



**Land, Extractivism, Environment**

**Deforestation**  
Under Bolsonaro, Amazon deforestation and fires reach unprecedented levels (2019-2022)

**Oil**  
Billions of barrels of oil discovered in underwater reserves near Rio de Janeiro (2006)

**Extractivism**  
Discovery of diamonds as early as 1714 leads to the increased importation of enslaved people

**Brazilian Modernism**  
Construction (1956-1960) and inauguration of Brasília (1960)

**Urbanism**  
"Fifty Years in Five", President Juscelino Kubitschek's promise of progress and development

**Architecture & the Built Environment**

Modernity as a continuation of colonialism

**African Diasporas**

**Migration**  
Trans-Amazonian Highway introduced (1972)  
During the dictatorship, migration was encouraged into the Amazon onto the land of Indigenous peoples  
Massive internal displacement due to catastrophic droughts in the Northeast (mid-20th century)

**Indigenous Land Rights Movement**

Defends proposed or approved Indigenous territories, covering about 13% of Brazil's land area

First conviction of genocide (1996)

**Megadams**

Kayapó Indigenous people successfully protest electric company's mega-dam project in the Amazon (1989)

**Mining Industry**

Serra Pelada, principal opencast gold mine in the Northeast with over 80,000 self-employed miners (1979-1986)

Gold Rush ignites mining industry in Ouro Preto, Minas Gerais (1690s)

**Politics**

**Return to democracy (1985)**  
Process of abertura (opening) (1974-1988)  
Elections held in 1985 and new Constitution in 1988  
AI #5 (Institutional Act #5)  
Institutionalization of state-enacted torture and censorship (1968)

**Military dictatorship (1964)**  
Created by president Getúlio Vargas (1937-1945)  
Departamento de Ordem Política e Social (Department of Political and Social Order)  
tortured and killed Black people who fought for racial justice (1924-1983)

**Legal Rights & Citizenship**

**Indigenous Rights**  
Over 5,000 Indigenous people camp out in Brasília to protest diminishing land rights (2021)

**Fundação Nacional dos Povos Indígenas (FUNAI) (National Indigenous Peoples Foundation)**  
Founded to replace the Indian Protection Service (1967)

**Marco temporal (time frame)**  
Argument only recognizes Indigenous territories demarcated in the 1988 Constitution

**New Constitution**  
Gives some Indigenous groups land rights, protection, and the right to self-determination (1988)

**Women's Rights**  
Women gain the right to vote (1932)

**LGBTQIA+ Rights**  
Legalization of same-sex marriage (2013)

**Black Rights**  
Lei Afonso Arinos Prohibits racial discrimination (1951)

**Fronte Negra Brasileira (Brazilian Black Front)** founded, first political party dedicated to racial justice (1931-1937)

**Black Rights**  
Coalizão Negra Por Direitos (Black Coalition For Rights) founded (2019)

Sueli Carneiro founds Geledés Instituto da Mulher Negra (Institute for Black Women) (1988)

**Movimento Negro Unificado (Black Unified Movement)**  
Civil rights organization founded in São Paulo (1978)

**Colonization, Racialization, Resistance**

**Slavery & Resistance**  
Lei Aurea (1888)  
Last country in the Americas to abolish slavery

Strike in Ceará led by Francisco José do Nascimento (1881) to end the transport of enslaved Black people

Law of the Free Womb (1871) grants freedom to children born to slaves

Slave trade banned (1830)

Brazil develops the largest slave market in the world (19th century)

**Quilombos**  
Afro-Brazilian hinterland resistance communities, historically founded by people who withstood slavery and developed ways of life and resistance against coloniality

Early 1600s - 1694: Palmares, longest standing quilombo

40% of all the enslaved African people taken to the Americas arrive in Brazil, an estimated 4.8 million people (16th-19th century)

Discovery of Pretos Novos Cemetery in Rio de Janeiro (1996)

**Establishment of Atlantic slave route (mid-1500s)**

**Formation of a Nation-State**  
Portuguese royal family relocates to Brazil (1808)

Mem de Sá rule (1557-1572)  
Killed thousands of Indigenous people, created protections for Christianized Indigenous people, and fostered the African slave trade

Bandeirantes conquests (16th-18th century)  
Expanded Portugal's control over the Brazilian interior, captured and enslaved Indigenous peoples

**Early Indigenous genocide**  
Less than 10% of the estimated 2.5 million Tupi, Tapuya, and other Indigenous peoples who inhabited Pindorama in 1500 survived into the 1600s

First colonial contact from Portugal (1500)

**Pindorama**  
Tupi-Guarani term for the territory now known as Brazil

**ReAntropofagia (Denilson Baniwa)**  
Reclaiming Western representations of Indigenous people, decolonizing them through visual art

**Indigenous Survivance**  
Census shows the Indigenous population is almost 900,000 people, about 250 ethnicities, who speak more than 150 languages (2010)

**Amerindian Perspective (Eduardo Viveiros de Castro)**  
Indigenous conceptions reposition humans in relation to other living and nonliving forms; amounts to a different way of knowing, being, and becoming in the world

Museu do Índio founded in Rio de Janeiro by Darcy Ribeiro (1953)

**Afro-Transcendence (Diane Lima)**  
A concept and practice that enables the exercise of decolonial perspectives in the production of knowledge and education, celebrating and nurturing epistemologies and artistic practices of the African diaspora

First immersion program in creative processes focused on contemporary Afro-Brazilian culture (2015)

**Epistemic Justice**

**Ancestral Memory**

**Histories, Memories, Fictions**

**(Refusing) the Myth of Racial Democracy**  
Census shows Afro-Brazilians in the majority for the first time as people reconsider previous identification as white (2010)

