

# ***FICTION***

# ***&***

# ***NON-FICTION***

A hand selected list of the best **Portuguese** Writing



Department  
for **Supporting**  
the Publishing  
and Promotion  
of **the Author**

**GAPPA**

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## Hélia Correia

*A global literary sensibility. With acute historical and cultural awareness. Carries the ancient Greece tradition with her.*

Hélia Correia (1949, Lisboa), a graduate in Romanic Philology, is the 2015 recipient of the most important prize of the Portuguese language literature, the Camões Prize. Correia is considered a reference of the modern Portuguese fiction, and is one of today's most prominent national writers.

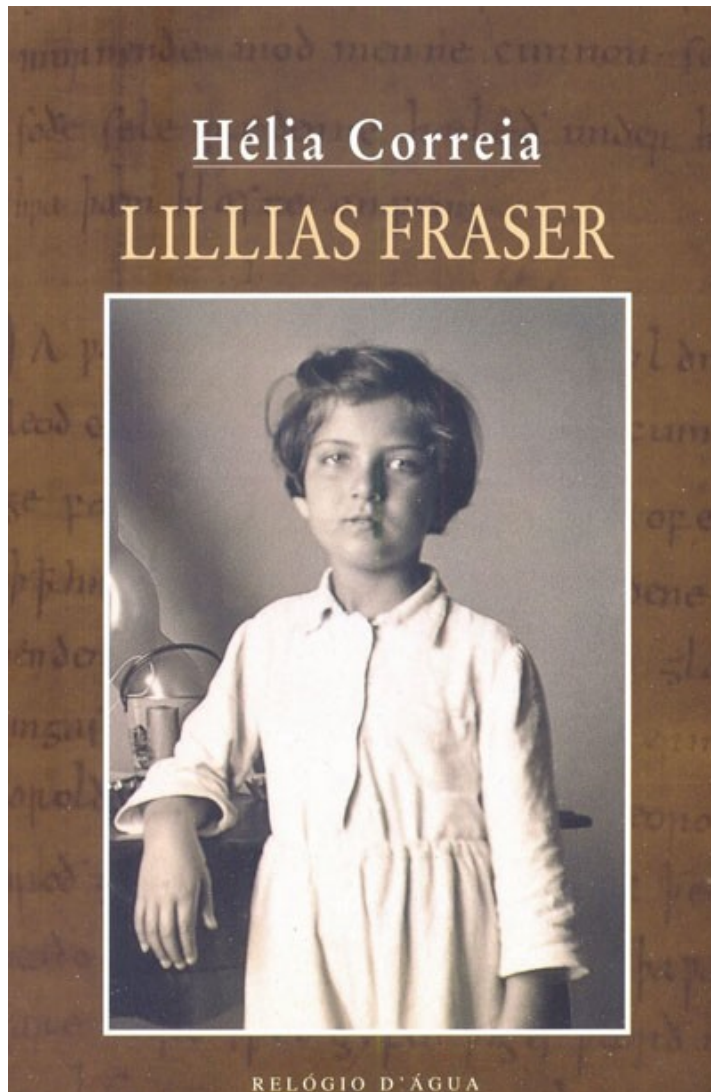
Correia adopts a socially committed approach in her works, usually showing great historical awareness of past world conflicts or of intricate political and cultural tensions where the poor, the refugees, and the oppressed are the main characters of her stories.

In her playwriting works, Correia's love for ancient Greece stands out as a major influence. Hélia Correia has also written poetry, children literature, and was the translator of Shakespeare, Adelaide Garcia Morales and Juan Carlos Onetti.

She was awarded several times for her books, having won the Pen Clube Prize (2001), the Máxima Prize of Literature (2006), the Virgílio Ferreira Prize for her lifework (2013), The Correntes d'Escritas / Casino da Povia Prize (2013), the Grand Prize Camilo Castelo Branco (2015), amongst others.



*Literary fiction*  
*Hélia Correia*



## **Lillias Fraser**

**Pages:** 292

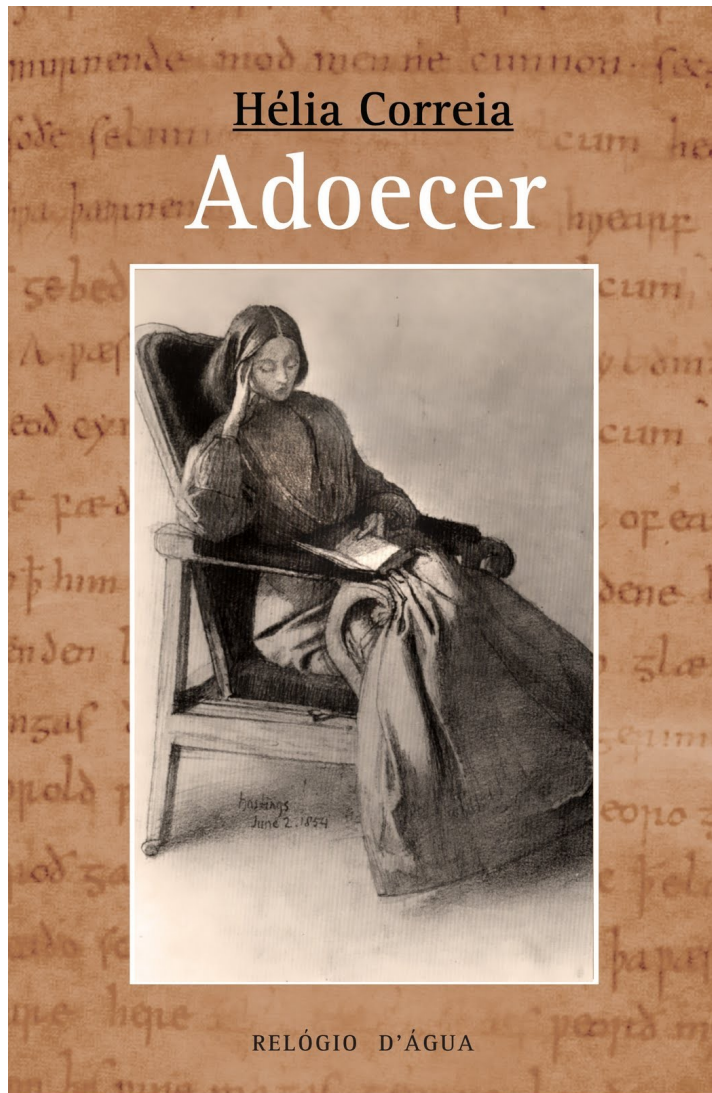
**ISBN:** 9789727086382

Lillias is a Scottish girl that came from a clan decimated in the Culloden battle during the fights with the Englishmen. While fleeing from the threat in her home town, she ends up reaching Lisbon where she takes shelter as an illegal immigrant; firstly being hosted in a monastery, and afterwards with a local family. When a catastrophic earthquake hits Lisbon, Lillias is forced once again to flee and moves to the surroundings of the capital. But the stream of events following that episode leads her back to her past, when she eventually meets by surprise the commander of the English troops in Culloden.

“The Plot of Lillias Fraser – which has a fortunate ending – turns out as one well developed shiver. It would make a period film; an epic. All of the eventual script can be found in this excellent novel.”

– Ernesto Rodrigues, *Expresso* (Portugal)

Literary fiction  
Hélia Correia



## Sicken

Pages: 294

ISBN: 9789896411602

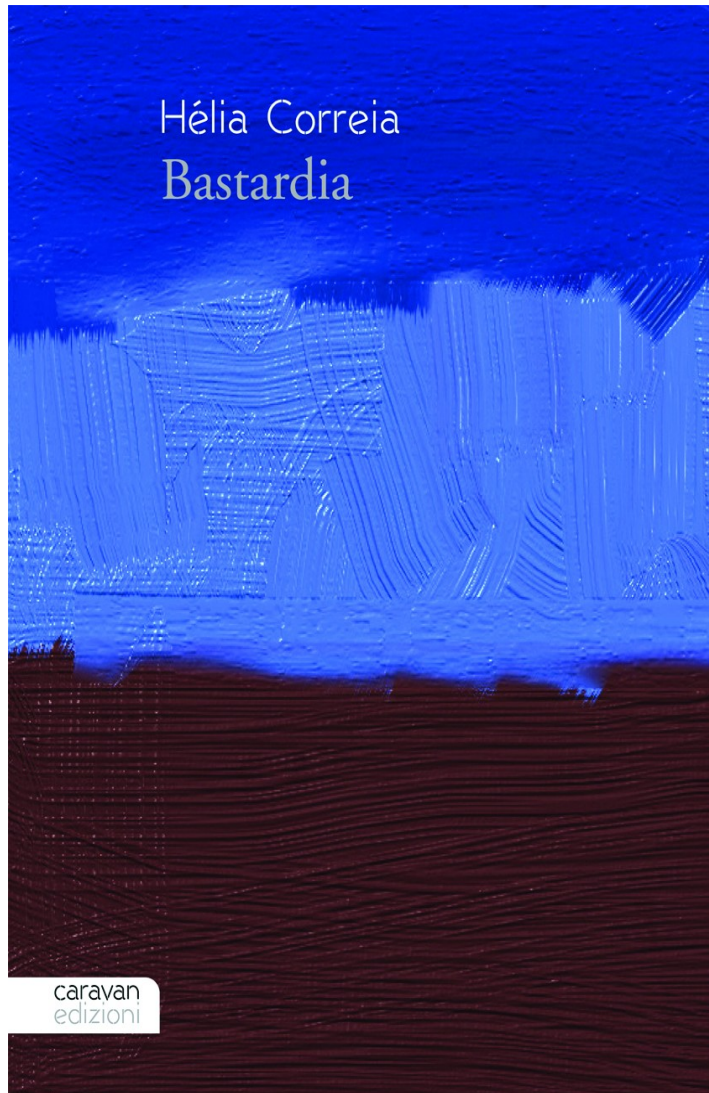
A biographical novel set in the XIX century England, portraying the vibrant love story between the model Elizabeth Siddal and painter and poet Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Elizabeth Siddal (Lizzie) is universally recognized as the Ophelia character in the 1851 painting with the same title, where a young and pure girl, floating in a river right before drowning, perfectly embodies the feminine ideal for the pre-Raphaelites romantics. But this novel unveils a much dynamic and free Lizzie that opposes all purity and abandonment, one who looked for the empowerment of women in her idealistic and conservative times and that can even be acknowledged as a proto-feminist for her original concepts on life and love .

