

# Scrawling down to carioca-country

FAME and fortune have been fast and furious for many of downtown New York's graffiti artists. But few can boast second homes in Brazil. One exception: Kenny Scharf, whose Brazilian getaway is profiled in the October issue of *House & Garden* magazine. In an extensive eight-page layout, his Brazilian digs are described as being more "Gilligan's Island than Gauguin's Tahiti." Still, Scharf — who jets the 12-hour commute from his North American abode in New York to his surfside compound on the outskirts of Ilheus with Brazilian wife Tereza and daughter Zena — isn't exactly roughing it. Fellow artist and Lower Manhattan dweller Keith Haring has helped Scharf cover virtually every inch of the tropical hideaway with his special kind of graffiti. Scharf works creating *objets* and canvases while at his Southern Hemisphere home but must whisk the finished works out of the tropical climate to avoid damage from the damp. Local beach dwellers are perhaps more skeptical of the actual value of Scharf's creations than hungry cosmopolitan collectors in New York are. According to the article, local residents "were astonished to hear that people paid money for them."