Music sings the Republic
19th June to 2nd August 2015

This exhibition presents part of the extensive and yet unpublished research work developed by Franklin Martins about Brazilian musical production, with themes inspired by political episodes or characters associated with them. The study conducted by the author evolved into a publication entitled *Quem foi que inventou o Brasil - a música popular conta a história da República* [Who invented Brazil? Brazilian popular music tells the story of the Republic], to be released in three volumes this June by *Editora Nova Fronteira*. This exhibition puts together pictures, videos, audio material and texts. Both on the book and the exhibition, the author evokes the scenes of each period by including contemporary songs. "At this very original work, the story is not only unveiled, but it is actually heard, in the most genuine sense of the word," writes Brazilian music scholar José Ramos Tinhorão.

For the exhibition – which, will travel to Rio and Brasília at *Correios* cultural spaces, in August and November, respectively - 80 different subjects and about 110 songs out of more than a thousand identified by Martins were selected. The whole set, curated by Vladimir Sacchetta and with scenography designed by Marcello Dantas, covers the period studied by the author, from 1902, the year the first phonograph records were produced in Brazil, up to the present days.

Martins' project brings our Republic sung in most various genres, ditties and *maxixe* popular songs, marches, sambas, hillbilly music, Brazilian pop music (MPB), Rock and Rap. These songs mark most varied facts, which are part of the following themes in the exhibition: *República Velha e Revolução de 30* [the Old Republic and the 1930 Revolution]; Getulio Vargas in power [*Vargas no Poder*]; Mass democracy [*Democracia de Massas*]; *Anos Dourados?* [Golden Years?]; *Ditadura e Resistência* [Dictatorship and Resistance]; *Vai acabar a ditadura militar* [The military dictatorship will come to an end]; *Que país é esse* [What country are we talking about?]; and *Eu só quero ser feliz* [All I want is to be happy].