**\*Literary Prize Inês de Castro Foundation (Portugal)**

*"She pulled her hair into a knot, was showing her legs, a combination that produced a curious asexual effect. Gabriel took a step forward and completed the rest of the figure, not in his drafts but in the canvas. The masculine characters were already in their end stages. He was posing as a court jester. The pre Raphaelites motivated situations of common assistance where, besides the exhibitions, there were sincerity. Deverell and Millais were getting cold, on their feet yet, still and losing enthusiasm. They saw in Lizzie the slim girl with irregular face lines not previously noticed. Walter's narrative, that took over by surprise even the own narrator, was losing it's influence and the bodies' temperature reacted to it. They would rub their arms, acknowledging the mercilessness of winter. They observed Rossetti and Miss Sid alone by themselves, in what could maybe be the encounter of the painter with the model. They felt discomfort, as if witnessing an intimate scene."*



Literary fiction  
Hélia Correia



## Bastardia

**Pages:** 82

**ISBN:** 9789727088348

Moisés was born in a poor village in the rural interior of Portugal, and it is only when he attends the funeral of his grandmother, in the nearby city of Leiria, that he gets to look at the sea for the first time. From that moment onwards it becomes an obsession that “took over as if someone had him abducted”, and while Moisés longs for that “big blue extending itself, similar to a blooming meadow”, he starts thinking of its magical properties and how it could cure his infertile wife.

But distrust and superstition from a catholic community will bring fear to Moisés, who have to face his own people in the name of the illogical passion for the sea.

*“Moisés felt a strange commotion that upset his uncles. In the kitchen, the ladies would return to the silence with which, at the beginning, they had received him. And the conversations at the stable, with the days being so short, resulted in a rushed manner. Little he could do to make the clients speak about the sea. He was already accustomed, anyway, to be alone with his own thoughts. He did imagine the day of the encounter with that big blue that resembled a flowering meadow spreading out. The obsession took over as if someone had him abducted. Everything he saw and listened was the product of a filtered lens, a frame of his perspective. He trusted his uncles would take him, sooner or later, to the Vieira. He didn't imagine that, with that activity they called work, there wouldn't be a moment to enjoy those summer pleasures, when the demand for horses and cars with opened roofs was intense.”*

## **Mário de Carvalho**

*Short fiction mastery with a dash of magic realism. Some call him the Portuguese Jorge Luis Borges.*

Mário de Carvalho (1944, Lisboa) is, most probably, the best living short story writer of the Portuguese language. A graduate in Law, he had an intense political activity before dedicating his life to fiction writing, with his departure to exile after the students fights against the dictatorship regime being one of the most important episodes in de Carvalho life, as well as the return to Portugal when the democratic Carnation Revolution of 1974 occurred.

Mário de Carvalho is currently published in 11 countries and have works on different genres: novel, short story, children writing and playwriting.

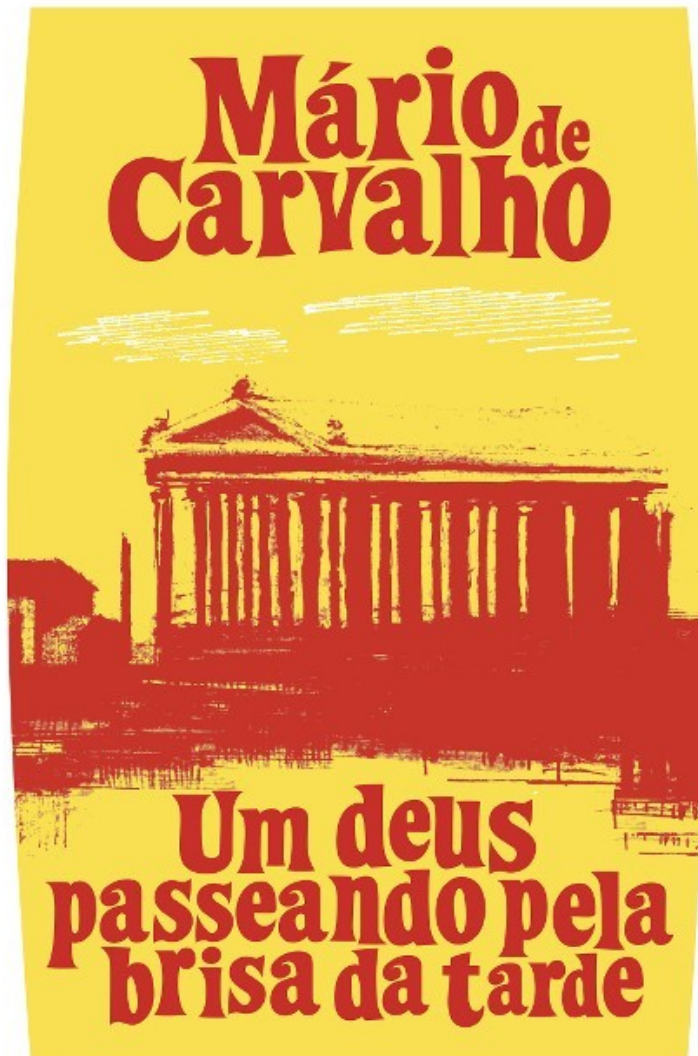
Owner of an impressive erudition and with a perfect command of the Portuguese language workings, he is the author of 25 books, nine of them having been multiple times awarded. His sophisticated irony, the universality of his themes and inventive abilities – sometimes reminding us of the fantastic atmospheres depicted by Jorge Luis Borges or inspired in the Portuguese literature classics – have resulted in translations of his books into the main market's languages: English, French, German, Italian, and others.

Amongst the most important prizes Mário de Carvalho won, it included: the Grand Prize of Short Story and Novel of the Portuguese Association of Authors, the Internazionale Città di Cassino Prize (Italy), the Pegasus Prize for Literature, the Portuguese Pen Club Prize of Fiction, and the Vergílio Ferreira Prize for his lifetime written production. More recently, in 2014, he was distinguished with the Order of Saint James of the Sword for literary merit.

Mário de Carvalho coordinated post-graduate courses in playwriting, as well as several workshops in fiction writing, and was a university professor for several years.



Literary fiction  
Mário de Carvalho



## A God Strolling in the Cool of the Evening

Pages: 360

ISBN: 9789720044334

This is a sweeping, magical novel of religious division, civil unrest, and the consequences of hubris set amid the pomp and decadence of the late Roman Empire. Lucius, the Magistrate of Tarcisis, receives warning that invading Moors are headed toward the city, but its fathers refuse to take the danger seriously. Meanwhile, within the city walls, an outlaw sect has appeared that signals its faith with the sign of the fish, and Lucius finds himself drawn to its beautiful, charismatic leader. When the city is besieged and its internal conflicts nearly cripple its defenses, Lucius's heart is pitted against his civic duty, and the outcome will change forever his trust in Roman justice.

**\*Pegasus Prize for Literature (USA)**

**\*Giuseppe Acerbi Literary Prize (Italy)**

**\*Grand Prize APE/IPLB for Novel (Portugal)**

**\*Fernando Namora Prize (Portugal)**

*"The sky is bright, night is slow in coming, time lags, life is dull, movement is languid. Beneath shimmering shadows I read and reread my books; I stroll, reminisce, ponder, wonder, yawn, doze, let myself grow old. I'm unable to find any great pleasure in this golden mediocrity despite the invitation and consolation of the poet who has given it his ear. Like the Orator, I, too, am embittered by idleness when activity has been forbidden. The days drag on, Marcus Aurelius has lived out his life, Commodus is emperor. I have endured what I have endured, a long punishment. How could I be happy?"*



Literary fiction  
Mário de Carvalho



## Fantasy for Two Colonels and a Pool

Pages: 240

ISBN: 9789720047151

Two colonels discuss the westerner European country at the edge of a pool, and where no topic is out of borders they bring up their participation in the colonial wars and how they fought for a grand Portugal that now, in the XXI century, seems doomed to its ridiculous provincialism.

As they speak, a series of characters will show up to prove the absurdity and little lives of these Portuguese people: the misogynous uncle who gives wise advice to his nephew; the lead popular singer Soraia Marina who's fundamental to the country's designs; or the football supporters group who moves around Portugal as a quadruped organism.

