

Faceless: architecture of survival

1. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2003



New houses quickly built with wood and corrugated zinc by newly arrived northeastern migrant workers spring up daily at Rio das Pedras community. Rio das Pedras is a recent favela that was formed to house workers for the upper middle class neighborhood of Barra da Tijuca. It is controlled by a "militia" formed by policemen and firefighters, who expelled the drug gangs from its grounds. Episcopal churches and a local "neighbors association" attempt to maintain order in this fast growing community. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

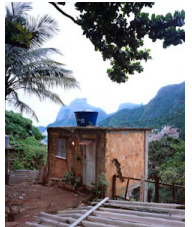


2. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2005



3. Bairro da Glória, Petrópolis, Brazil, 2005

House with walls constructed with zinc corrugated roof tiles, Bairro da Glória, Petrópolis, Brazil



4. Rocinha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2007

Some "favela" houses have the best views of Rio de Janeiro, this home looks at "Pedra da Gávea" (Top Sail Rock) mountain. Rocinha is known as Rio's (and the world's) largest "favela" and its name in Portuguese means "small planted field". Rocinha is one of the highest densely populated communities of the world but, because of its size, there are still bucolic, almost rural, locations. Rocinha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



5. Jacarézinho, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2001

Ivy covered house stands out in Jacarezinho community. This community has been long established having its expansion peak during the early 1970's at the time of the Brazilian "economic miracle" when many industries were prospering in the neighborhood.



6. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2004

Use of different materials (aluminum and wood windows), improvised plumbing, ad-hock placement of utilities are common in a "favela". My friend Edson is reflected on the mirror above the sink. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

7. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002



de Janeiro, Brazil

Young women chat in front of traditional wood house built on Providência hill side. The community established at Providência hill is considered to be the first "favela" built in Rio de Janeiro, it's first inhabitants being soldiers of the Canudos (1893/7) campaign who camped, and settled, near the War Ministry awaiting for their paychecks. Providência, Rio



8. Rocinha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2007

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9. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002

Ms. Margarida and her dog inside the one room wooden shack where they live. The community established at Providência hill is considered to be the first "favela" built in Rio de Janeiro, its first inhabitants being soldiers of the Canudos (1893/7) campaign who camped, and settled, near the War Ministry awaiting for their paychecks. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



10. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2004

Home and business are often built under the same roof. New houses quickly built with wood and corrugated zinc by newly arrived north eastern migrant workers spring up daily at Rio das Pedras community. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

11. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002

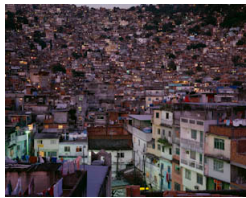


Young mother bathing her children outside new house recently built by newly arrived north-eastern migrant workers. Rio das Pedras is a recent favela that was formed to house workers for the upper middle class neighborhood of Barra da Tijuca. It is controlled by a "militia" formed by policemen and firefighters, who expelled the drug gangs from its grounds. Evangelical churches and a local "neighbors association" attempt to maintain order in this fast growing community. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

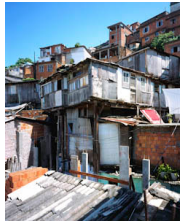


12. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002

The main access to the top of Providência hill decorated to cheer the Brazilian 2002 World Cup team. The community established at Providência hill is considered to be the first "favela" built in Rio de Janeiro, it's first inhabitants being soldiers of the Canudos (1893/7) campaign who camped, and settled, near the War Ministry awaiting for their paychecks. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



13. Rocinha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2007
Rocinha is considered the largest of the favelas of Rio de Janeiro. It spreads on the hills of São Conrado, near the ocean and close to the ever expanding burgeoning Barra da Tijuca neighborhood.



14. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002
Brick and concrete constructions are slowly replacing wood structured and walled shacks. The community established at Providência hill is considered to be the first "favela" built in Rio de Janeiro, it's first inhabitants being soldiers of the Canudos (1893/7) campaign who camped, and settled, near the War Ministry awaiting for their paychecks. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



15. Rocinha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2007
Rocinha's population density creates needs that are fulfilled with invention, creating intricate solutions for access and space. These stairways and clothes drying ropes are a good example. Rocinha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



16. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2003
Concrete houses are built on ground recently claimed of lagoons through landfills, often sink into the mud upon which they were constructed. Inhabitants often level the floor, build a second pavement and attempt to level their homes. Rio das Pedras, Riode Janeiro, Brazil



17. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2005



18. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2003
Traditional wood houses built on Providência hill side. The community established at Providência hill is considered to be the first

"favela" built in Rio de Janeiro, it's first inhabitants being soldiers of the Canudos (1893/7) campaign who camped, and settled, near the War Ministry awaiting for their paychecks. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



19. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2005
The community of Rio das Pedras was built on top of a salt water lagoon in the Barra da Tijuca area of Rio de Janeiro. Tide and improvised sewage constantly flood alleys. Children have no choice than to play in these unhealthy environments. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



