

Thiago Tavares Abranches de Soveral, AA-PhD

Thiago T. Abranches de Soveral, AA–PhD, is an architect, urban designer, and researcher whose work bridges design practice, social housing innovation, and urban theory. His career spans Brazil, the UK, and France, combining academic, professional, and institutional engagements. He explores the intersection between housing, mobility, and sustainability, seeking to reimagine urban transformation through architecture as a social, political, and ecological project.

EDUCATION

2019 _ *PhD in Architecture*, Architectural Association School of Architecture | London, UK

2015 _ *MPhil Projective Cities* Architectural Association School of Architecture | London, UK

2005 _ *Master's Degree in Architecture* Bauhaus Dessau Foundation | Germany

2003 _ *Undergraduate Degree in Architecture and Urbanism* USU | Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

CURRENT POSITIONS

Head of Architecture and Urban Development | *BlendGroup* (2020–present)

- Responsible for the development of the institute's projects; Coordinates groups around topics such as: Social housing; Sustainable development; Metropolitan periphery; Urban violence; Favelas

Consultant *World Bank Group* | (2021 - present)

- Consultant for Affordable Housing IFC - International Financial Corporation (IFC-FIG-UP)

Architectural Coordinator +Lapena Habitar, *Fundação Tide Setúbal, São Paulo* (2020–present)

- Co-creator of the +Lapena Habitar Programme. Architectural coordinator

Founder and Principal Architect, *A040 Architectural Practice* (2020–present)

- Architecture firm specializing in small and medium-sized projects.

Current projects:

- Summer bungalow in the mountains of Rio de Janeiro - 35m² - Estimated budget: €250,000 - Estimated completion: 2026
- House renovation in the mountains of Rio de Janeiro - 42m² - Estimated budget: €180,000 - Estimated completion 2025
- Winery renovation in Ribatejo, Portugal - 280m² - Estimated budget: €750,000 Estimated completion 2027
- Project for a walkway and communal areas in a favela on the outskirts of São Paulo - 2250 m² - Estimated budget: €5,355,000 - Estimated completion 2027

Research Member, *UrCA* – Urbanism, Criticism, and Architecture Research Group
PROURB | FAU | UFRJ, Brazil (2021–present)

- Investigates intersections between urban theory, social housing, and the politics of mobility and transformation.

Seminar Tutor, International Program | *ENSA–Versailles* (2025–present)

- Class: Histoire de l’urbanisme et du Projet Urbain
- Master– 24 h/an.

ACADEMIC and TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Studio Master, *Faculdade de Arquitetura da Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro*
(FAU–UFRJ) | Brazil (2021–2023)

- At the Department of Architectural Design (DPA) for 3rd and 4th year undergraduate students.

Tutor, History and Theory Studies, *Architectural Association* | London, UK (2020–2023)

- Seminar tutor for 3rd year undergraduate students.

Visiting Researcher, *PROURB–CAPES PrInt*, Rio de Janeiro (2020–2021)

- At the Graduate Program in Urbanism (PROURB) of the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (FAU–UFRJ)

Coordinator of the *UIA2020RIO International Student Competition*.

- For the 27th Congrès mondial des architectes de l’UIA I was Coordinator of the International Student Competition. Organized by the Institute of Architects of Brazil (IAB) with the support of the UN-Habitat. There were 182 projects presented, 28 shortlisted, 3 winners and 3 honorable mentions.

Guest Lecturer and Critic at various institutions.

- Guest speaker and participant in multiple research seminars and lectures on urbanism, housing, and mobility in Europe and Latin America: University of Miami (USA), University of Navarra (Spain), ESARQ (Mexico), University of Hertfordshire (UK), Columbia University (USA), Bauhaus–Weimar (Germany), RUDN University (Russia), Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC–Rio, Brazil), ENSA–Marseilles and ENSA–Versailles.

PEER REVIEW ACTIVITIES

- Urban Planning (Cogitatio Press, Portugal)
- Paranoá: cadernos de arquitetura e urbanismo (University of Brasília, Brazil)

WORKSHOPS and COLLABORATIONS

- Intensification Métropolitaine: Marseille–Aix-en-Provence, **ENSA–Marseille** (2025)
- “Territories of the Commons – Rio–Xerem” **ENSA–Versailles** × **URFJ** (2023)
- “Design Strategies for Reuse and Restoration” **Bauhaus Weimar** × **PUC–Rio** (2024)
- Tabula Urbana, **Venice European Centre for Culture** (2021)
- Housing for All, Summer Workshop OLAB + Havelar, **University of Miami** | **SoA** (2024)
- Silence, Summer Workshop, OLAB, **University of Miami** | **SoA** (2023)