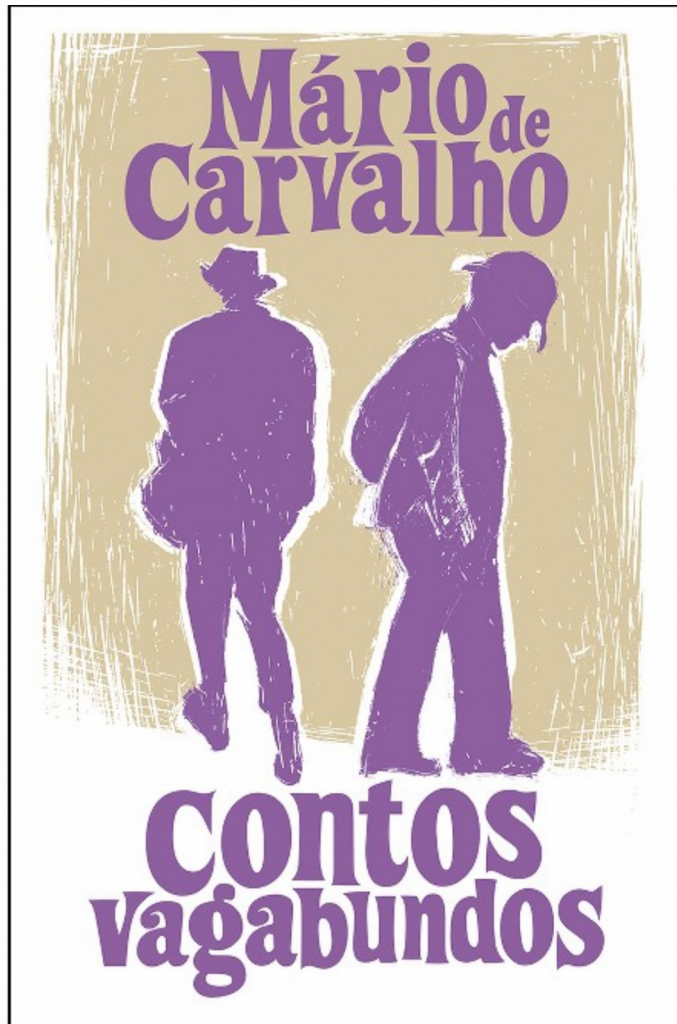
**\*Portuguese Pen Club Fiction Prize (Portugal)**

**\*Grand Literature Prize ITF/DST (Portugal)**

*"It has plagued the country a colloquial instinct that puts everyone in a frenetic state of blathering, in an anxious multiplication of duos, trios, ensembles, and choirs. From the pinnacles of Castro Laboreiro to the Islet of Monchique, whisperings are boiling over, conversations, voices, cry outs that stifle and cover-up the patience of some, the time of many and the good sense of everyone. The chattering is the cause of great foolishness, lax productivity and dull mood.*

*They talk, and talk, and talk, in every accent, in every tone and decibel, in every azimuth. The country talks, talks, is proficient in talking, and little of what it says has the slightest interest. The country has nothing to say, to teach, to communicate. What the country wants is to get numb. And blathering is the most practical means of numbness."*

Literary fiction/Short stories  
Mário de Carvalho



## Vagabond Short Stories

Pages: 176

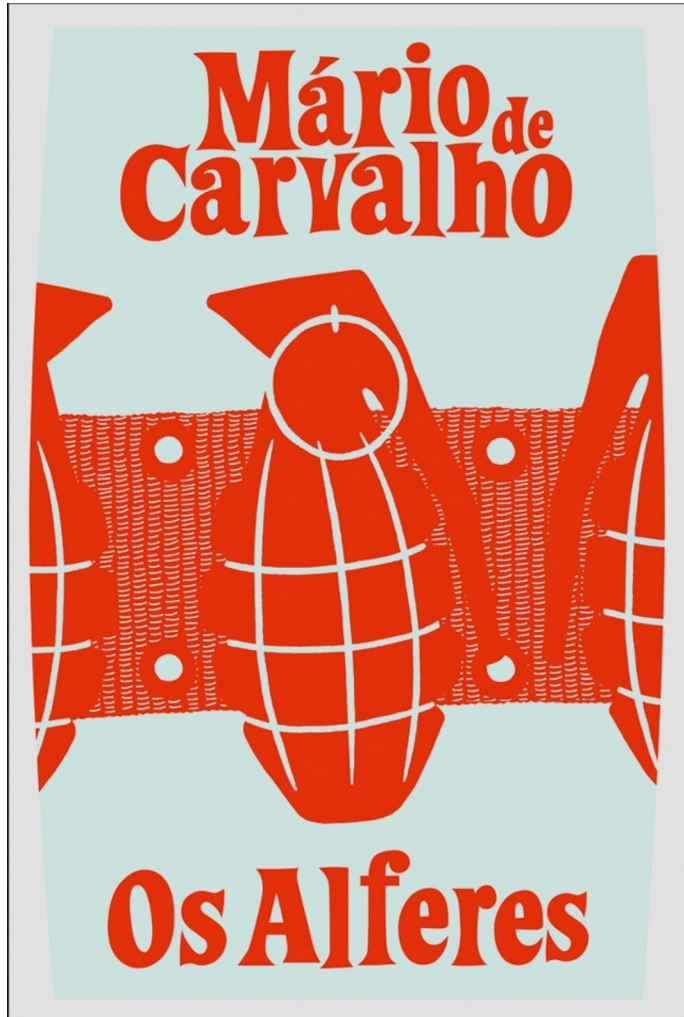
ISBN: 9789720046406

A mosaic of the small quotidian episodes that we don't care to look at, but which encloses all the absurd and fantastic meanings we carry with us in our day-to-day life. From the conversation of two friends who conclude that the mystery of God can be found inside a clam, to a municipality idea of installing a ecological semaphore that is man-powered through uninterrupted cycling, all our involuntary originalities are shed a new light in here.

*"I don't have employees because I don't like conversations nor the responsibility of paying salaries and filling out complicated forms. Lately the shop has been robbed a lot. Before, it was the holes in the wall. Some figures would come, badly disguised as old people, and rented the neighborhood floors in order to penetrate inside my goldsmith shop by night. But I was aware that those walking sticks were not authentic. The police didn't care about the alarms, they always considered them to be false. And, sometimes, they would even activate the alarms on purpose just for fun.*

*Then the robbers became more communicative, started using guns and knives. It was rare having a week where they wouldn't show up lamenting "this is a robbery" and picking some objects from the showcase. The police would catch them by the end of the street because they were invariably dressed in black and with a nylon sock in their heads. It was very lucrative for me having those robberies, as the authorities would give me back some extra gold chains and watches that weren't really mine."*

Literary fiction/Short stories  
Mário de Carvalho



## The Sub-lieutenants

Pages: 120

ISBN: 9789720044310

Thousands of young Portuguese soldiers were forced to go into the theatre of war in old African and Asian colonies. These men-children are portrayed in this book in a crude but ironic way, showing their dilemmas and hopes while considering the absurdity of actively participating in a bloodshed. In a vicious Angola or a mythical Timor, seductive betrayals and death plots are planned, while the deeds and sufferings of the Portuguese superiority complex of an empire saga resonates in every bullet.

These are three stories where a string of bitter humour is present in each event, even in the most violent or dim.

**\*Internazionale Città di Cassino Prize (Italy)**

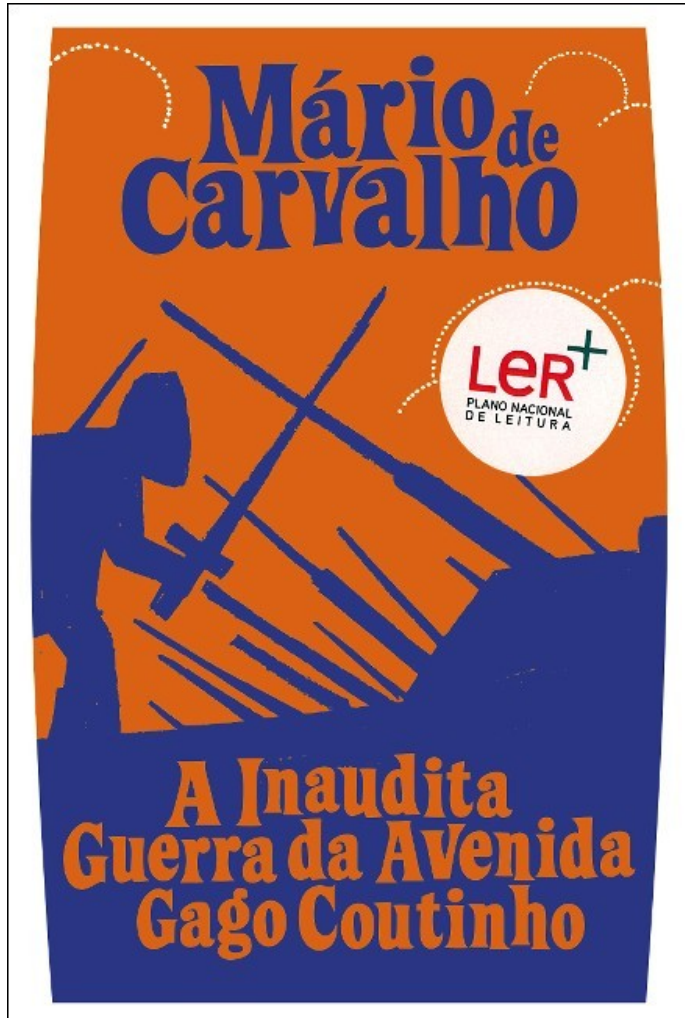
*"Another step on the dirt road, one less till Lisbon, said the sub-lieutenant to himself, admitting that at each step a piece of Africa was being left behind. The men walking rhythm, organized in the pathways in two columns, was in fact the pendulum movement of a clock that signalized the time to be back. Little troop's games... ways of not thinking and keep denying the fears.*

