

# SIDE GALLERY

JOSÉ ZANINE CALDAS



## Easy Chair

Manufactured by José Zanine Caldas  
Brazil, 1979  
Pequi wood

## Measurements

58 cm x 90h cm  
22,8 in x 35,4h in

## Provenance

Private collection, Brazil

## Certificate

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

## Edition

Unique piece

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## About

This easy chair by José Zanine Caldas exemplifies his raw, sculptural design language rooted in nature and vernacular traditions. Hand-carved from a single block of solid wood, the piece combines sharp geometric volume with an elegantly curved high back, creating a monolithic yet ergonomic presence. A rectangular cut-out on the side adds visual rhythm while reducing mass, a characteristic gesture in Zanine's architectural furniture. The rich patina and natural imperfections of the reclaimed wood—knots, fissures, and grain variations—highlight the designer's commitment to minimal intervention and ecological principles. Produced during his prolific years in Nova Viçosa, Bahia, the chair stands as a testament to his enduring legacy in modern Brazilian 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.