**First Congress of Brazilian Black People (1950)**  
Abdias Nascimento refutes the myth of racial democracy

**"The Masters and the Slaves" by Gilberto Freyre (1933)**  
National unity through miscegenation

**Branqueamento (Whitening)**  
Large scale European immigration as part of the country's whitening policy

**Fictions of the Past & the Future**  
Historicism

**Superfictions (Peter Hill)**  
Visual or conceptual artworks that combine fiction and appropriation to mirror organizations, events, beliefs, businesses, and/or the lives of invented individuals, often with humor and a critical perspective

**Colonialist Fiction**  
Uncovering the colonialist historical fictions at play in the perceived construction of the Brazilian nation, erasing Indigenous and Afrodiasporic histories from the narrative

**Science Fiction**

**Reinvention & Revision**  
Regeneration & Metamorphosis  
Historically associated and influenced by conquest

**Cartography**  
Historically associated and influenced by conquest

**Reinventing Time**  
Something that is not linear; collapsing time and space across the Atlantic

**Dimensions of Memory**  
Perennial Memory  
Archaeological reference of human presence  
Ephemeral Memory

**Official Historical Archives**

**Critical Fabulation (Saidiya Hartman)**  
The act of revisiting and rewriting counter-histories of slavery and Black oppression in response to the silences in official archives, employing storytelling and speculative narration to redress history's omissions

**Affective Archives**

**Archive**  
Structural, Everyday Racism  
Racialized police brutality

**Scientific Racism**  
Augusto Stahl photographs (1860s)

**Fiction of Race & Racialization**

**Power of Visual Culture**

**Photography**  
Tool for Empire  
Tourism and romanticization of Brazil (20th century)  
Anthropological study of Indigenous and Black communities (19th century)

**Prints & Reproductions**

**Collage & Suturing**

**São Paulo Bienal**  
Second oldest art biennial in the world

35th Bienal curated by Manuel Borja-Villel, Grada Kilomba, Diane Lima, and Hélio Menezes (2023)

**First São Paulo Bienal (1951)**

**Recent Instances of Cultural Censorship**  
Queermuseum exhibition at Santander Cultural in Porto Alegre is censored (2017)

Rap-Rock band Planet Hemp arrested for allegedly promoting drug use in their music (1997)

**Mass Media**  
TV Globo's television newscast, Jornal Nacional, launched (1969) and lends support to Brazilian military government

TV Globo media company (formerly Rede Globo) founded (1965)

Television introduced in Brazil (1950)

**Art & Activism**  
Visual Activism (Zanele Muholi)  
View of activism based on the refusal of neutrality; extends to artistic practices and visualizing marginalized communities and worldviews

**Artivism (Jaider Esbell)**  
Art as a powerful force that can further the political fight for Indigenous rights, land, and culture

**Visual Sovereignty (Michelle Raheja)**  
A creative act of self-representation in which Indigenous visual creators revisit, critique, and reconfigure dominant narratives about their cultures

Véxoa: Nós sabemos (Véxoa: We Know) exhibition at Pinacoteca de São Paulo (2020)  
Curated by Naine Terena

Dja guata porá: Rio de Janeiro indígena (Dja guata porá: Indigenous Rio de Janeiro) exhibition at Museu de Arte do Rio (2017)  
Curated by Sandra Benites, José Ribamar Bessa, Pablo Lafuente, and Clarissa Diniz

**Visibility & Representation**  
Diálogos ausentes (Absent Dialogues) exhibition at Itaú Cultural, São Paulo (2016)  
Curated by Diane Lima and Rosana Paulino

Teatro Experimental do Negro (Black Experimental Theater) (1944-1968) founded by Abdias Nascimento

**Structural, Everyday Racism**  
Racialized police brutality

**Scientific Racism**  
Augusto Stahl photographs (1860s)

Need for structural changes in art institutions, not temporary or superficial measures

Dia Nacional da Consciência Negra (Black Awareness Day) celebrated since the 1970s to recognize the contributions of the Black community

**Spirituality & Religion**

**Hybrid Religiosity**  
Cabula  
Quimbanda  
Umbanda  
Macumba  
Candomblé  
Afro-Catholic confraternities

**Catholicism**  
Although declining, Brazil remains the country with the largest Catholic population in the world with 123 million people (2013)

**Evangelism & the Pentecostal Church**  
Jesusuits arrive in Bahia (1549)  
Become a powerful force in the conquest of Brazil until their expulsion (1759)

**Parliamentary Evangelical Front**  
Group of Protestant, Evangelical, and Pentecostal lawmakers

**Evangelical Caucus**  
As of 2022, 83 representatives in the house and 8 senators; if considered a political party, the Evangelical Caucus would be the 3rd largest in the Brazilian government

**Cosmologies & Cosmogonies**  
The way we perceive, conceive, and relate to the universe and the different worldviews engendered through those perspectives

**Afro-Brazilian Cosmologies**

**Bantu-Kongo Cosmologies**

**Yoruba Cosmologies**

**Indigenous Cosmologies**  
Cosmologies of the Indigenous peoples of the Upper Rio Negro  
Baniwa Cosmologies  
Jê Cosmologies  
Tupi-Guarani Cosmologies

**Kalunga**  
A line that divides the physical and spiritual worlds, alludes to the infinity of the horizon line in the ocean

**Spiral Time**  
Leda Maria Martins  
Poet and theorist of Afro-Brazilian religious performance

**Kimwandênde Kia Bunseki Fu-Kiau**  
Scholar of African culture, particularly Bantu-Kongo cosmologies

**Tiganá Santana Neves Santos**  
Musician and scholar of Afrodiasporic and Bantu languages and cosmologies