



BRAZIL

from home

Dear Friends of the Embassy of Brazil in London,

During this time of distress with the Covid-19 epidemic, we want to stay connected with you - even if only virtually, for now. We remain fully engaged with our core activities as an Embassy, and promoting Brazilian arts and culture is certainly amongst such activities. Furthermore, a good argument can be made for the arts and culture becoming even more relevant in times of social distancing.

The Embassy's cultural programme grows and strengthens each year but has, inevitably, been subject to great change under the current circumstances. We cannot predict when we will be able to welcome you back to the Embassy for our events. We can, however, continue offering you opportunities to discover Brazil's cultural heritage from home.

You will find below some of our team's suggestions of online content from a number of Brazil's key cultural institutions, allowing you to access the vibrancy of Brazilian culture without leaving your home.

We hope that you enjoy it.

Follow our social media channels, where we will carry on bringing a bit of Brazil to you.

Stay safe.

Kind regards,

Embassy of Brazil in London

VISUAL ARTS

MASP

The Museu de Arte de São Paulo (MASP) was founded in 1947 by Assis Chateaubriand (1892-1968), becoming the first modern art museum in the country. It was inaugurated by HRM Queen Elizabeth II during her 1968 State Visit to Brazil. Its iconic building was conceived by Lina Bo Bardi (1914 - 1992), who also designed its exhibition concept (glass display easels which nestle suspended and transparent exhibitions). MASP's holdings currently consist of more than 11 thousand artworks, including paintings, sculptures, objects, photographs, videos and pieces of clothing from various periods, from Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas. Besides the names of the European collection - with works by Raphael, Ingres, Van Gogh, Cézanne, Renoir, Monet and Picasso - the museum's holdings include pieces from Asian and African cultures. The Brazilian collection include works by Anita Malfati, Di Cavalcanti, Candido Portinari, Victor Meirelles, Maria Auxiliadora, Agostinho Batista de Freitas, Albino Braz, and several more.

Explore a cross-section of around two thousand artworks from MASP's collection on their [website](#). You can also delve into MASP's permanent collection and learn more about the glass display easels on Google Arts & Culture's [Picture Gallery in Transformation tour](#).

Inhotim

The Inhotim Institute, founded in 2002, has one of the largest collections of contemporary art in Brazil and one of the largest open-air galleries in Latin America, set within 5,000 acres of botanical gardens. Located in Brumadinho, Minas Gerais, Inhotim's backdrop is the biome of the Atlantic Forest. Its collection includes paintings, sculptures, drawings, photographs, videos and installations by over 100 renowned Brazilian and international artists from 30 different countries, produced from the 1960s to the present day.

More information about Inhotim is available on their [website](#). Go to Google Arts and Culture to take a tour of the [art in their gardens](#).

Museu Nacional de Belas Artes

The Museu de Belas Artes is a national art museum, established in 1937 in Rio de Janeiro. It is considered a centre for the dissemination of Brazilian art, with a collection of over twenty thousand items including paintings, drawings, engravings, sculptures, objects, documents and books, by Brazilian and international artists. The museum is particularly rich in 19th century Brazilian paintings and sculptures, which include works from the Portuguese Royal Collection brought over by King John VI during the transfer of the Portuguese Court to Brazil. The building was designed by architect Adolfo Morales de los Rios in 1908, to host the National School of Fine Arts.

You can browse the museum's collections of national and international art through their [website](#). Google Arts & Culture have a selection of [online exhibitions](#).

Pinacoteca

Founded in 1905, Pinacoteca de São Paulo is a museum of visual arts with an emphasis on Brazilian production from the 19th century to the present day. Its building underwent an extensive renovation project, designed by the RIBA Laureate architect Paulo Mendes da Rocha, in the late 1990s. Pinacoteca's collection comprises almost 11,000 works and its annual programme includes 30 exhibitions a year.

You can find more about Pinacoteca on their [website](#), including a virtual tour of their permanent collection available [here](#).

