

BRAZIL BAROQUE
436 EAST GUTIERREZ STREET
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA 93101

**ENTERTAINMENT
DESIGN**

For Immediate Release
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**SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL SELECTS
BRAZIL BAROQUE AS VIP EVENTS VENUE DESIGNER**

(Santa Barbara, CA) Brazil Baroque, a Santa Barbara based international company specializing in the manufacture and import of distinctive home furnishings from Brazil, will design and furnish several VIP event venues for the 2005 Santa Barbara International Film Festival.

“We are excited and pleased to be working with the design team at *Brazil Baroque*,” comments Linda Baron, SBIFF Development Director. “The quality of the furnishings and the extraordinary energy and creativity that *Brazil Baroque* is putting into this project is especially fitting for our 20th Anniversary and our unique Santa Barbara venues.”

Andrea Fonseca, *Brazil Baroque*'s Rio-born owner and principal designer, has entered into collaboration with Stephanie Buyalos-Kaster, President of *SLB Designs of Montecito*, to transform three significant event venues into sophisticated and exotic habitats, staged for Film Festival Passholders and VIPs. The dynamic local design team has taken on the task with gusto. Buyalos-Kaster, a UK and Harvard-trained architectural designer who specializes in Feng Shui, explains, “We’re doing knock-your-socks-off livable set design inspired by the seductive beauty of *Brazil Baroque* furnishings and vintage Hollywood. My role is to bring in softness with floral arrangements and other touches.” Fonseca notes that Buyalos-Kaster has chosen to premiere her signature pillow line at the Festival, and it has been incorporated into several of the venues. “I think people will be intrigued by the character of the spaces we have designed for the Festival,” says Fonseca.

Featuring the warmth of hand-tooled, aged leather, the Hospitality Lounge at Hotel Santa Barbara, the Festival Hub, has been designed as a comfortable rest stop for Passholders and VIP guests to “feel at home” throughout the ten day Festival, which runs January 28 through February 6, 2005. An eclectic combination of furniture styles has been assembled from the *Brazil Baroque* showroom to achieve freshness against a composed, neutral palette. Richly patterned antique rugs, a variety of colorful

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decorative elements, and rare Brazilian antiques, themselves a genial admixture of the country's European heritage and its indigenous hardwoods, create an inviting international essence and compliment the hotel's existing tasteful interiors.

Bathed in candlelight on Festival Opening Night, the Mural Room of Santa Barbara County Courthouse will resonate with the "old world" glamour of 1920's Santa Barbara. Fonseca has selected *Brazil Baroque's Rosewood Collection* as the perfect match for the hand-painted, multihued walls that tell the history of the City. Inspired by 18th century Spain, the furniture line is noted for the deep ebony, polished tones of Brazil's most expensive woods that are brought to life by the craftsman's exquisite hand-carving. Antique rugs in luxurious regal blues and burgundies along with statuesque flora also attend the evening's nostalgic return to Santa Barbara's Golden Age.

As part of the Tribute evening for Annette Bening on January 29th, the design team will add rare antiques from *Brazil Baroque's* exclusive inventory to the after-party location at Hotel Andalucia. The centuries-old, commanding pieces are well suited to achieving dimension and texture and will mix admirably with the contemporary feeling of the just-completed hotel, which opened in December 2004.

"It is a wonderful honor to be chosen as the Festival's designers for these venues," says Fonseca. "Our goal is to articulate a stylish, heart-felt welcome." With the assistance of SBIFF staff, volunteers, local donors such as *Rugs & More*, *Lighting Boutique*, and *Brasil Stone*, and this design team's passion for their craft, there is no doubt that they will.

A silent auction of the furnishings at the Hospitality Lounge at Hotel Santa Barbara will benefit the Film Festival. Call the SBIFF office for details.

Brazil Baroque is located at 436 East Gutierrez Street, at the corner of Olive and Gutierrez, across from Home Improvement Center. For more information, telephone (805) 962-8868 or visit our website at www.brazilbaroque.com.