*At the whistle of a bird – was it a bird? – the sub-lieutenant, once again, realized he was singing to himself a profane version of a poem. It was verses of Sédar Senghor, which successive generations of university officials had turned upside down:*

*j'écoute le chant de l'Afrique lointaine et le chant de ton sang; j'écoute le sang de l'Afrique prochaine et le saint de ton sang; j'écoute le son de l'Afrique putaine et le chant de ton sein..."*



Literary fiction/Short stories  
Mário de Carvalho



## The Unprecedented War of the Gago Coutinho Avenue

Pages: 88

ISBN: 9789720044358

A horde of Berber knights from the XII century is suddenly transported to the year 1984, for Clio goddess carelessness who got sleepy during her work with the History tapestry and let both time lines get mixed together. Over 10,000 Arabs, riding their horses and fully armed, got so shocked with the new urban landscapes that they could only start praying to the merciful Allah. It is only with the help of a street policeman that History starts sorting itself out again: "Salam Aleikum", he greets to the Arab's commander.

*"The great Homer snoozed at times, Horace guarantees. Other poets allow themselves a nap once in a while, compromising the tune and the eloquence of discourse. But, unfortunately, it is not just poets who doze off. Gods' as well.*

*That is what once happened with Clio, the History muse who, tired from the immense millenarian tapestry at her responsibility, filled with greyish colors and covered with redundant and monotonous drawings, let go her blonde head and fell asleep for a moment while her fingers, by inertia, kept on the mesh. Two strings tangled together and on the drawing a knot was formed, contrasting with the smoothness of the fabric. It was then a confusing amalgam between the dates of June the 4th of 1148, and September the 29th of 1984.*

*The drivers that were entering Lisbon through the Gago Coutinho Avenue on that September morning, going in the Areeiro direction, got startled and in just a moment all that area became a loud humming of forced engines slowing down, brakes pressed to the floor, and a saraband of deafening horns. All of this mixed with clashing metallic sounds, horse neighs and guttural imprecations in high fervor."*



Essay/Literary fiction  
Mário de Carvalho



## Whoever Says The Opposite Is Right

Pages: 280

ISBN: 9789720046994

More than a manual on how to write fiction, this book teaches how to read as a professional writer should and be aware of the fiction devices in great literary pieces. The only rule to be learned is that “assertivism” is a charlatanism, and that the literary waltz is not always to be taken seriously: that writing must accompany reading, author shouldn't ignore the reader, and character and action should walk hand in hand, are all ideas easily dismantled by historic evidence . But the most practical issues of creative writing are addressed as well: How to begin a story, how to keep it interesting for the reader, or how to create a climax and develop engaging and “real” characters.

**\*Portuguese Pen Club Prize: best Essay in 2015**

*“To the author who doesn't have the time nor the patience for the intrigue or the plot meanderings, there is an interrogative conjunction that is worth taking with us: the “if”. French people call it the “magical if”, and every book that approach this matter mention the “what if?”. Frequently it implies opting for only one of the terms in a given situation. (...) should I follow the flowery path or the stones path? Should I head towards that light or hide and wait for what may happen? (...) It is necessary, though, to be cautious, so that the “what if?” doesn't bring along a “so what?”, or, even worse, a “who cares?”. (...)*

*It is said that a child, one of those that many times would observe Michelangelo work, saw him sculpting a horse head and asked: “How did you know that there was a horse inside that stone?”. If we agree to ignore the neoplatonist implications of the question, then subsides an almost infinite world of possibilities that could be extracted from the fertile rock, those are the lives, dreams and phantasies of humankind.”*

## Rosa Lobato de Faria

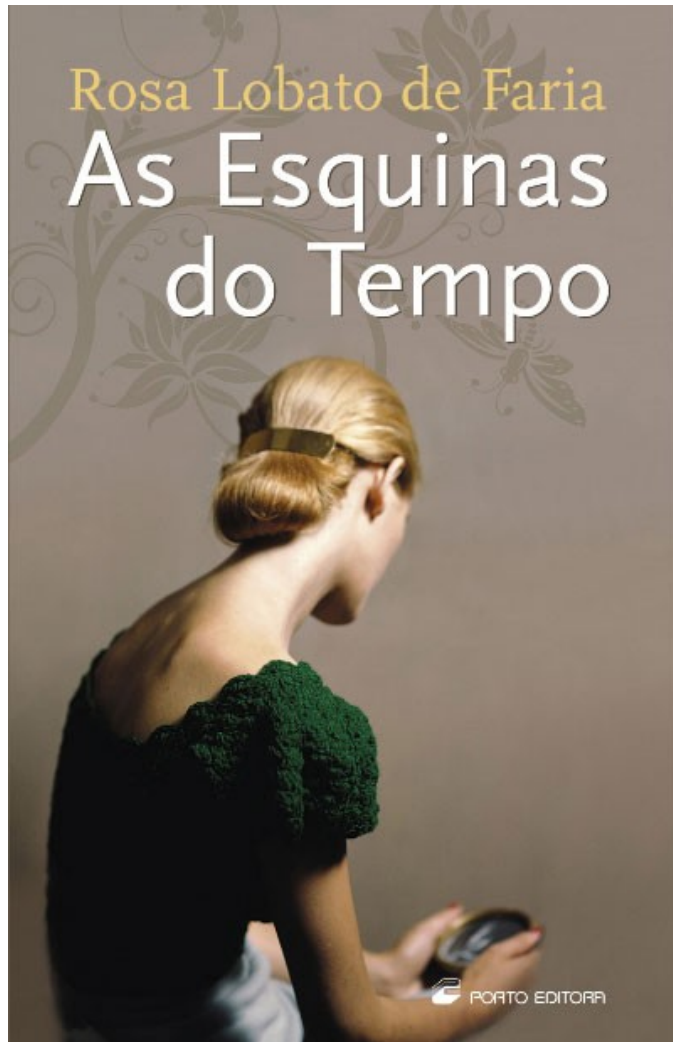
*The Historic, the Marvellous, and the Romantic mingles together to create easy-reading literature with a feminine touch.*

Rosa Lobato de Faria (1932 – 2010, Lisboa) is represented in several short stories book's collections in Portugal and abroad, having become notorious amongst the Portuguese public as a songwriter, screenwriter and for her acting roles for television and cinema. The author has about 30 works published in the several genres: novel, short stories, poetry, children literature and playwriting, and her writing style stands out for giving predominance to the marvellous, the fantastic and the emotive themes. The author was translated into Spanish, French and German, and is already part of prestigious publisher's catalogues such as Éditions Métailié.

An obligatory reference of the new Portuguese fiction, Rosa Lobato de Faria won the Máxima Literary Prize, awarded to the most relevant works by women writers who proved to be an asset and enriching factor for the national culture. Faria's legitimation within the literature universe of Portuguese writers would lead her to the education field, where she was a university professor and taught Poetry.



Fiction  
Rosa Lobato de Faria



## The Time Corners

**Pages:** 208

**ISBN:** 9789720041814

Margarida is a young teacher of Mathematics who, following an invitation to give a lecture in Vila Real, rents a room at a rural housing where a particular century old portrait of a beautiful young man is hung on the wall. The thing is the portrait resembles a lot to Miguel, her recent passion.

It is through some inexplicable mystery that the next morning Margarida wakes up a hundred years back in the past, living amongst her ancestors. And even though, as days go by, she begins getting accustomed to the new time frame, Margarida eventually meets the man of the oil portrait and a strong desire to come back to the XXI century and see Miguel becomes a priority.

*"She decided to drink her camomile tea to help conciliating sleep. Got out of bed with caution, trying not to look at the painting, but she felt those eyes as embers over her, burning her body, her breasts, her stomach, her thighs, burning her soul as in a sortilege. Her feminine instinct told her that she shouldn't be speaking about that event, not to Mariana, her sister and best friend who would call her crazy, and even less to Pedro, her boyfriend of increasingly less days. The tea had the intended effect and she slept until next morning. The cambric sheets didn't show any sign of violent desire or fights of passion, they were as smooth and tidy as if no body have ever slept over them. Margarida opened her eyes and felt like something very strange was going on with her. For starters, she wasn't dressing her pajama. She touched without looking and felt an uncommonly thin fabric around her body, similar to that of the sheets. She could feel the embroidered little roses on the collar, the neckline pleats. She was sure to have been wearing a blue pajama: both trousers and shirt. It was him, she thought. But when she looked at the wall, resolved in losing fear and ask for justifications, the painting was not there."*

Fiction  
Rosa Lobato de Faria



## The Silk Birds

**Pages:** 208

**ISBN:** 9789724117584

Mario's memories, one of the main characters of "The Silk Birds", recalls all events that opposes human condition to the childhood perennial values: where the marvellous and love cohabit, the precariousness of passions and dreams of emancipation collapse.

