



Southbank Centre  
Belvedere Road  
London  
SE1 8XX

T +44 (0)20 7921 0888  
press@southbankcentre.co.uk  
www.southbankcentre.co.uk

26 May 2010

## A WEALTH OF BRAZILIAN TALENT COMES TO LONDON FOR FESTIVAL BRAZIL

Southbank Centre and HSBC present **Festival Brazil**, a major celebration of the arts and culture of today's Brazil, bringing together a rich and varied programme of music, visual arts, dance, literature, debates and performances across the site. Throughout the summer from **19 June to 5 September 2010** events take place indoors and outdoors including at the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Hayward Gallery, Purcell Room and along the riverfront.

Over three months Festival Brazil brings together a wealth of established Brazilian musicians, performers and artists including **AfroReggae, Arnaldo Antunes, Maria Bethânia, Gilberto Gil, Os Mutantes** and **Tom Zé & Band**, and **Sócrates**, alongside new talent including musicians **Mc Marechal** and **Mart'nália**; graphic artists **Fábio Moon** and **Gabriel Bá**; writers **João Paulo Cuenca** and **Tatiana Salem Levy**; chef, **Jose Barattino**; and **The Youth Orchestra of Bahia**. The Hayward Gallery will be transformed with two major exhibitions – **Ernesto Neto: The Edges of the World** and **The New Décor** – and the Royal Festival Hall will be garlanded with an installation of hundreds of yellow streamers by designer, **Gringo Cardia**. There will be three debates providing a unique opportunity to hear leading artists, activists and thinkers discussing what Brazil is thinking and talking about today. At E4 Udderbelly, **Brazil! Brazil!** combines the extraordinary martial art of capoeira, with music, dance and Brazilian street football. Throughout Festival Brazil there will be free events, performances and family workshops, complemented by a celebration of Brazilian food and drink at venues across the site, creating a carnival atmosphere at Southbank Centre this summer.

### MUSIC

- Legendary figures of the *Tropicália* movement, a brief explosion of musical, cultural and political activity in 1960s Brazil – **Gilberto Gil** (21 July), **Maria Bethânia** (17 July), **Os Mutantes** and **Tom Zé & Band** (18 July) – are all performing at the Royal Festival Hall as part of Festival Brazil.



Sponsored by



Patron: Her Majesty The Queen. Chairman: Rick Haythornthwaite.  
Chief Executive: Alan Bishop. Artistic Director: Jude Kelly OBE  
Southbank Centre is a Registered Charity No.298909  
Trustee: Southbank Centre Limited, Registered in England No.2238415

- One of Brazil's most exciting new talents, singer and musician **Mart'nália** will bring her distinctive voice to a wider audience when she performs at the Queen Elizabeth Hall (10 July).
- Inspirational Brazilian cultural group **AfroReggae** bring their joyous musical mix of Brazilian drums fused with dance and reggae, straight from the favelas of Rio de Janeiro. They will take over the site with performances, drumming workshops and outdoor showcases (23-25 July).
- Brazilian Hip Hop star, **Mc Marechal** joins forces with **Akala**, founder of Hip Hop Shakespeare for an outdoor performance (7 August).
- Brazil's inspiring and energetic **Youth Orchestra of Bahia** makes its first UK appearance with a programme of music from across the Americas (7 July). The Youth Orchestra of Bahia is the result of groundbreaking cooperation between the Venezuelan Government and the state of Bahia in northeast Brazil, making available the resources of the National Network of Youth and Children's Orchestras of Venezuela which produced the astounding Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra.
- Free performances by UK based Brazilian musicians on Fridays throughout July and August.

## VISUAL ARTS

- **Ernesto Neto** is transforming the upper spaces of the Hayward Gallery, both inside and out, with a series of immersive installations and sculptures in his exhibition **The Edges of the World**. Considered one of the most influential artists of his generation, Ernesto Neto also features in the Hayward Gallery exhibition **The New Décor**, an international survey of over 30 contemporary artists whose work explores interior design as a means of engaging with changes in contemporary culture. Both exhibitions run concurrently (19 June to 5 September).
- Designer **Gringo Cardia**, who created the set and props for Cirque du Soleil's touring show 'Ovo', brings Brazilian style to London, animating the site with Brazilian inspired graphic design, and transforming the Royal Festival Hall as never before with a spectacular 360 degree installation of bright yellow streamers, spanning out and down from the roof like rays of light (17 July to 30 August).
- Working with **Project Morrinho**, a social and cultural project based out of the Pereira da Silva favela in Rio de Janeiro, Southbank Centre is creating an outdoor favela, constructed using the signature Morrinho brick building techniques, with a group of young people from Stockwell (17 July to 30 August).

