

SIDE GALLERY

JOSÉ ZANINE CALDAS



Side Table or Mesa Baixa

Manufactured by José Zanine Caldas
Brazil, 1979
Pequi wood

Measurements

89 x 10 x 47h cm
35 x 4 x 18,5h in

Provenance

Private collection, Brazil

Edition

Unique piece

Certificate

Accompanied by a certificate of authenticity by Zanine Caldas family as well as a certificate of provenance

About

This sculptural low table by José Zanine Caldas exemplifies the designer's deep connection to organic form and raw materiality. Carved from a single slab of native wood, the piece retains the irregular and expressive silhouette of the original tree trunk, highlighting Caldas' reverence for nature.

Created during his prolific years in Nova Viçosa, Bahia, the table embodies the designer's ecological ethos and his dedication to traditional craftsmanship. The tactile surfaces and dramatic voids within the wood emphasize both the material's vitality and the expressive possibilities of sculptural furniture. Caldas' work challenges the line between art and design, resulting in timeless, elemental forms.

Biography

José Zanine Caldas (1918–2001) was a self-taught Brazilian architect and designer known for his innovative use of native woods and his integration of craftsmanship and environmental values. Starting as a model maker in the 1940s, he collaborated with leading modernist architects and founded Móveis Artísticos Z to produce industrial furniture using plywood. Later, he embraced a more rustic and ecological approach, creating expressive wooden houses and furniture using reclaimed materials. His work bridges industrial design and vernacular tradition, leaving a legacy of sustainability and regional identity. In 1991, he was named an honorary architect by the Institute of Architects of Brazil.