*"Thanks to the eternal qualities of my mother's personality and the consequent slowdown she imposed on the appearance of "progress" in that house, Pedra Moura kept it's transcendent aura of a magical place. The kingdom of the fairy tales and of the Christmas tales, the world of the old fragrances and flavours. The childhood place, the ideal refuge for having been born and for dying."*



Fiction  
Rosa Lobato de Faria



## The Salt Flower

Pages: 224

ISBN: 9789724142265

Afonso Sanches, a (real) XV century Portuguese sailor, had extensive training as fisherman and whaler before heading on a fantastic expedition to find India. Instead, by miscalculation, he found the coastline of America in 1481 (eleven years before Columbus). The fortunate event remained nonetheless a secret, for the King of Portugal, D. João II, was about to sign the Tordesilhas treaty that would distribute the new conquered lands with the Spaniards.

How did sailor Afonso Sanches deal with such a secret that could seriously break Iberia apart?

*"And it was as if the Lord told them to be calm and not advancing into the sea, unconsciously or with fury, for having provoked their late departure. Those were His own orders and anyone willing to reach paradise must necessarily suffer. And with Him knowing that even Adam rejected, just like them, a gentle life, abundance, and naked women, He didn't carry illusions that at the first sigh of missing home they would bite the apple of uncertainty, of dangers, of diseases, of curiosities, of the desire for knowing more of the world and knowing better that same world and that the sea was not to be guilty for any of that. Should let them look for guilt in their unsatisfied hearts which won't be content and whom treat the sea as a friend, offering them beauty, a pathway and fish. This was how Afonso Sanches spoke to the crew on the first Sunday, instead of giving a mass, and on those words they prayed many pater-noster and acts of contrition."*

## Mário Zambujal

*Fun & Wit in action-paced novels*

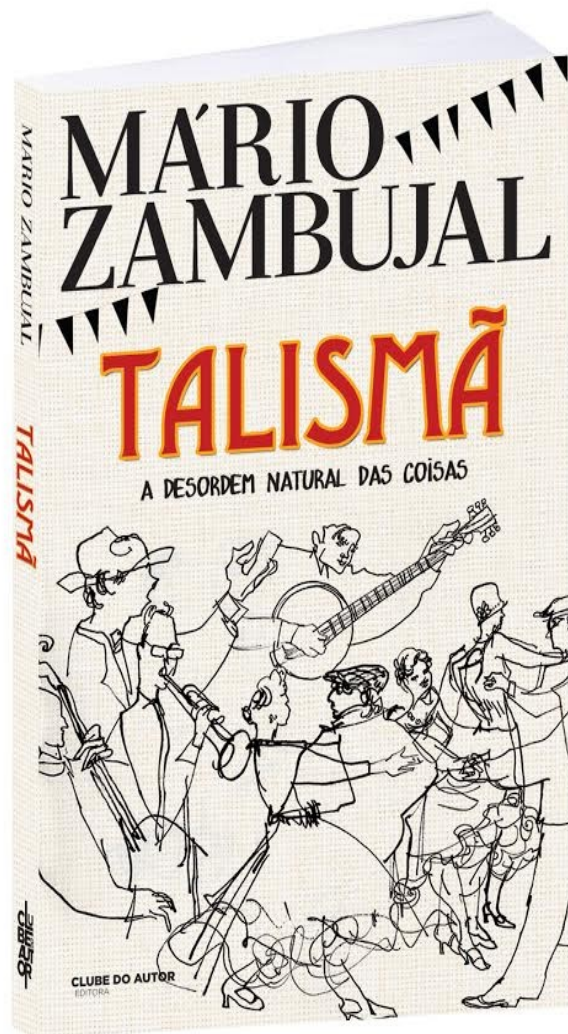
Mário Zambujal (Moura, 1936) made a name for himself as the writer of the narrative books that contributed to the vanguard of the New Portuguese Cinema, a recognition that lead him to win, in 1984, the formal distinction of the Infante D. Henrique Order, for his "enriching contributions to the Portuguese culture". His peculiar visual and humoristic style in writing has been accompanying Zambujal's work throughout his long career as a journalist and scriptwriter, and for television and radio.

Zambujal's most well-known work, *The Good Rascals Chronicles*, was a major moment of public attention for the author, in particular after its adaptation to cinema, which made the book sell over 30 editions. In 2011 there was also a theatre adaptation of this work.

Besides the dozen books Zambujal has published, he also engaged in several playwriting collaborations for the traditional Portuguese Revista Theatre, and was a success case as a scriptwriter for television, having written sitcoms that stayed on air for many years.



Fiction  
Mário Zambujal



## Talisman – The Natural Disorder of Things

Pages: 152

ISBN: 9789897242694

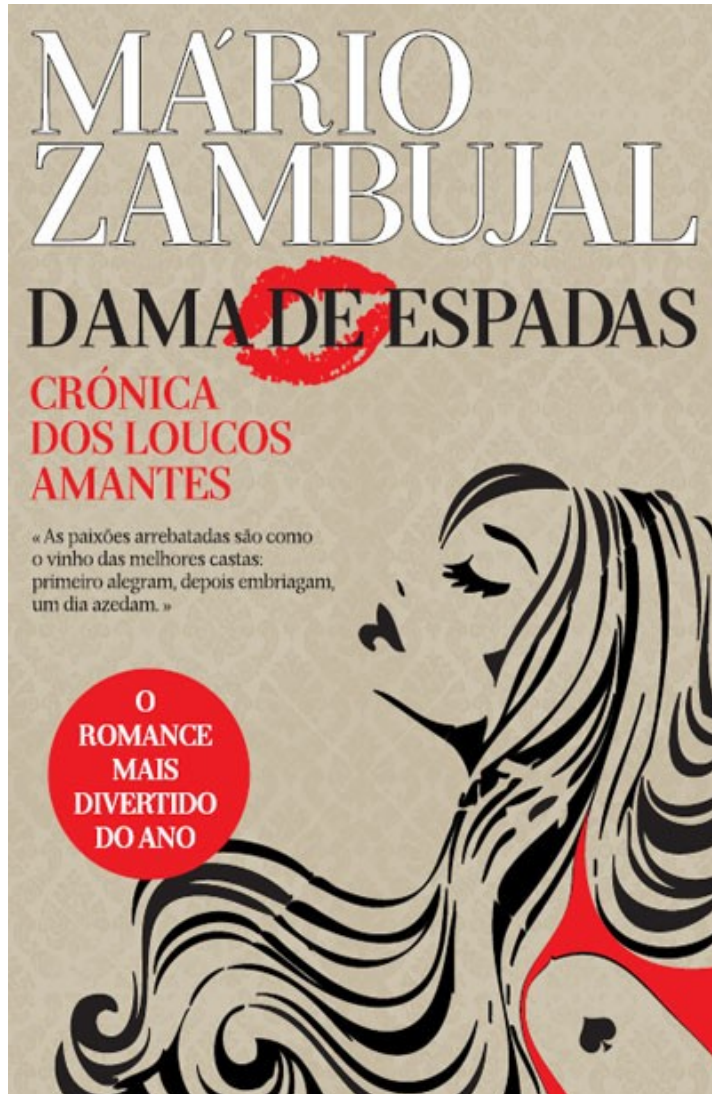
Pablo Luis Martinez da Silva doesn't believe in being lucky, and most of all despises those who fall for it, letting their lives be controlled by such artificial force. That's why he wouldn't make up excuses for almost losing that birth at the maternity, that's why he will make everything it takes to reach out for that gorgeous blonde who lost a shoe right in front of him, and that's why he can't prevent a mad gang of criminals from pursuing him. The common denominator between all these events: a Talisman that was stolen by the women, not the amount of bad luck it may carry.

*"In this room everything is immaculately white, my face included. They would mess about with my wound and reach out for that bitch of a bullet inside my thigh.*

*That was an exaggeration, there weren't real reasons for being so fearful. Or to say it more clearly, there were two good reasons for keeping calm. The second one was the holy effect of anaesthesia. But the main one came from the sudden acceptance of the inexplicable as the source of luck and bad luck.*

*I entered the clinic with the talisman suspended in my neck. And distracted myself with a magazine of zoological curiosities, brought from Dionísio. I got to know about a worm that when cut in half is capable of surviving in two differentiated pieces, each one reconstructing by itself the part that's missing. It gives us something to think about. The human species, proud of the intellect and scientific achievements, should recognize his inferiority. Look closely at the worm case."*

Fiction  
Mário Zambujal



## Queen of Spades

Pages: 220

ISBN: 9789898452047

The eighteen years old boy Filipe is dating the sister of Eva Teresa, with only eleven years old.

There is great empathy between the little girl and her future brother-in-law, but life separates them with the family trip to Brazil. As time runs through their fingers, they almost forget each other; until an unpredicted event joins them together again, and a grown up adult Eva becomes an unbearable passion for Filipe, who ends up falling in love with her.

In between improbable episodes intertwined in mystery and complicity, both finally get to meet in Sintra, where a hectic romance begins.

*"The bed is the most amiable of the furniture objects, even when it only serves for sleeping. However, what makes beds famous is a history of awakened people".*

*"The sweeping passions are similar to the whine from the best castes: initially they give us joy, then dizziness, and one day turn sour."*



Fiction  
Mário Zambujal



## Serpentine

Pages: 160

ISBN: 9789897241765

The small boy Bruno Barcelim sees his routines change after his family emigration to Canada, but it's when he grows older, and following a traffic accident in which he is involved, that life really takes a radical turn for him. Not so much for the crash, but after suddenly bumping on a girl he suddenly meets.

