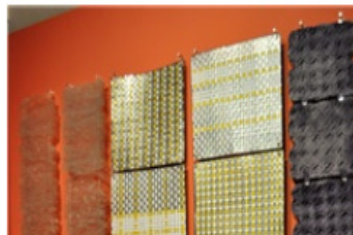
Reinventing Matter

Natural and synthetic materials were highlighted in the exhibition *Reinventing Matter* held at Museum Oscar Niemeyer. According to Biennial curator Adélia Borges, there are still dozens of natural resources in Brazil that have not been fully studied or used - effectively making the country a rich field to explore. It is also important to note that the recycling process is culturally embedded in Brazil and recyclable plastics, cardboard and aluminium are gaining value in the design industry.

- Carauá is a botanical, sustainable fibre; it is four times more resistant than glassfibre as well as being lighter and more flexible. Designers in Brazil are using carauá to develop paper, textiles and car parts.



- Man-made materials such as aluminium, PET bottles and cardboard are cleverly up cycled into new products by Brazilian designers and artisans. Jewellery designer Mana Bernardes has created a conceptual line made from PET.
- Domingos Tótoro presented a collection of cardboard furniture coated in a mixture of glue and water. Once coated the cardboard can be pressed and moulded into any shape.





- The University of Brasilia Lateq Laboratory has created a new method called Tecbor Technology, which congeals Amazonian rubber using pyroligneous acid to produce rubber sheets. Bio-jewellery designer Flavia Amadeu used the material in ethnic-inspired bracelets and necklaces.
- New techniques to soften and colour fish leather are quickly being developed. Renowned Brazilian fashion label Osklen and local designer Renato Imbrosi are lead innovators in using this material.



Memory of the Industry: The Cimo Case

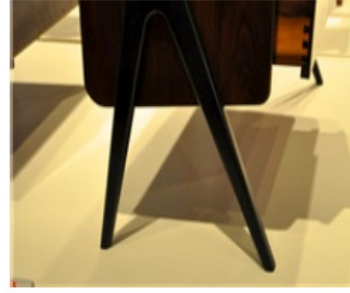
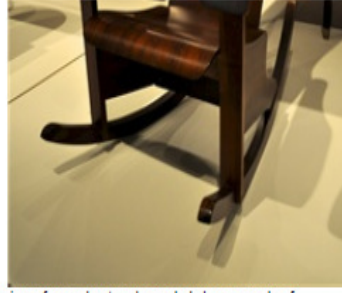
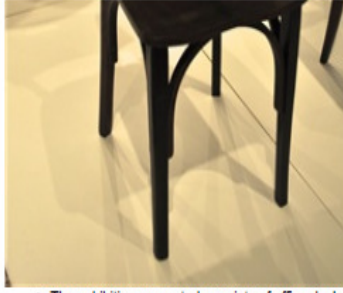
Móveis Cimo LLC was founded in the 1920s and is considered to be one of Brazil's first design companies to move from heritage-handcrafted furniture to serial production manufacturing. The company also introduced plywood to the Brazilian market as well as clean lines and minimal design. Cimo has become collectable on the Brazilian vintage market.

- During the 1950s, Cimo developed low boxy seating, commonly seen in waiting areas; it can be identified as another iconic Cimo design.



- Cimo's iconic Typo Cardeal armchair, made of dark plywood, features an oversized seat, wide arms and backrest. This model has evolved over the years, being designed for living and public spaces.





- The exhibition presented a variety of office desks designs, from robust and rounded shapes made of marble-effect plywood to retro designs with thin legs and built-in drawers.
- Cimo's inspirational vintage colour palette was also on show.



It's a Small World

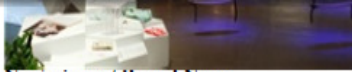
After showing in Copenhagen and Shanghai, *It's a Small World* presented proposals from Danish designers exploring global topics such as sustainability, new technologies and consumption; the designers have looked to new ways to bring design, craft and architecture together.

- New Craftsmanship combined craft and design through digital tools and technologies, present in Mathias Bengtsson's carbon-fibre chaise longue, *Spun*. Digital crafting was also evident in Louise Campell's *Very Round* chair.
- Staged in six different structures developed by CITA, the Centre for Information Technology and Architecture, under a generative system based on a hexagonal grid. Mette Ramsgaard Thomsen, the head of CITA said: "The matrix uses a fractal logic to pack diamonds of different scales."



- Play and social interaction were key inspirations for the recasting of everyday design. This concept was demonstrated through communal structured swings.
- Henrik Vibskov and Andreas Emenius's *Fringe* installation aimed to act as a "soul wash" with its rotating fringed columns that took inspiration from the automatic car wash to create a humorous and playful experience.





Novissimos / Brand New

The Brazilian Design Biennial also provided a platform for emerging Brazilian designers to showcase work. Sixty-three products were on display, from furniture to lighting, to jewellery to home utensils and tools that considered the social and environmental needs of the Brazilian market.

- Mariana Lourenço designed a geometrically layered wall lamp using bamboo chipboard – made of discarded bamboo and a castor-oil-based biodegradable resin.
- Vanessa Peixoto Cavalcante used crochet techniques to create tablecloths and panels made from used packaging that would otherwise go to waste.
- Social concerns for the poor population led to creative solutions for inexpensive furniture and homeware. Taciana de Andrade presented a low-cost collection of bathroom furniture that combined a cupboard, sink and toilet cistern in one compact unit to reduce the amount of water wasted in the sink.



- Inspired by chameleon eyes, Cleber Niels, Dinnfer Reatto and Rodrigo Wolf created the Chameleon LED flashlight with two freely adjustable orbital spheres in which bulbs are set.
- Ceramic Radiator developed by Andressa Cordonni and Luis Henning grabs attention with its curvy design made up of ceramic tubes. Using heat reactive paint allows a pattern to appear on the radiator as it heats up.
- Anna Venturi and Tiago Sales presented the Elementary chair collection of nature-inspired printed plastic chairs.



Beginnings of an Idea

The exhibition *Beginnings of an Idea* took an in-depth look at the history of design biennials held in Brazil and presented pieces that represent the country's contemporary design history.

- Designed in 1965, the Zivi-Hercules bar set in stainless steel reflects the geometrical and minimalist spirit of the decade.
- More iconic designs of the Sixties, a square Aruanda vehicle and a diamond shaped glassfibre telephone cabin were on display.





- Sergio Rodrigue's enigmatic *Mole* chair is a mid-century Brazilian classic. Its comfortable and unpretentious aesthetic is composed of a solid hardwood frame, with single leather cushions adjusted to form the membrane for the seat, back, and arm cushions. This chair became an integral influence on Brazilian designers who began to embrace organic shape and fluid lines in design.
- Joaquim Tenreiro wooden rocking chair designed in 1972 joins geometrical accuracy with wavy lines.



- Designed in 1972, the fiberglass *Spectator* chair by Jorge Zalszupin and Arnold Wolfer for L'Atelier highlights the Brazilian movement towards contemporary designs.
- Curvy and colourful Seventies-style graphics from Rico ice cream were a national hit and can be used as a vintage reference for graphics.

