

SIDE GALLERY

JOSÉ ZANINE CALDAS



Side Table or Mesa Baixa

Manufactured by José Zanine Caldas
Brazil, 1979
Pequi wood

Measurements

80 cm diameter x 47h cm
31,5 in diameter 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 low table by José Zanine Caldas exemplifies his iconic sculptural vocabulary rooted in Brazilian vernacular and ecological consciousness. Carved from a solid tree trunk, the piece balances a heavy, circular top on a flared, monolithic base, highlighting the organic character of the wood through minimal intervention.

Made during his prolific period in Nova Viçosa, Bahia, the table reflects Zanine's commitment to sustainable practices and manual craftsmanship. The raw, elemental quality of the piece bridges nature, tradition, and modernist ideals, reinforcing Caldas' legacy as a pioneer of environmental design.

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.