MAM-Rio

The Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro (MAM Rio), founded in 1948, has avant garde and experimentalism as its core themes. MAM took part in various Brazilian artistic movements, like Grupo Frente (1954), Neoconcretism (1959), Nova Objetividade Brasileira (1967), Cinema Novo (1960s), Cinema Marginal (1970s), and Cinema Experimental Contemporâneo (2000s). The Museum has around 7,000 works by national and international artists (Brancusi, Giacometti, Rodin, Calder, Andy Warhol, Cildo Meireles, Waltercio Caldas, Tunga, Regina Silveira, Beatriz Milhazes, Adriana Varejão, etc). It is home to private collections such as the Gilberto Chateaubriand Collection (6,600 artworks) and Joaquim Paiva Collection (1,800 photographs). MAM's building was designed in 1958 by Affonso Eduardo Reidy and its magnificent gardens, by Roberto Burle-Marx.

For more information on the history of the MAM Rio building, please visit [Architecture and Construction](#). You can also find artistic representations of the city of Rio de Janeiro from the MAM collection at [A Rio Museum](#). More works found at MAM-Rio are available [here](#).

Bienal de São Paulo

The Fundação Bienal de São Paulo is an artistic and educational institution, founded in 1962 by Francisco Matarazzo Sobrinho. The foundation has produced the Bienal de São Paulo (São Paulo Biennial) – the second oldest art biennial in the world, created in 1951 - since its seventh edition. The Bienal is hosted in the foundation's headquarters, a pavilion designed by modernist architects Oscar Niemeyer and Hélio Uchôa in 1954. As well as the Bienal, the pavilion hosts year-round cultural activities and is home to one of the most important archives of modern and contemporary art in Latin America.

Visit their [website](#) for more information about previous bienals and activities. You can have a look around the pavilion on Google Arts & Culture's tour [here](#).

DANCE

Grupo Corpo

Grupo Corpo is a contemporary dance company founded by Paulo Pederneiras in 1975, Belo Horizonte. They are known for their fusion of classical techniques and contemporary re-readings of popular Brazilian dance forms, partnering with contemporary musicians who compose scores especially for them - these scores often inspire new dances. The company has created 35 choreographies and over 2,300 pieces since its inception, giving 80 performances a year worldwide, in countries as diverse as Iceland, South Korea, Canada, Singapore, the Netherlands, Israel, Japan and Mexico.

You can find out more about the group on their [website](#), and watch some of their live performances on [Vimeo](#).

CLASSICAL MUSIC

OSESP

The Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo (OSESP) is a Brazilian symphony orchestra based in São Paulo. They first performed in 1954, under the direction of conductor Souza Lima and Italian Bruno Roccella, followed by Eleazar de Carvalho, who directed the orchestra for 24 years. OSESP are famous for their diverse repertoire, and have made recordings for labels such as Biscoito Fino (Rio de Janeiro), BIS (Sweden) and Naxos, of works by composers including Francisco Mignone, Cláudio Santoro, and Villa-Lobos. Over the years they have toured Latin America, the US, Europe and Brazil, played at the BBC Proms and in Amsterdam's Concertgebouw; they also do annual tours of the state of São Paulo, performing concerts and running workshops for more than 70 thousand people.

More information about OSESP can be found on their [website](#), as well as a selection of their performances on their [Youtube channel](#).

Minas Gerais Philharmonic Orchestra

The Minas Gerais Philharmonic Orchestra was formed in 2008 to promote orchestral music in Brazil and abroad. Led by music director and conductor Fabio Mechetti, the orchestra comprises 90 musicians from Brazil, Europe, Asia and the Americas, who rehearse and perform at the Minas Gerais Hall, Belo Horizonte. The orchestra is committed to fostering Brazilian talent, commissioning new music each season and hosting annual workshops for young conductors and composers. In 2018, they performed Alberto Nepomuceno's Symphony in G Minor, released by Naxos as the first album of the project 'The Music of Brazil', conceived by the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Visit the Minas Gerais Philharmonic Orchestra [website](#) for more, including a [virtual tour](#) of the Minas Gerais Hall. You can find out more about the orchestra's Nepomuceno performance on [Naxos' Youtube channel](#).

LITERATURE

National Library

The National Library (NL) is the agency responsible for the capturing, storage, preservation and diffusion of Brazilian intellectual production. The National Library is the oldest cultural institution in Brazil, over 200 years old, and is home to approximately 9 million items.

Visit the National Library [website](#) and the [BN Institutional Portal](#) to find more about online catalogues and content.