Bruno's destiny may be unpredictable but it's the absurd incidents crossing his path that turns everything into a comedy.

*"Another virtue I have that is not so well known is the ability to laugh from my own disasters. (...) It was almost seven when I sneezed under the cold shower and started laughing from being so nervous before meeting in person an unknown woman."*

## Inês Botelho

*A young Portuguese writer starting a surprising career with the biggest Portuguese publishing house – the Porto Editora Group.*

Inês Botelho (1986, Vila Nova de Gaia – Portugal) is one of the promising young authors of the contemporary Portuguese fiction. She has been publishing since she was 16 years old, at the moment her book trilogy of the epic fantasy genre entered the market. Alongside her intense writing routines Botelho was a regular collaborator of the Bang! Magazine, contributing with chronicles that addressed the fantasy, sci-fi and horror literature.

With five books currently on the market, Botelho have been more recently exploring the literary novel with remarkable success; her last book, “The Past That We Will Become”, has been published by one of the biggest editorial groups in Portugal – the Porto Editora group.



Fiction  
Inês Botelho



## The Past We Will Become

Pages: 208  
ISBN: 9789720040855

Elisa and Alexandre met each other during a weekend in Caramulo. They belong to different social contexts, see the world through almost opposite perspectives, and yet are unable to escape the attraction that slowly takes over their bodies. With advances and retreats, they enter a impulsive relationship full of challenges. Elisa is too cerebral and wishes to be able to explain the world in it's multiple aspects. Alexandre, on the contrary, acts without thinking and is only concerned with getting the most out of each moment. The intense life they start experimenting in company of each other will carry tensions that may change them.

*"When my group is not around, or euphoria subsides, when the circumstance has little interest and the atmosphere has nothing to do with me, when silence is compressing the body, I tend to notice certain uninteresting details. The clocks jump towards an alternative dimension, the pointers turn in a drowned frenzy, the orbits in my face become humid and torpid. I see what is small, insignificant, I forget it and remind it, it goes and comes, it turns around until sleep grabs me by the stomach and the nauseating feeling forces me to take action".*

***NON-  
NON-FICTION  
FICTION***



## Fernando Dacosta

*An award winner historian focusing on the migrations issues in Portugal and abroad.*

Fernando Dacosta (1945, Caxito – Angola) is a respected Portuguese historian with extensive work in fiction writing, playwriting, and journalism. The beginning of his career as a reporter of Europa Presse allowed him to move inside the political atmosphere of the pre-revolutionary Portuguese dictatorship regime and meet the most important figures of that time, amongst them the autocratic president Salazar. This atmosphere was largely depicted and was a central theme to Dacosta books, some of which won important literary prizes in Portugal: “A Second Hand Jeep” (won the RTP Theatre Prize; was celebrated by the Portuguese Critics Association and the Press House), “The Widower” (Grand Prize Círculo de Leitores / LER), “The Retornados Changed Portugal” (Portuguese Press Club Prize).

In total the author won ten prizes, but it was his distinction with the Order of Prince Henry for promoting the culture and history of Portugal, as well as with the formal invitation for joining the Lisbon Sciences Academy, that Dacosta became legitimated amongst his peers. Despite his academic and written activities, Dacosta had a television programme about literature on the public Portuguese channel RTP1, and was co-editor of the prestigious national publisher Relógio D'água.



*Non-fiction/History*  
*Fernando Dacosta*



## The Returnees Changed Portugal

Pages: 96

ISBN: 9789899833326

This critical work brings back to our contemporary public sphere the tragic exodus of 1974-75, when millions of African Portuguese were forced to look for refuge in Portugal during an abrupt process of decolonization.

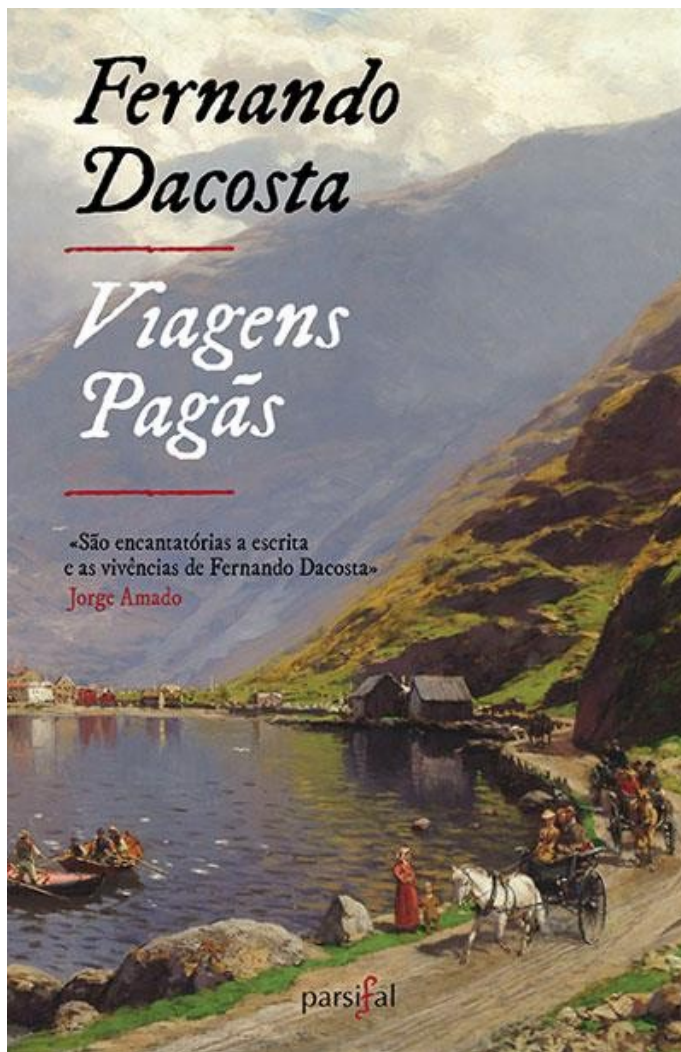
The traumatic episode still resonates today, four decades after, in large numbers of Portuguese people carrying this amputation feeling of having been rejected by their original land in Africa. How were they able to surpass adversities and be fully integrated in a society that looked at them with hostility? This is the question that Fernando Dacosta poses, and that photographer Alfredo Cunha illustrates.

“Essential for getting to know Portugal's recent history”

– Javier García, El País (Spain)



Non-fiction/History  
Fernando Dacosta



## Pagan Journeys

Pages: 224

ISBN: 9789898760104

Fernando Dacosta guides us through some of the most compelling places he has visited: The remote island in Azores where Marshall Carmona was received with a warm welcome in the region's cemetery; the Mozambique paths where Samora Machel would walk by while performing his ravishing and creative speeches; the Rio de Janeiro travels in a Volkswagen Beetle car in company of the writer Agustina Bessa-Luís, with whom they remember the last days of the autocrat president Marcello Caetano. This journeys are an authentic portrayal of recent Portugal during war-time and the dictatorship era.

*"We were in a mine of copper and manganese in the Alentejo region, at more than three thousand feet deep underground. (...) Mines are like islands inside the country's body. Islands inhabited by people of very particular characteristics – in their habits, sufferings, solidarity, dreams. The land has the same effect over the miners as the sea over fishermen. In one and the other there are indisputable phenomenons of passion and hatred, of ending and renewal, of life and death. The imaginary that involves the world soon has expanded before us, through the arts, religiosity culture, celebrations and disturbing traditions. Places of exploration, mines look like cathedral naves, or dwarf labyrinths; everything in them is bewildering: the machine's hiss, the man's muteness, the projectors light, the hardness of movements, the candid eyes, the dirt on the short paths, the reverberation of metals, the amalgam of the yards, the solitude of workers. Those who work in them are transformed into Sagittarian beings, almost supernatural, half men half machine pursuing, in secret and alchemical purpose, the hidden ore from the gigantic eruptions of the original magmas."*



## Júlio Machado Vaz

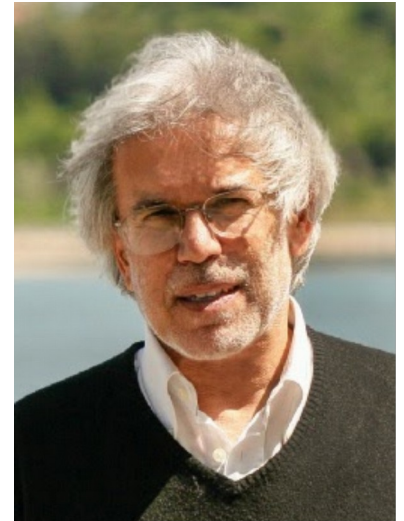
*A scholar and communicator of Sexualities and Sex themes.*

Júlio Machado Vaz (1949, Porto), a psychiatrist and recognized scholar from the sexology field, is a well known Portuguese author of a dozen sexual education books. He became particularly famous for his participation and public debates on the radio, television and the newspapers, where he defends an understanding of sex as a “privileged vehicle of communication” while opposing the common belief that looks at it as a mere “physiology necessity”. He is currently one of the co-directors of the masters degree in Sexology of the Lusófona University in Lisbon.