- In the Royal Festival Hall's Spirit Level there will be a display of self-portraits by young Brazilians from Spectaculo school in Rio and a local Lambeth school. The project is a collaboration between the young people, photographer Ellie Kurz and hairstylist Acacio da Silva inspired by the importance of headpieces and wigs in Brazilian culture. The photographs document the young people in wigs created from recycled materials and inspired by their favourite places (17 July to 30 August).

## PERFORMANCE AND DANCE

- Combining the extraordinary martial art of capoeira with the music and dance of carnival and the jaw-dropping skills of Brazilian street football, **Brazil! Brazil!** showcases all the power and the passion that is modern Brazil. Direct from the favelas of Salvador these breathtaking performers headline E4 Udderbelly at Southbank Centre (15 June - 18 July, previews from 11 June).
- Join the Paraiso School of Samba in a celebration of samba music and dancing as performers and drummers lead workshops and performances inside the Royal Festival Hall and along the riverside (21 August).
- Enjoy a traditional Rio Carnival party in The Clore Ballroom at the Royal Festival Hall with Samba singer **Janeiro Wantuir Tavares**, Samba dancers and DJ sets (28 August).

## LITERATURE

The London Literature Festival (1-18 July) this year celebrates Brazilian culture with 'Brazilian Words' featuring:

- **Sócrates**, doctor, social activist, writer, composer, cultural commentator and one of the world's greatest footballers in conversation with leading composer and writer on football, **José Miguel Wisnik** and chaired by **Alex Bellos** (18 July).
- Graphic novelists, **Fábio Moon** and **Gabriel Bá** will be speaking (5 July) and collaborating with a team of Southbank Centre's young curators on a special event. They will also be creating a mural on the external terrace, Queen Elizabeth Hall, which will develop throughout the summer (4 July – 30 August).
- Acclaimed author **Milton Hatoum** (17 July), three generations of female writers **Ana Maria Gonçalves**, **Patricia Melo** and **Maria Valéria Rezende**, and new literary voices **João Paulo Cuenca** and **Tatiana Salem Levy** (10 July).
- Cult poet and musician **Arnaldo Antunes** (15 July) will be giving a rare UK performance.

- Two events commemorating two diverse female writers. Southbank Centre presents a new English translation of Marta Góes' monologue about the life of American poet, **Elizabeth Bishop**, who lived in Brazil between 1952 and 1967 (18 July); and **Clarice Lispector**, a key figure in 20<sup>th</sup> century Brazilian literature, admired for her writing style and great beauty, is celebrated by her biographer Benjamin Moser (12 July).

## DEBATES

In addition to the London Literature Festival programme, there will be three debates providing the opportunity to hear leading artists, policy makers, thinkers and writers talk about the creative solutions to issues facing Brazil today:

- **The Point of Culture** (21 July) brings together artists and culture policy makers from diverse regions and traditions across Brazil and the UK to discuss the power of the arts for individual and social transformation.
- **The Edge of the Future** (23 July) with José Junior, founder and director of Grupo Cultural AfroReggae, will discuss the pioneering role played by art and artists, working in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Salvador, in giving communities a voice.
- **The Drama of Violence** (24 July) with **Luiz Eduardo Soares** will explore the implications of knife crime, gang culture, drug lords and the role of the police, in both Brazil and Britain. Luiz Eduardo Soares was formally Brazil's National Secretary of Public Security, and Secretary of Public Security for Rio de Janeiro during the city's most alarming clashes between police and gangs. He will be in conversation with members of the prison service, the police and young people with a background in gang culture.

## FESTIVAL WEEKENDS

Every weekend from 17 July to the end of August, Southbank Centre will celebrate the energetic outdoor culture of Brazil with capoeira, mass samba and quadrille social dancing, carnival costume making, a celebration of Brazilian cuisine, and much more.

On 17-18 July there will be the launch of Gringo Cardia's installation at the Royal Festival Hall and the Project Morrinho favela, Capoeira workshops with performers from Brazil! Brazil! and a celebration of Brazilian music with performances by Maria Bethânia, Os Mutantes and Tom Zé & Band. And from 23-25 July Southbank Centre celebrates the groundbreaking work of AfroReggae with a weekend of performances, workshops and talks.

