

## Artist of the Living Form

*By Suzy Hopkins*

This brilliant Brazilian plastic surgeon was world famous for his ingenious ways to fix the bodies of the rich. His dad was a surgeon as well. However, as a boy when he saw his first surgery he fainted. He started college at 15 going to Medical school in his home country, France, the U.S. and Britain. After a residency in Rio de Janeiro he opened his private clinic.

More importantly, he fixed cleft palates, bad burns children had received, and facial deformities one day a week for his entire career for poor people. At his public teaching clinic he trained others in his unique techniques. All these operations were free of charge.

This altruistic man was Ivo Pitanguy who died at 93, August 6<sup>th</sup> 2016, the day after he carried the Olympic torch in a wheelchair, having brought “serenity to those who suffer by being betrayed by nature.”