Júlio Machado Vaz's intense activity as a doctor and sexuality communicator has been recognized with the Rainbow Prize of the ILGA Portugal Association, which awards good practices in fighting discrimination and homophobia.

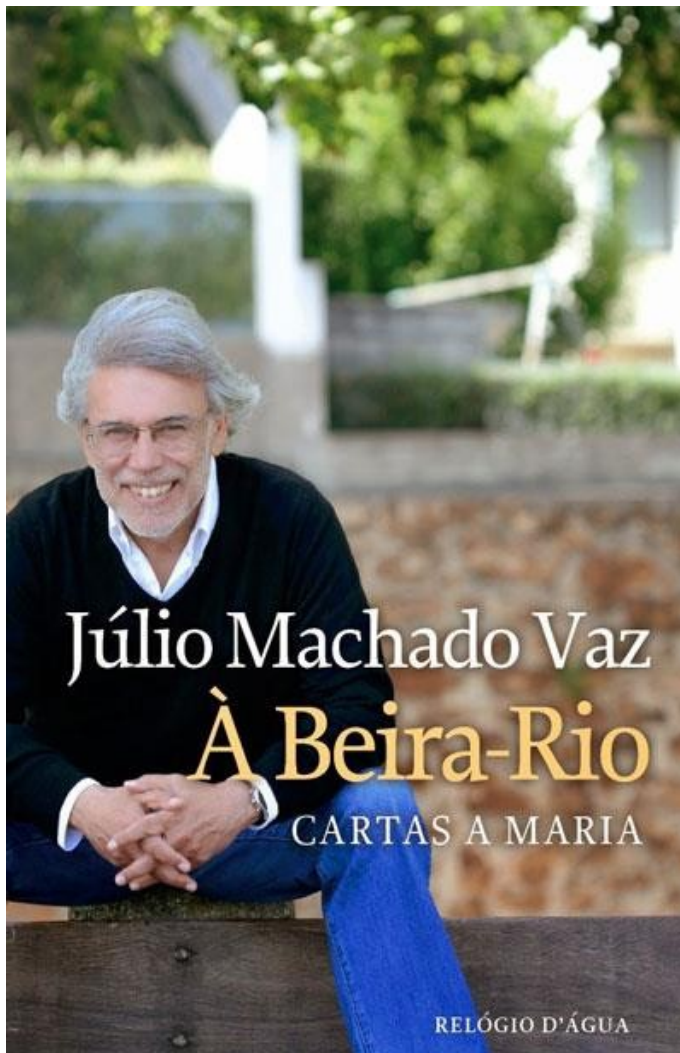
In parallel to sexuality education, the author coordinates initiatives of social integration and citizenship, namely: as part of the Teaching Commission of the Portuguese Society of Clinical Sexology, as member of the Commission for the Fight against Drug Abuse, as the Clinical Director of the Therapeutic Community for Recovering Drug Dependents, and as the President of the Welcoming and Nourishing Association for Citizenship.

He has been coordinating for several years the radio programme *Love is...*, still airing in the Portuguese public radio Antena 1.





Non-fiction/Biography  
Fernando Dacosta



## By the Riverside – Letters to Maria

**Pages:** 224

**ISBN:** 9789896414733

An old love is recalled through 82 letters, showing that this spiritual connection between two individuals is only made possible where body and mind are ever present and mutually explored. The setting of this reflection and intimate approach to one's emotional life is Barcelona, the city where the borders between the real and the imaginary often mingle.

*"Maria,*

*I can't avoid the easy rhyme, what a day... Medical exams and hours of unsteady voice, I go through a zapping on television and in every channel the same word is repeated in background – exhaustion. And in a news ticker, an imperative call from the society of consumerism, tomorrow it will be the valentine's day. You know how I like the saint Valentine's legend and hate the exploitation of the date by capitalism. If you like someone... buy something! Shall you be here and I would tell you in your ear, while strolling around your body, how many days like this we have lived in the entire year; my gift would be a kiss at your will, either chaste or not, your phantasy driving across my lips."*

## Leonor Xavier

*A key travel writer that reflects on the Portuguese influence in Brazil and the Middle East.*

A journalist and novelist, Leonor Xavier (1943, Lisboa) started her writing career in Brazil, having published non-fiction books that reflect on the diaspora movement from Portugal to Brazil as well as in the socio-political realities in both countries. The acclamation by the specialized Brazilian critique brought the author to the Portuguese books' market in a later moment.

Leonor Xavier works were considered to improve and strengthen relations between Portugal and Brazil, for which she was awarded the Order of Merit of the Portuguese State.

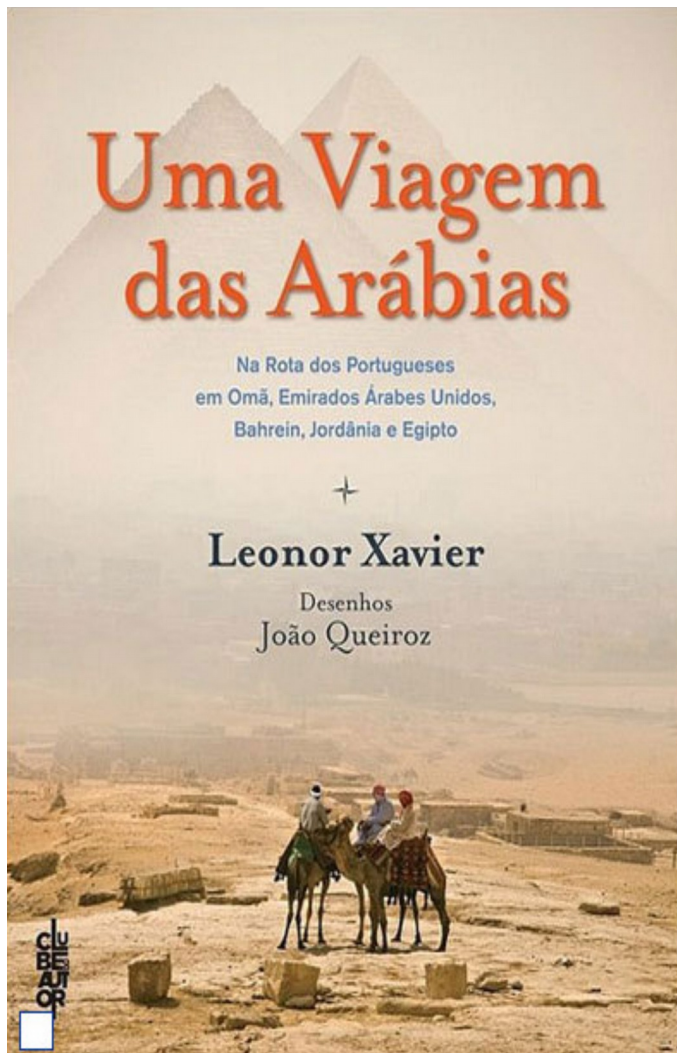
Amongst the literary prizes, Leonor Xavier has also received the Máxima Prize of Literature, which distinguishes notable Portuguese female writers. And was the recipient of the Best Journalist Prize in the Portuguese Community category, awarded at Rio de Janeiro.

Besides her books on Brazil and Portugal, Leonor Xavier is the biographer of some of the most relevant Portuguese culture figures and politicians; and produces essays, chronicles and fiction.

Some of her travels undertook around the world were put into books and supported by the Portuguese National Center of Culture support.



Non-fiction/Travel writing  
Leonor Xavier



## An Arab Journey

**Pages:** 180

**ISBN:** 9789898452252

This travel book is a journey circuit through the pre-Arab Spring revolution in Middle East, with texts that work as chronicles of the socio-political contexts in each country, and accompanied by illustrations of the urban sketcher João Queiroz.

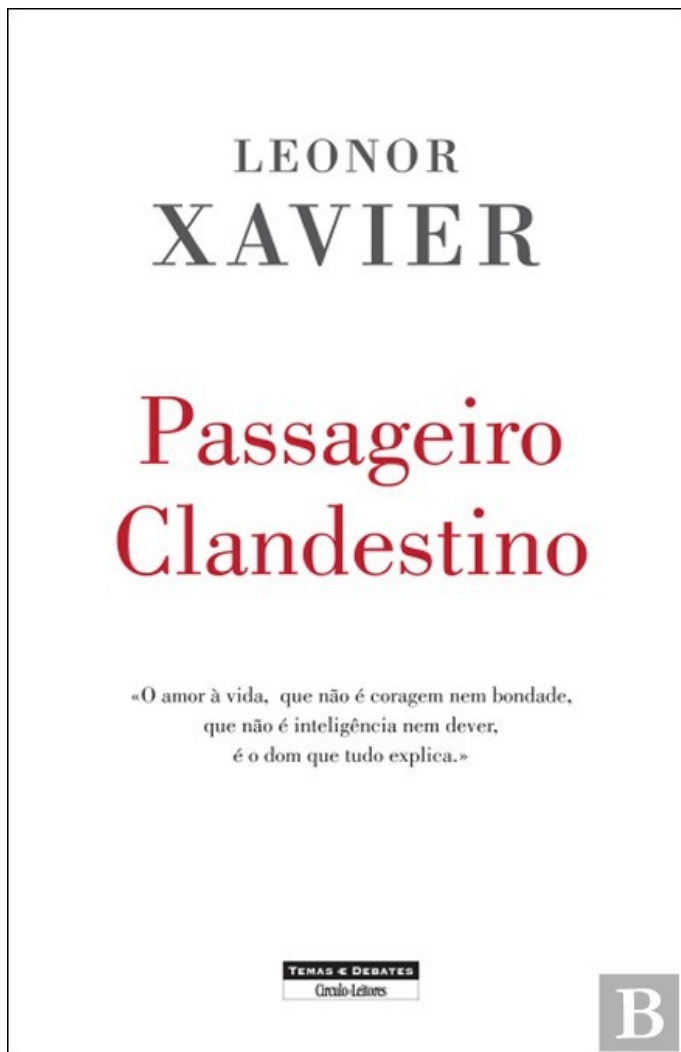
We get a picture of the Persian Gulf and the Ormuz Strait, where the predominance of old Eastern trading routes is still part of the regional economies. In Jordan and Egypt we observe how the history of ancient civilizations still live under the skin of regular people. And in the Arab Emirates and Bahrein it's the sky-rocketing material progress and the growing of cities that catches our eyes, especially after knowing that that kind of progress doesn't accompany fundamental individual rights.

