

SIDE GALLERY

SERGIO RODRIGUES



Table Lamp
Manufactured by OCA
Brazil, 1960s
Concrete, Aluminum, Linen

Measurements
44 × 44 × 80h cm
17,3 × 17,3 × 31,5h in

Provenance
Private Collection, Brazil

Literature
Soraia Cals, Sergio Rodrigues, Instituto Sergio Rodrigues, Rio de Janeiro.
Maria Cecília Loschiavo dos Santos, Sergio Rodrigues, Cosac Naify, São Paulo.
Ethel Leon, Design Brasileiro: Quem Fez, Quem Faz, Viana & Mosley, São Paulo.

About

Designed during the 1960s for OCA, this table lamp reflects Sergio Rodrigues' ability to transform everyday materials into objects of remarkable sculptural presence. The composition is built around two solid concrete blocks that form the base, contrasting with a slender aluminum stem and a generous cylindrical shade combining plastic and linen.

Unlike the expressive use of native hardwoods found in much of Rodrigues' furniture, this design embraces an industrial material palette that echoes the architectural experimentation of Brazil during the country's modernist period. The exposed concrete introduces a sense of permanence and structural honesty, while the aluminum stem provides visual lightness and the textile shade diffuses a warm, ambient light.

The lamp illustrates Rodrigues' conviction that domestic objects should combine utility with sculptural quality. Its balanced proportions, restrained geometry, and direct expression of materials reveal the same design principles that characterize his celebrated furniture: structural clarity, tactile richness, and an emphasis on comfort and atmosphere.

Produced in relatively limited numbers, OCA lighting remains considerably rarer than Rodrigues' seating designs and offers an important insight into the broader scope of his contribution to Brazilian modern design.

Biography

Sergio Rodrigues (b. 1927 Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, - d. 2014 Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro) was a furniture designer and architect. In search of the Brazilian identity, Rodrigues broke away from design constraints and tried to harmoniously integrate the three areas in which we worked; architecture, design, and drawing. He joined the National School of Architecture of the University of Brazil (FNA) in 1947. In 1949, he worked as an assistant professor for David Xavier de Azambuja. In 1951, David Xavier de Azambuja invited Rodrigues to participate in elaborating the Civic Center of Curitiba. The architects Olavo Redig de Campos (1906-1984) and Flávio Regis do Nascimento also collaborated on the project. It was through these contacts that Rodrigues met Lucio Costa (1902-1998).

Rodrigues graduated with an architecture degree in 1951. He moved to Curitiba, where he founded Móveis Artesanal Paranaense, in partnership with the Hauner brothers. In 1954, the Hauner brothers hired him to lead the interior architecture section of the new company, Forma S.A, in São Paulo. During this tenure, he came into contact with other renowned designers such as Gregori Warchavchik (1896-1972) and Lina Bo Bardi (1914-1992).