



**Ruy Ohtake: unpredictability, design and furniture**  
**12<sup>th</sup> august to 6<sup>th</sup> September**

Conceived as a result of *Design Weekend*, an event that takes place in the city seeking to give visibility to the relationship between design, architecture and urban planning, the exhibition **Ruy Ohtake: unpredictability, design and furniture** expressly states the streams deriving from this dialogue. In addition to unveiling how architecture and furniture items are interrelated in the architect's language, the exhibition reinforces the purpose of Instituto Tomie Ohtake (ITO) in promoting initiatives that point out the specifics and intertwining aspects between these fields.

**Ruy Ohtake: unpredictability, design and furniture**, conceived by the architect himself and delivered by Instituto Tomie Ohtake and Boomsdesign, brings a unique cut in design as created by the author of renowned projects, including the following: *Parque Ecológico do Tietê* (SP) - Ecological Park of Tietê, Expresso Tiradentes (SP), Unique (SP), Renaissance (SP) and Alvorada (BR) Hotels, Residential Condo and Educational Center of Heliópolis (SP), and the Pantanal Aquarius (MS).

Particularly as regards this exhibition, the relationship between architecture and design can be seen in full by the visitor. When getting into the building where Instituto Tomie Ohtake is located, which is also signed by the architect, born in the City of São Paulo, one can observe the unpredictability of some forms, and how this extends to the design of the furniture displayed in there. In the very space and in the items made part of it, one evidences how surprise underlies Ohtake's decisions as far as design is concerned.

With the support of Mecal, Moora and Móbia Brasileira companies, the exhibition brings together about ten pieces, including four yet unpublished prototypes developed in the last two decades and intended for the most different uses – from chairs, benches, sideboards to the loveseats design. Worthy of notice that the furniture in concrete is already integrated into Ohtake's architecture since its very first project; this autonomous design using other materials arises from 1997 on.

As Priscyla Gomes - from ITO's Curatorial and Research Department (NPC) - remarks, it is possible to identify other aspects - in addition to the sinuous forms and intensity of colors – which bring Ohtake's design closer to his architecture. According to Gomes, in dealing with materials there stands a clear constructive analogy, in which the most distinctive elements are put at the service of his gesture." The curve of his metal profiles, present in many of the examples herein presented, reflect the same tangent points fetched on the structural solutions of his architecture. This is an intimate conversation between drawings that define so seemingly dissonant scales", she says.

Graduated from FAU – the School of Architecture and Urban Planning of University of São Paulo (USP), in 1960, the architect Ruy Ohtake, born in São Paulo, has impressed a language of his own in the urban landscape of cities in Brazil and abroad, with more than 400 projects. In 2007, he was awarded the Gold Necklace, the highest award of the Institute of Architects of Brazil. In addition to 25 other awards, he received the titles of *Professor Emeritus* of the Architecture School of Santos, and *Professor Honoris Causa* from Braz Cubas University. Its international recognition has made him part of the select group of invited architects for the 20<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Union of Architects (1999), in Beijing, along with Jean Nouvel and Tadao Ando. In commemoration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of FAU-USP in 2008 he was the guest architect to hold a solo exhibition in the large space designed by his master, Vilanova Artigas.