20. Jacarézinho, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2001
Electrical and telephone wires create a tight web along the streets. Most are "gatos" (illegal clandestine) connections. Cable TV is often redistributed by drug gang controlled enterprises. The community of Jacarezinho bloomed near an industrial region of the city of Rio de Janeiro during the 60's. It is considered the second largest "favela" of Rio. All the industries were relocated elsewhere during the 90's, taking the jobs with them. Jacarezinho, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



21. Jacarézinho, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2001
Sharp edged house built at intersection of Rua das Flores (Flower Street). The community of Jacarezinho bloomed near an industrial region of the city of Rio de Janeiro during the 60's. It is considered the second largest "favela" of Rio. All the industries were relocated elsewhere during the 90's, taking the jobs with them. Jacarezinho, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



22. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2003



23. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002
Migrant workers are often the cheap labor employed to construct new buildings in which they cannot afford to live. Their solution is to invade public or private land, as near as possible to where they find work. At Rio das Pedras community in Barra da Tijuca, rich middle class neighborhood in Rio de Janeiro it means claiming lagoon borders. Land filling and unsanitary drainage add to the collapse of these important ecological environments. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



24. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2003
Dusk alley scene, old man in front of bar, CV graffiti stands for "Comando Vermelho" (Red

Comando) drug gang that controls Providência favela and charges "protection" money from businesses. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



25. Jacarézinho, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2001
Bar and snooker table in the community of Jacarezinho. this "favela" bloomed near an industrial region of the city of Rio de Janeiro during the 60's. It is considered the second largest "favela" of Rio. All the industries were relocated elsewhere during the 90's, taking the jobs with them. Jacarezinho, Rio de

Janeiro, Brazil



26. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2004

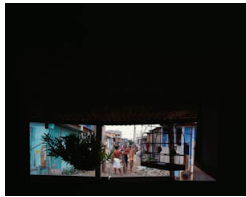
Christmas decorations!!!



27. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2003

Kitchen of a new houses quickly built with wood and corrugated zinc by newly arrived northeastern migrant workers spring up daily at Rio das Pedras community. Rio das Pedras, Rio de

Janeiro, Brazil



28. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2005

View from the inside of a wooden house in Rio das Pedras community. Caged song birds are common pets for people that migrate from rural environments. They are part of the sound landscape competing with blasting radios playing "sertanejo/country" songs.



29. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002

Different types of "recuperated" wood panels are used to fabricate wall of two-story house. The community established at Providência hill is considered to be the first

"favela" built in Rio de Janeiro, it's first inhabitants being soldiers of the Canudos (1893/7) campaign who camped, and settled, near the War Ministry awaiting for their paychecks. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



30. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002

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31. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2004

Houses are constantly being constructed, renovated and added upon. New arrivals and expanding families enlarge the community in a steady basis. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



32. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2005



33. Rocinha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2007

Rosina's densely populated alleys also serve to pass improvised water and sewage plumbing. Each house, or small group of houses, is responsible for their water and sewage connections creating a maze of PVC tubes, which are most of the time above ground and subject to breakage. Even though most houses

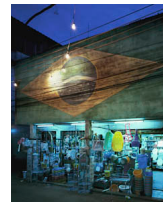
have clandestine electrical connections, to have electricity meters (paying only nominal fees) is important to establish one's address, which in turn allows for bank accounts and employment. Rocinha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



34. Bairro da Glória, Petrópolis, Brazil, 2005

Brick house built on the edge of the community under rock cliffs, which are prone to collapse during the rain season,

Bairro da Glória, Petrópolis, Brazil



35. Jacarézinho, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2001

Store front decorated with the Brazilian flag to cheer the Soccer National Team during 2002 World Cup games. The community of Jacarezinho bloomed near an industrial region of the city of Rio de Janeiro during the 60's. It is considered the second largest "favela" of Rio. All the

industries were relocated elsewhere during the 90's, taking the jobs with them. Jacarezinho, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



36. Jacarézinho, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2001

Stairway decorated with broken ceramic tiles. The community of Jacarezinho bloomed near an industrial region of the city of Rio de Janeiro during the 60's. It is considered the second largest "favela" of Rio. All the industries were

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37. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002

Traditional wood house built on Providência hill side. The community established at Providência hill is considered to be the first "favela" built in Rio de Janeiro, it's first inhabitants being soldiers of the Canudos (1893/7) campaign who camped, and settled, near the War Ministry awaiting for their paychecks. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



38. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002

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39. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2003



40. Rio das Pedras, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2004

Constant, uninterrupted land filling of the nearby lagoon is needed in order to acquire space for building new houses. Sometimes the constructions "sink" and are leveled time and time again. In this case only the top floor is straight, at least at the time when this image was made. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



41. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2002

Gravity defying constructions on the Providência rock hill side. The community established at Providência hill is considered to be the first "favela" built in Rio de Janeiro, it's first inhabitants being soldiers of the Canudos (1893/7) campaign who camped, and settled, near the War Ministry awaiting for their paychecks. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



42. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2003

Traditional wood house built on Providência steep rock hill side, ground floor walls and the roof are made of corrugated zinc and/or tin. The community established at Providência hill is considered to be the first "favela" built in Rio de Janeiro, it's first inhabitants being soldiers of the Canudos (1893/7) campaign who camped, and settled, near the War Ministry awaiting for their paychecks. Providência, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



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