Selected Scientific Work

- Capillé, C. C., & Soveral, T. T. A.(2025). *Architecture of the Transit State*. Editora Machado.
- Soveral, T. T. A., Capillé, C. C., Pereira, A., & Marques, L. (2025). When Cheap is Expensive: Six Critical Points for Advancing Affordable Housing in Brazil. In *AMAG Pocket Book 08 – The City as a Stage*. AMAG.
- Soveral, T. T. A., & Capillé, C. C. (2025). Housing Violence: The Creation of the Capital of Security. In *From the City as Project to the City Project, Vol. 2: The City Project – XXI Century*. Springer Nature (forthcoming).
- Soveral, T.A.d; Capillé, C. Occuper l'Architecture: Entretien avec Carmen Silva. In: *Dérivations n10: Habiter en Comun(s)*. Bruxelles: UrbAgora, 2025. pp.145-165
- Soveral, T. T. A., Capillé, C. C., Pereira, A., Marques, L., Andrade, I., Dytz, G., & Pereira, M. R. G. (forthcoming). Architectural and Spatial Elements for the Inclusion of Economically Vulnerable Families in Social Housing Projects. Fundação Tide Setúbal / CITI Foundation.
- Soveral, T. T. A. (2024). Favelas invisíveis: A produção cartográfica do Rio de Janeiro e a representação das favelas. *Paranoá*, University of Brasília.
- Capillé, C. C., Gonçalves, L., & Soveral, T. T. A. (2021). Infrastructure Collective: On Dependence, Disenchantment, and Diversion. *VIRUS, 22*, University of São Paulo.
- Soveral, T. T. A., Capillé, C. C., & Maciel, M. (2020). *Interruptores, multiplicadores e estimuladores comuns: 14 projetos para São João de Meriti*. FAU–UFRJ.
- Soveral, T. T. A. (2023). A produção de um novo modelo de HIS: o programa +Lapena Habitar e sua arquitetura. *ArchDaily Brasil*.
- Soveral, T. T. A. (2019). *Rio, City of Ghettos: A Study of the Impact of Violence on the Urban Form*. PhD thesis, The Open University / Architectural Association School of Architecture.
- Co-editor of the *COPIA* monographic series (E. UFRJ, ongoing).

B. Awards and Distinctions

- 2025 – As thesis supervisor – Final year project “Parque anfíbio Praia das Pedrinhas: Environmental regeneration of the coastal edge of Guanabara Bay in São Gonçalo” – Roger Marcus da Costa (FAU-UFRJ), Aroztegui Prize | ARQUISUR Santa Fé.
- 2025 – As Supervisor – Honorable Mention, SIAC – Tipologia Arquitetônica do Estado de Trasnito. FAU | UFRJ. Students: G. Dytz; H. Manduca; M. E. Rolim and C. P. da Silva
- 2024 – As thesis Supervisor – Final year project “Best Graduation Projects of 2023” – Arthur Frensch (FAU–UFRJ), ArchDaily Brasil.
- 2023 – Approved in the Public Selection Process for Adjunct Professor, Department of Architecture and Urbanism, State University of Rio de Janeiro (UERJ).

- 2023 – As Supervisor – Honorable Mention, SIAC – Architectural Typology of the Transit State, UFRJ.
- 2022 – Second Place, Public Selection Process for Adjunct Professor in Architecture and Urban Design, Department of Architecture, FAU–UFRJ.
- 2022 – Postdoctoral Fellowship (Junior Research Grant), CNPq (National Council for Scientific and Technological Development).
- 2022 – Approved for the CNPq Postdoctoral Program (PDJ 2021).
- 2021 – As Supervisor – Undergraduate Thesis “Best Graduation Projects of 2021” – Ariane Pereira (FAU–UFRJ), ArchDaily Brasil.
- 2021 – As thesis supervisor – Writing Prize, Ferial Massoud: “Cartographic Permanence? A Time-Based Reading of the Nile and Its Representations”, Architectural Association, London.
- 2021 – As Supervisor – Best Research Award, Center for Letters and Arts (CLA), by Cruz, M.; Lima, G.; Martins, I.; Frensch, A.; Alonso, F.; Monteiro, L., XLII Giulio Massarani Symposium for Scientific, Technological, Artistic, and Cultural Research, UFRJ.
- 2020 – Young Talent Fellowship with International Experience, CAPES–PrInt (Brazilian Federal Agency for Support and Evaluation of Graduate Education).
- 2019 – Second Place, Public Selection Process for Adjunct Professor in Architecture and Urban Design, Department of Architecture, Federal Fluminense University (UFF).
- 2019 – As Supervisor – Honorable Mention, SIAC–UFRJ, for Undergraduate Research Project (Larissa Monteiro), Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, UFRJ.