

Brasília (1956 - April 21, 1960) JK's campaign pledge 'fifty years of prosperity in five'; UNESCO World Heritage Site 1987

Lúcio Costa (urban plan / superquadras) won international jury competition, 5550 entries, showed future expansion student/apprentice of Le Corbusier [**Ville Radieuse** (Radiant City) **blueprint for social reform, 1935**], **Ideal City** Unité d'habitation in Marseille, 1952 and **Plan Voisin** (Paris), **1925**
Arturo Soria y Mata's Ciudad Lineal (Linear City) for Madrid, 1895-1910

Oscar Niemeyer (buildings) student/apprentice of Costa

knew **Juscelino Kubitschek de Oliveira (JK: President 1956-1961)** as a Mayor

Designed **UN** w/ Le Corbusier (board of 10: General Assembly, Council Chambers, Secretariat Slab, Public Plaza, **1947-52**)

"It literally took our breath away to see the simple plane of the site kept open from First Avenue to the River, only three structures on it, standing free." – Director Wallace Harrison's assistant.

"beauty will come from the buildings being in the right space!" – Niemeyer

Joaquim Cardozo (structural engineer)

Roberto Burle Marx (landscape architecture)

Paranoá Lake Dam (east=sun rising, dawn): to create **water to drink**

Costa's Plano Piloto (urban plan): Cross/airplane

1. **Congresso Nacional (dome & inverted nest, cockpit)**

Supremo Tribunal Federal (Supreme Court)

Palácio do Planalto (President's office)

Palácio da Alvorada (president residence, Alvorada=dawn, peninsula on water, inspire)

Palácio Itamaraty (Niemeyer's ministry building)

Esplanada dos Ministérios (body, cargo, public plaza, cross paths)

MUSEU Nacional da República (dome & **spiral ramp**)

3. **Catedral Metropolitana Nossa Senhora Aparecida (hyperboloid, flower, poppy)**

Brasília Iluminada - Brasília Encantada (turbulence)

Memorial JK (tail)

Asa Sul & Asa Norte (residential superquadras, wings, lift the city)

??? Broad government scale / intimate residential scale for daily living **???** Based on **Parque Guinle, 1948-54**

(96) **Superquadras** Costa considered most important achievement.

Created **residential courtyard**, surrounded by **2 rows of trees**, **Not medieval walled fortification: breathes.**

No corners, no street, total flow, viable public spaces. Liberated from dense urban fabric.

Group of 4 superquadras create **sense of neighborhood**, with **shared schools, church, shops.**

Self-sufficient, communal society change.

superquadra: (11) apartment **slabs (6 floors max.) raised on pilotis in flight.** **Liberates ground from private ownership.**

Everything public/shared amenities, **egalitarian, without social stratification.** City of the people.

Grass carpets for leisure, trails/paths could re-grow [trails later paved in asphalt, urbanization]

wide space sense of nobility, tempering children with fencing, while still free to play.

Residential axis **catenary curve, hammock**, structural study, weight of body doesn't alter the curve of the hammock
1937 to 1972: Costa directed **study & protection** division of SPHAN (Serviço do Patrimônio Histórico e Artístico Nacional)
Brazilian Pavilion 1964 at Milan Triennale (reassembled for Venice Biennale 2012 by Lauro Cavalcanti): '**relax**' installation
balanced colonial history and modern future with hammocks from ceiling, between panoramas of beaches and Brasilia, heritage and future. Costa stated: "o mesmo povo que descansava em redes sabia, quando necessário, construir uma nova capital em três anos" = "**The same people who rested in hammocks knew, when necessary, could build a new capital in three years (in the middle of nowhere)**" [41 months]

Brasília Sinfonia da Alvorada (Symphony of the Dawn) 1960

Antonio Carlos Jobim (bossa nova) & **Vinicius de Moraes**

1. **Desert Flatland** (1957/8/9) Rough, empty [**blank slate, city with no history**]

2. **The Man** (conceive, build, live) [Visionary, **Will imposed on landscape, not organic, natural growth**]

3. **Arrival of Workers** (Arrival from NE) hopes, dreams, immigrant, west gold rush, communal, remote location.
[superquadras, **scale of living, breathe life into city**]

4. **Work/Construction** [materializing, **when time presses will build in three years a capital city**]

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Birds/trees

Concrete, not pleasant to live, brutal