## FILM

- From 3 to 5 September Southbank Centre will be showing screenings of Brazilian documentary films in Spirit Level, Royal Festival Hall. The programme includes: *The Man Who Bottled Clouds*; *Born to Dance*; *Beyond Ipanema – Brazilian Waves in Global Music*; *Mamonas 4-Ever*; *DZI Croquettes*; *Straight to the Point*; and *Aurea*.
- Throughout August, BFI Southbank will present a survey of recent South American cinema, which coincides with Festival Brazil. The season features movie landmarks from the last 12 years, including Walter Salles' award-winning *Central Station* (1998), which kick-started a revival of fortunes in film-making in Brazil and throughout South America.

## EAT, DRINK, SHOP AT FESTIVAL BRAZIL

Festival Brazil will transform the site from June to September, with the restaurants and shops celebrating the cuisine and produce of Brazil:

- Award-winning Brazilian chef, **Jose Barattino** will bring a Brazilian flavour to **Skylon** during the Festival. During his guest-chef residency, from 21-27 June and from 16-23 July, Jose will be creating some of his signature, modern Brazilian dishes for the restaurant; while the Grill menu will include a selection of typical Brazilian dishes, and Skylon Bar will showcase Brazilian snacks and cocktails throughout the Festival.
- Restaurants across the site explore the cultural influences on Brazilian national cuisine, such as the Italian-Brazilian *Frango Empando* at **Strada**, or the Japanese-Brazilian 'sushi-samba' sushi boxes at **Feng Sushi**, and Brazilian dishes such as Xinxim and Moqueca at **Las Iguanas**. Try Brazilian grill specials at **Giraffe** and sample one of Brazil's most popular drinks *Gaurana Antarctica* at **Eat**, or refreshing Brahma beer and Caipirinhas at the **Central Terrace Bar** and **Concrete** at the Hayward Gallery.
- **Foyles** will be promoting the best in Brazilian literature and Brazil related books and **Southbank Centre Shops** will be selling a range of Brazilian inspired home ware, jewellery, accessories and musical instruments.

### Notes to Editors:

For tickets and further information visit [www.southbankcentre.co.uk/brazil](http://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/brazil)

Tel: 0844 847 9910

Watch a preview for Festival Brazil at

[www.youtube.com/southbankcentre](http://www.youtube.com/southbankcentre)

**Southbank Centre** is the UK's largest arts centre, occupying a 21-acre site that sits in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. Southbank Centre is home to the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and the Hayward Gallery as well as The Saison Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection.

### **About HSBC's Cultural Exchange programme**

As the world's local bank HSBC aims to encourage and promote the understanding of different cultures across the world through its Cultural Exchange programme. As an international financial services provider, HSBC has to operate across different cultures and knows firsthand how important it is to appreciate and understand the different points of views and values of both its employees and clients, in order to build successful working relationships. HSBC therefore believes that Cultural Exchange can generate important business benefits. HSBC embraces Cultural Exchange in its widest sense; from fine art to cuisine, from language and literature to dance, street arts and all forms of music. [www.hsbc.com/culturalexchange](http://www.hsbc.com/culturalexchange)

### **HSBC Holdings plc**

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide from around 8,000 offices in 88 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa. With assets of US\$2,364 billion at 31 December 2009, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. HSBC is marketed worldwide as 'the world's local bank'.

### **Press Images**

To register for high-resolution images from Southbank Centre's online press image service please visit <https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/about-us/press/press-images>

### **Press View**

Festival Brazil is launched at the press view for **Ernesto Neto: The Edges of the World** and **The New Décor** which takes place on 16 June, 10am – 1pm. For further press information please contact the Southbank Centre press office.

**For further PRESS information about Festival Brazil please contact:**  
**Sarah Ragsdale, Press Manager, Southbank Centre on 020 7921 0887 /**  
[sarah.ragsdale@southbankcentre.co.uk](mailto:sarah.ragsdale@southbankcentre.co.uk)

**For further information on HSBC's Cultural Exchange programme please contact:**  
**Emily Hewitt at Four Communications on 0870 626 9914 /**  
[emily.hewitt@fourcommunications.com](mailto:emily.hewitt@fourcommunications.com)