

## THE ARTS

# top picks

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# THE ARTS

Although most visitors don't come to Rio for the ballet, the city does have some attractions for lovers of the arts. Dance, theater, classical music, performance art and opera have their small but loyal Carioca (residents to Rio) following. Cinema, on the other hand, is a bigger deal, with Rio being one of the leading film centers in Latin America.

Rio has produced a number of successful dance troupes, including the contemporary Companhia de Dança Deborah Colker, which spends much of its time touring abroad. A home-grown talent you might catch in town is the Cia de Dança Dani Lima, an avant-garde troupe that weaves provocative pieces together through dance and aerial gymnastics. Also keep an eye out for the Lapa-based Intrépida Trupe, whose talented acrobat/dancers bring surreal works to the stage. There aren't any spaces dedicated solely to dance, and performances can take place at many of the venues listed in this chapter. Rio's biggest dance festival, Festival Panorama de Dança (p22), is held in November. For classical dance, try to see a production by the Ballet do Teatro Municipal, which puts on highly professional performances at Rio's most venerable theater.

There's a long history of theater in Brazil, with literary greats from the 19th century, including the highly imaginative Carioca Machado de Assis, giving vision to the stage. Talents from the 20th century, like the great Nelson Rodrigues and more recently Gerald Thomas, have kept the flame alive, and you can still see some of their work on Rio's stages. There are more than two dozen theaters in town. Unfortunately, if you don't speak Portuguese you won't get a lot out of an evening at the theater.

In the classical music scene, Rio has several symphony orchestras and irregular appearances by chamber groups and soloists. The best venues are the Sala Cecília Meireles, with its excellent acoustics, and the magnificent Teatro Municipal. You might also attend a performance at the Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil or the Fundação Eva Klabin (p72), both of which host orchestral works periodically.

The biggest classical music festival is **Música no Museu** (Music in the Museum; [www.musicanomuseu.com.br](http://www.musicanomuseu.com.br)), held in museums, churches and cultural centers around town. See p171 for details.

For other festivals in Rio, see p20. See p160 for the top places to hear samba, bossa nova, rock and many other musical styles – and for background on the city's burgeoning music scene, see p34.

## Tickets & Reservations

### TICKETMASTER

☎ 0300-789-6846; [www.ticketmaster.com.br](http://www.ticketmaster.com.br), in Portuguese; 🕒 9am-8pm Mon-Sat

This international company sells tickets to shows at **Citibank Hall** (p166) in Barra da Tijuca and the **Theatro Municipal** (p94) in Centro.

Tickets can be purchased over the phone or online (you'll need Portuguese) and at **Modern Sound** (p118).

### TICKETRONICS

Map p76

☎ 3344-5500; [www.ticketronic.com.br](http://www.ticketronic.com.br), in Portuguese; **Modern Sound**, Rua Barata Ribeiro 502, Copacabana; 🕒 9am-8pm Mon-Sat

Tickets for a wide range of shows, concerts and dance performances can be purchased through Ticketronics either over the phone (Portuguese only) or through a distributor like **Modern Sound** (p118).

## PERFORMING ARTS

The city's theaters and concert halls generally stage many event types, with classical concerts, plays, dance performances, recitals, author readings and the odd samba concert filling up the calendar at the same venue.

### ARTE SESC CULTURAL CENTER Map p84

☎ 3138-1020; [www.sesc.org.br](http://www.sesc.org.br), in Portuguese; Rua Marquês de Abrantes 99, Flamengo

Housed in one of Flamengo's old mansions, Arte SESC has occasional classical recitals throughout the year. It also hosts panel discussions on various art and cultural topics.

### CENTRO CULTURAL OI FUTURO

Map p87

☎ 3131-3060; [www.oifuturo.org.br](http://www.oifuturo.org.br); Rua Dois de Dezembro 63, Catete

This hyper-modern cultural center and gallery space also stages dance performances