

VANESSA FERREIRA

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EDUCATION

Graduate Certificate in Art Education, 2025

Libano University. São Paulo, SP, Brazil.

Graduate Certificate in Third Sector Management, 2025

Libano University. São Paulo, SP, Brazil.

M.S. Urban and Regional Planning, 2012

Institute of Urban and Regional Planning, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

B.S. Architecture and Urban Planning, 2007

School of Architecture and Urbanism, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Arts, Space and Autonomy in Urban Peripheries (02/2025 – present)

- Investigating how creative and manual practices can foster identity, autonomy, and collective belonging in low-income communities of Rio de Janeiro. Leading the project's design, fieldwork, and theoretical framework.

Advisor (in memoriam) Dr. Robert Moses Pechman

Laboratório do Escândalo Urbano, UFRJ - Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

Evaluation of Minha Casa Minha Vida – Entidades Program (02/2011 – 04/2012)

- Analyzed efficiency and social impact of a federal housing program in Jacarepaguá. Conducted field interviews, performed statistical analysis, and presented findings to stakeholders.

Advisor Luciana Correa Lago

Observatório das Metrôpoles - National Institute of Science and Technology - Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

Self-Managed Housing Movements in Rio de Janeiro (03/2011 – 04/2012)

- Studied grassroots housing initiatives and their political tensions with government actors. Conducted qualitative interviews and data analysis to assess outcomes.

Advisor Dr. Robert Moses Pechman

Institute of Urban and Regional Planning, UFRJ - Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

Historic Building Restoration and Adaptive Reuse Study (06/2004 – 04/2005)

- Assessed renovation needs of a nationally protected UFRJ building, balancing architectural preservation and regulatory standards. Participated in planning, documentation, and site monitoring.

Advisor: Dr. Helga Silva - Architecture Lab

Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

Housing Improvement in Vidigal and Complexo do Caju Favelas (05/2003 – 05/2004)

- Examined thermal comfort conditions in informal settlements. Conducted housing assessments, resident interviews, and monitored infrastructure improvements.

Advisor: Dr. Mauro Santos

Housing Lab – School of Architecture and Urbanism, UFRJ - Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

RESEARCH SKILLS

Qualitative research design; Arts-based and community-engaged methodologies; Fieldwork in marginalized urban contexts; Oral history and interviews; Participant observation and reflective field diaries; Visual and spatial narrative analysis; Policy evaluation and impact assessment; Integration of craft, pedagogy, and symbolic imagination; Practice-based and material-driven inquiry; Curriculum design for arts-based and experiential learning environments; Facilitation of participatory and intergenerational learning processes; Philosophical inquiry in aesthetics, embodiment, and spatial imagination; Interpretation of socio-economic data; Application of phenomenological and post-critical theory in education research.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Art History Instructor (03/2025 - present)

- Teaching design history to underserved youth as part of a volunteer educational initiative preparing students for Brazil's college entrance exams.

PECEP, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

Design History Instructor (02/2017 – 04/2021)

- Taught design history in community workshops centered on creativity, critical thinking, and collaborative learning. Developed curriculum materials and organized exhibitions that promoted community engagement.

Studio Darte, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

Furniture Design and Woodworking Instructor (02/2017 – 04/2021)

- Designed and led hands-on courses using accessible tools and methods to foster creativity, autonomy, and problem-solving through individualized projects. Facilitated inclusive workshops emphasizing sustainability and social impact through craft, both in person and online.

Studio Darte, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Architect (02/2014 - present)

- Designed interior spaces integrating custom furniture solutions, developed technical drawings, oversaw execution, and collaborated with clients and contractors to ensure design coherence, quality, and timely delivery.

Studio Darte, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

Data Analyst - Social Programs (11/2015 – 11/2016)

- Conducted demographic and socioeconomic data analysis to support policy development for low-income retired workers, providing technical assistance to local governments and designing targeted empowerment programs.

Rio de Janeiro Social Security Administration. Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

Architect (06/2008 – 12/2008)

• Developed architectural designs for exhibition stands, managed production and logistics, and prepared technical documentation to ensure high-quality fabrication aligned with branding and client specifications.

H Camargo - Architectural display design studio. Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

Architect (01/2008 – 06/2008)

• Created executive projects for metro and hydroelectric infrastructure, conducted feasibility studies, and ensured regulatory compliance through detailed technical documentation and stakeholder coordination.

