

Intimacy exposed: Iberê Camargo Museum, by Alvaro Siza, Brasil [Expuesta intimidad: Museo Iberê Camargo, Alvaro Siza, Brasil]

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Resumen

The newly opened Iberê Camargo Museum, in Porto Alegre, Brazil, is a notable architectural example of cultural recognition by promoting artistic production and a people's identity from a geographic and social periphery. The building, designed by Álvaro Siza, accommodates the works of art of Brazilian Ibere Camargo and, as any other museum, studies the artist's expressionist work. Camargo's art was characterized by a local tradition and the creation of paintings that were thick and somber, but with a dynamic composition and colorful details that suggest secret hope. He obsessively reproduced objects from his childhood and distressing portraits of every day life. He now enjoys an ample international recognition, prolonged by the Foundation named after him, who as built this site at the border of the city. The 5-story building was constructed with exposed cement and has some of its premises as independent rooms, attached to the main building through concrete arms or hallways, and even under the neighboring highway. It is a narrow space used in a complex way. It has an exuberant and robust facade that guards the privacy and modesty of the exhibition. It simply resembles the torso and insides of a passionate and long-suffering creator. Maybe this is, finally, what Art and Architecture are: feeling one's own reality and intensely delivering it to others.

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