



RIO DE JANEIRO

UNESCO/UIA 2020 World Capital of Architecture

The International Union of Architects and UNESCO are very proud to have Rio de Janeiro as the first *World Capital of Architecture*.

This city is already widely known and much loved for the physical beauty of its setting, for its celebrations of life, and for its many contributions to culture—especially in music, cuisine, dance and literature.

Now, the world's attention will turn to Rio's architecture and this city's work to address the challenges facing so many urban centres today: providing decent housing for all people, eradicating poverty and exclusion, providing security and safety, finding public transportation that *helps* the environment, rather than destroying it, and ensuring equity and opportunity for everyone.

Now, we will see Rio de Janeiro not just as an important repository of the architecture that helped to shape the twentieth century, but also as a vital laboratory trying new ways to achieve social, economic, and cultural goals. We will understand and appreciate the contrasts that make up this exciting place, and the resources needed to make it better for all people.

Rio's influence as the *World Capital of Architecture* will extend well beyond our planet's 3.2 million architects—it will touch people from many places, backgrounds and occupations. We are proud and grateful to see so many groups—schools, public authorities, cultural institutions, citizens groups and others—take part in this wonderful programme.

With every wish for success, we send our warmest congratulations to Rio de Janeiro. We look forward to seeing you throughout the coming year, and certainly in July for the Rio 2020 *World Congress of Architects*!

— 10 September 2019

Thomas Vonier FAIA RIBA
President

UIA/ International Union of Architects

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ARCHITECTS

UIA GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Tour Maine Montparnasse

B.P.158 - 33, avenue du Maine - 75755 Paris cedex 15-France - Tél. : +33 1 45 24 36 88

www.uia-architectes.org