Arq. Line – Architecture and Consulting. Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

SCHOLARSHIPS

Graduate (MSc) Research Fellowship (04/2010 – 03/2012)

Carlos Chagas Filho Foundation for Research Support of the State of Rio de Janeiro (FAPERJ), Brazil.

Graduate (MSc) Scholarship (04/2010 – 03/2012)

Full Tuition Waiver, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Undergraduate Research Fellowship (06/2004 – 04/2005)

Institutional Scientific Initiation Scholarship Program (PIBIC) by CNPq, Brazil.

Undergraduate Research Fellowship (05/2003 – 05/2004)

Institutional Scientific Initiation Scholarship Program (PIBIC) by CNPq, Brazil.

Undergraduate Scholarship (03/2000 – 04/2006)

Full Tuition Waiver, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

AWARDS AND PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Talentos do Design – National Award for Design Excellence (2017)

Recognized as one of Brazil's Top Emerging Design Talents
Casa Shopping, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

Content Creator (2016)

YouTube Next Up Program, Youtube Brazil, São Paulo, SP, Brazil.

Media Representative – Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (2000 - 2006)

Elected Spokesperson for the School of Architecture during national TV appearances, UFRJ, Brazil.

Best Graphic Design Award (2004)

Recipient of the VI Graphic Design Award, School of Architecture and Urbanism – UFRJ, Brazil.

PUBLICATIONS

Manuscripts in Preparation

FERREIRA, V. D. From Flesh to Flame: Toward a Pedagogy of the Senses with Bachelard and Merlau-Ponty. (In Portuguese).

Refereed Journal Articles

FERREIRA, V. D. Poetic Painting of Afonso Pena Plaza. (In Portuguese), eMetrópolis Journal, 2011, v. 1, p. 53 – 68.

Book Chapters

FERREIRA, V. D. (2025) The Forces of Desire and Imagination: Toward a Pedagogy of Sensible Experience (In Portuguese). In *Challenges of Contemporary Education* (Vol. 22, pp. 395–410). AYA Editora.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

FERREIRA, V. D.; BORRMANN, R. G. (Ricardo Gaulia Borrmann). Public Asset Management: The Case of Capanema Palace (in Portuguese), XVI Week of Urban and Regional Planning, 2010. (Conference Proceedings)

FERREIRA, V. D. Housing in the Popular Imaginary. 2012. XVII Week of Urban and Regional Planning, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil. (Talk)

FERREIRA, V. D. The Production of Urban Social Movements. 2011. XVI Week of Urban and Regional Planning, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil. (Talk)

SELECTED EVENTS ORGANIZATION AND EXIBITIONS

CALIXTO, R.; **FERREIRA, V. D.** MADE Exhibition. 2018. Brazilian Collectible Design Fair - Pavilhão do Ibirapuera, São Paulo, SP, Brazil.

FERREIRA, V. D. OFICINA LAB Exhibition. 2016. A Furniture design exposition - Oficina Lab, São Paulo, SP, Brazil.

RANDOLPH, R. ; SIQUEIRA, Hipólita ; **FERREIRA, V. D.** Organizing Committee Member. 2012. I SEDRES - Seminar on Regional Development, State, and Society, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

NUNES, J; VAINER, C.; **FERREIRA, V. D.** Organizing Committee Member and graphic designer coordinator. 2010. XVI Week of Urban and Regional Planning, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

FERREIRA, V. D. Connections Exhibition. 2004. A Furniture design History - Iowa University, Iowa, USA.

FERREIRA, V. D. Faces Exhibition. 2003. A Furniture design History - Brazilian Institute of Architects, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

VOLUNTEERING

Consulting Architect (2021)

• Contributed to the design and construction of temporary wooden housing for vulnerable populations, collaborating with community and NGOs to ensure sustainable and culturally sensitive solutions.

TETO Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

Consulting Architect (2010 - 2014)

• Led participatory construction processes with favela residents and supported urban redevelopment strategies aimed at improving housing and infrastructure in underserved areas.

NGO Fundação Bento Rubião, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

Consulting Architect (2006 - 2010)

• Supported local redevelopment projects and sanitary infrastructure improvements to enhance living conditions in the *Vidigal favela through community-driven initiatives.*