*"5th September, Saturday. 8.30 in the morning. Once again we follow the sinuous road between sea and white mountains; the lack of movement in everything suggests the isolation of populations, the religious safeguard, the dryness of the climate. Maybe because I was aware of being at little distance from the mysterious and threatening Iran, I felt a strange weight in my soul, an indefinite density that I can now recall, while revisiting that moment."*





Non-fiction/Biographic/Self-help  
Leonor Xavier



## Clandestine Passenger

**Pages:** 200

**ISBN:** 9789898452252

The writer, the woman and the everyday human who finds herself being the carrier of a clandestine disease: cancer.

In an honest and inspiring way, full of beautiful passages of literary merit and sensibility, Leonor Xavier tells her personal history of fight against a colon cancer.

If anything happened in her perception of life and death, it happened after an intense search for not forgetting and for finding hints on how to give value to her present precarious life. And by the end, as surprising as it may seem, she will feel at peace and greater harmony no matter what happens. Cancer turned out as a win-win situation to Leonor Xavier, and above all a journey of self-discovery.

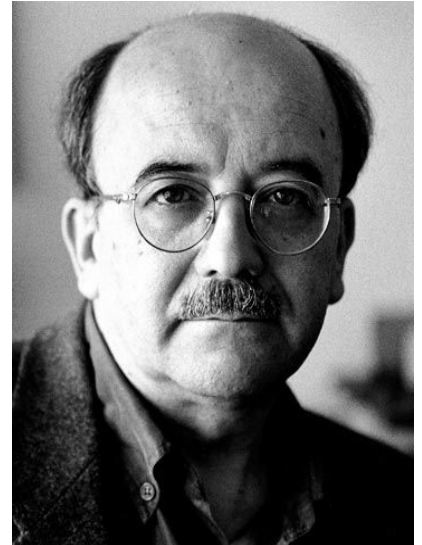
*"One year? How many months? How much time has passed since the clandestine has assaulted the body, disguised as nothing at all; the bandit without clothes, the scoundrel? Bottled reality, says Agustina about the right novel, with no memory tramples or people eclipses. But that novel doesn't exist, the course of events is disorganized by nature, and now I find that, just like in real life, we either get lost in reality or it gets lost in us. Because all reality is gone too fast, we forget the details of days, the sentences, the thoughts that pass by galloping and always vanish and always are substituted by the next stream that follows. This is what I don't want, and that's why remembering, registering, saving, has been a strong trait I have since my first conscience of myself."*



## Manuel António Pina

*The interpreter of Portuguese sensibility in poetry and image.*

Manuel António Pina (1943-2013, Sabugal) was one of the few Portuguese writers to win the most important distinction within the Portuguese speaking countries literature, the Camões Prize. He graduated in Law, was an influential journalist and Editor-in-Chief of a national newspaper, but it was as a poet and children's books writer that he won unprecedented prestige amongst the national literary scene.

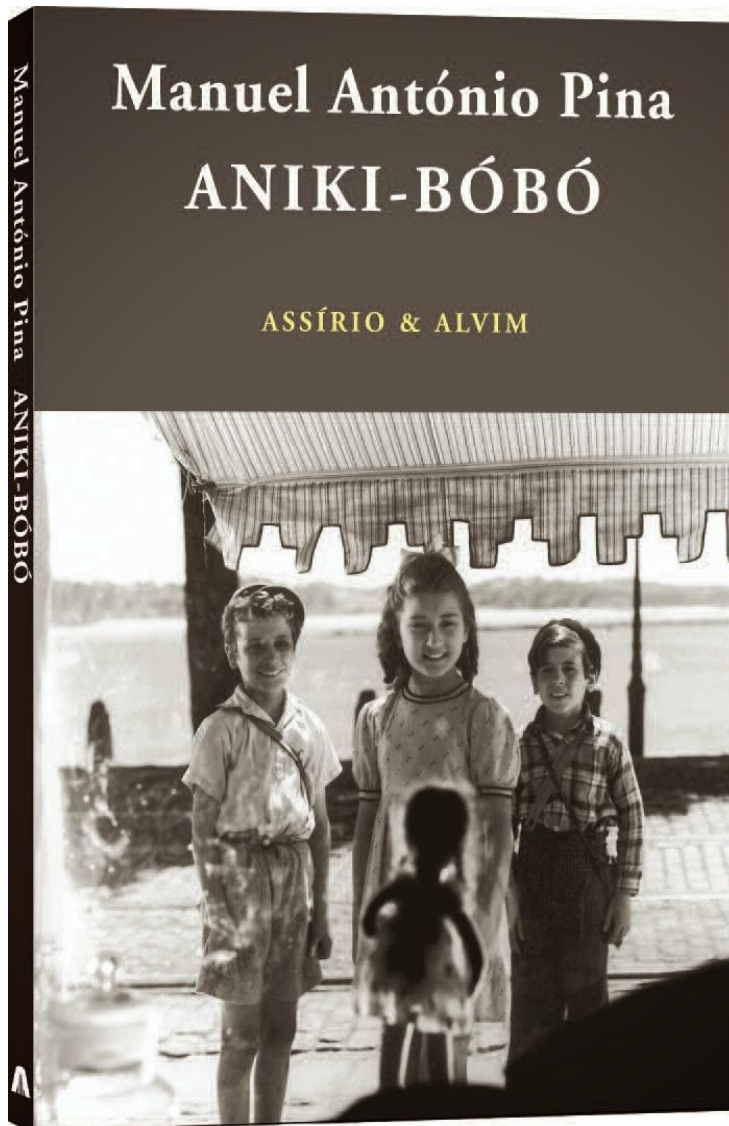


Pina was translated into Danish, French, Galician and English. During his career he collaborated with the British Film Institute; was the Portuguese translator and editor of fundamental authors like Pablo Neruda, T. S. Eliot and Paul Éluard; and won several prizes of the children's literature genre, namely: the Grand Gulbenkian Prize for Children and Youth Literature (1988), the Jury's Mention of the Pier Paolo Vergerio European Prize (1988), and the Portuguese Centre of Theatre Prize for the Children and Youth (1988). In Portugal, he won in 2001 the Merit Golden Medal of the Porto Municipality. Pina was also part of the official authors' committee representing Portuguese literature at the Frankfurt Book Fair (1997), at the Paris Book Fair (2000) and the Genève Book Fair (2001).

Pina's children's literature production is characterized by a singular poetic sensibility that was strongly influenced by the British Nonsense literary style, in particular that of Lewis Carroll.

Pina was a regular collaborator in mediums like the television, for which he wrote scripts for children series; the theatre, having written more than twenty plays; or the education field, with his texts being part of manuals and anthologies in Portugal and Spain.

Non-fiction/Film Essay  
Manuel António Pina



## Aniki-Bóbó

Pages: 96

ISBN: 9789723716597

Manuel António Pina was commissioned by the British Film Institute to write this essay on an absolute classic of the Portuguese cinema – “Aniki-Bóbó”, by Manoel de Oliveira.

The first feature film of the multi-awarded director Manoel de Oliveira, Aniki-Bóbó, produced in 1942, became a singular work on childhood within the world cinematography. Played exclusively by children, it is a profoundly poetic film that takes a stance by itself, surpassing the aesthetics affinity that sometimes the critique offers it (for instance, the neo-realism contributions it may have made). In Manuel António Pina, a recognized author of children's books, the sensibility of this work is now completely analysed and understood.

*“Coexisting, by some way, with the world of play and with the children's wishes and pains, adult society, seen from the children's viewpoint (which is the side that the camera, fundamentally, sees), functions above all as a threatening horizon of forbidding and incomprehensible rules, and as an order foreign to the wish for freedom and happiness which animates and gives meaning to its daily life. (...)*

*For this, in Aniki Bobó the adults do not have any identity besides their “adult functions” – mother, policeman, teacher... None of them has a name. They are types. Individuality and identity, the name (this is what's different), belong in Aniki Bobó exclusively to the children: Carlitos, Eduardito, Teresinha, Pistarim, Rafael, Pompeu, the “Philosopher”, the “Star”, “Little potatoes”.”*

Department  
for **Supporting**  
the Publishing  
and Promotion  
of **the Author**

**GAPPA**

*This Department is a branch of the Portuguese Society of Authors (SPA), whose main function is to promote and sell internationally literary works in Portuguese language.*

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