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Eduardo SOUTO DE MOURA

ARCHITECTURAL MAP-GUIDE
Porto Region [english]



Eduardo Souto de Moura was born in Porto in 1952. In 1980 he graduated in Architecture from the School of Fine Arts of Porto. In 2011 he received the Pritzker prize, the highest distinction in the architectural profession. Speaking of him, Barack Obama highlighted "a career spent not only pushing the boundaries of his Art but going so in a way that serves the public good".

It was in the city of Porto, where he has always worked and lived, that he began his professional activity with Álvaro Siza (1975 to 1979), who is also a Pritzker prize recipient (1992), and with whom he still maintains a close friendship and work relationship. Both architects from Porto, together they built the international prestige of contemporary Portuguese architecture.

Between 1981 and 1991 he taught at the Faculty of Architecture of Porto. He has been a guest teacher at various educational institutions, including the Graduate School of Design, Harvard University and the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Section Architecture. Eduardo Souto de Moura sees architecture as an activity which is both artistic and political, and has intervened firmly in public on the role of architecture in social development.

Having built in different parts of the world, it was the city of Porto and its metropolitan area that from early on benefited from the excellence of his work. His houses, discreet towards the city, but filled with light inside, transformed the taste of the Porto middle class, that was thirsty for a modernity in tune with Portugal's integration into the European Community (1986), after years of isolation and post-revolutionary political instability. Within the field, his first built works constitute some of the most important points of reference in Portuguese architecture over the last 30 years. This architecture, which everyone can identify with, fuses the universality of the modern idiom with traditional Portuguese construction methods, particularly those from the North of the country. Hand-built granite walls occur alongside large glazed surfaces, sometimes transparent, sometimes reflecting the nature around them, as can be seen in Casa das Artes (1981-1991). The ample and generous spaciousness is transferred twenty years later to the Porto Metro stations, a commission which was carried out between 1997 and 2005. In their interior, the stations, enriched by the pale coloured handmade wall tiles and the dark and polished granite always surprise the patrons, examples of which are the stations of Casa Música and Paranhos. The buildings that he builds in the city,

try to complete it by means of their natural volumetries in function of the context and they enrich it with a new identity (Manoel de Oliveira's Casa do Cinema 1998/2003, Torre Burgo 1991/2007).

It is however in the public realm that the cities of the Metropolitan Area of Porto have most benefited from the generosity of Souto de Moura's architecture. The various interventions resulting from the urban insertion of the Porto Metro, either designed or co-ordinated by Souto de Moura, allowed for a radical transformation of the future of Portugal's second largest metropolitan area, bestowing on it extensive urban solutions, the quality of which is not easily matched elsewhere in the Country.

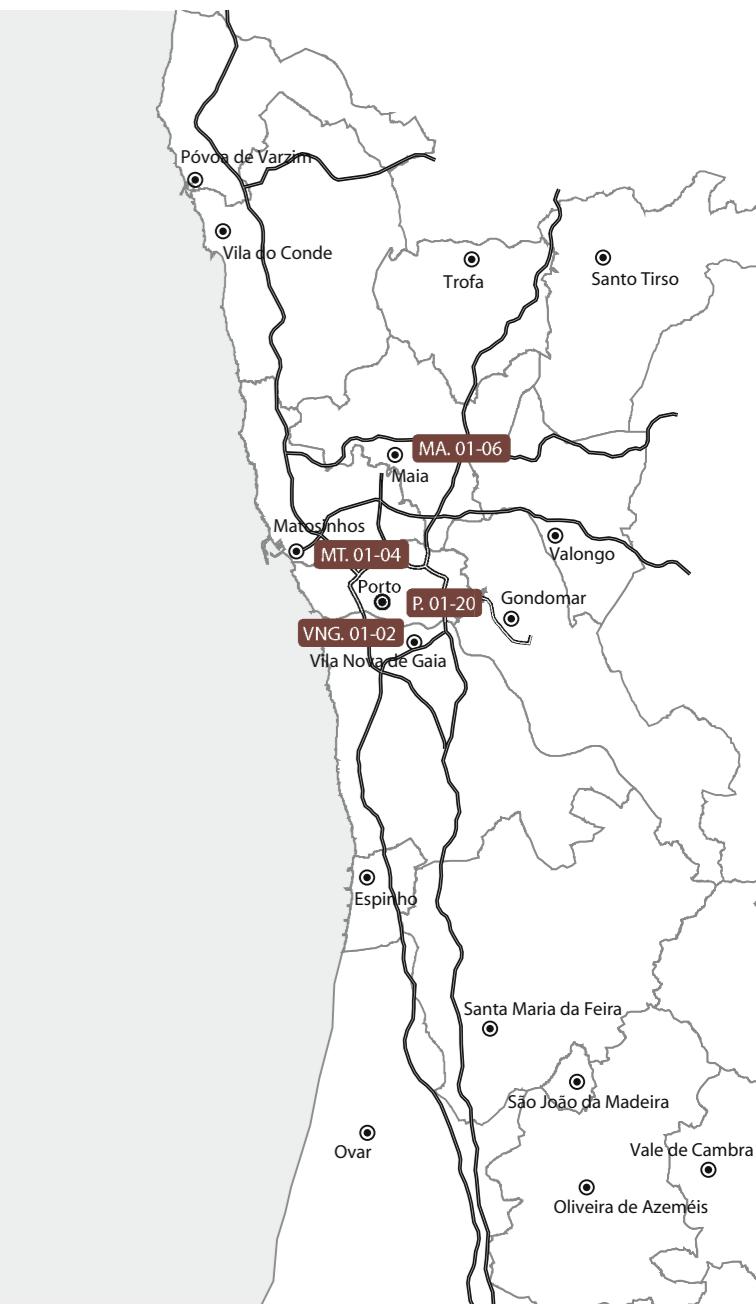
Teresa Novais



CASA DA ARQUITECTURA
www.casadarquitectura.pt

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- P.34 Casa da Música Metro Station 1998-2001, Av. de França 41° 09' 37"N / 8° 37' 43"W
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- MA.02 VNG.02 Rui Alberto Gallery 1996, Arrábida Shopping, Loja 164, Piso 1 41° 8' 17.51"N / 8° 38' 17.36"W
- MA.03 MT.02 Matosinhos Coastal Road 1995-2002, Av. Norton de Matos 41° 10' 43.31"N / 8° 41' 34.44"W
- MA.04 MT.03 Maia Central Park 1994, Centro Direcional da Maia 41° 14' 3.11"N / 8° 37' 30.13"W
- MA.05 MA.05 Silo Cultural Gallery 1998, Norte Shopping 41° 10' 51.30"N / 8° 39' 14.96"W
- MA.06 MA.06 Maia House 3 1994, R. Nicolau Nasoni, 155 41° 13' 39.30"N / 8° 37' 50.78"W



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- MA.05 Maia House 2 1996-2007, R. Nicolau Nasoni, Lotes 1 e 9 41° 13' 35.15"N / 8° 37' 44.45"W
- MA.06 Maia House 1 1990-93, R. Gonçalo Mendes da Maia, 126, Nogueira da Maia 41° 13' 37.81"N / 8° 37' 54.36"W
- MA.07 Quinta da Avenida Houses 2003-05, Av. da Boavista, 16-90, 43-110 41° 9' 50.20"N / 8° 40' 17.26"W
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