

The cover image

Imagem da capa

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Source: photo by André Barroso.
Rosana Urbes in her studio.

Animator, illustrator and storyartist Rosana Urbes brings us the cover illustration for this edition. Rosana has an impressive animation career: eight years working abroad, six of them at Walt Disney Animation Studios, in which she had the opportunity to animate in films such as *Mulan*, *Tarzan*, and *Lilo and Stich*.

In the documentary *Luz, Anima, Ação* by Eduardo Calvet, Rosana narrates her arrival at the Disney studios during the production of *Mulan*. When responding to the question about what she would like to work on, she mentioned that she likes animating female characters. And with that answer, she received the mission of animating the film's protagonist.

Perhaps for many students or animation enthusiasts, working at a large studio like Disney could be considered the pinnacle of a professional's career. Rosana Urbes breaks this logic by returning to Brazil, opening her own animation studio and releasing, in 2014, the short film *Guida*¹, which won several awards both in Brazil and around the world, including the Annecy International Animation Festival, in France, with two highlights: the Jean-Luc Xiberras award, given to the best first animated film, and an honorable mention from the International Federation of Film Critics. The sepia tone pencil lines and watercolor scenes in *Guida* present to the world much more of Rosana's artistic identity than in the industrial, adapted and equalized lines of Disney Studios. Therefore, in *Guida*, one may find important advice to future animators and, especially, female ones: being one name among 400 in an important work is cool, but being a protagonist in your own work is unparalleled!

1 Available at <https://youtu.be/RenFPqH2CEw?si=QzL9B0U4hFRUq4k1> . Cited on Oct 02, 2023.



Rosana visiting FAAP with Eliseu and his students.

In her illustration, Rosana pays homage to another very beloved name in the Brazilian animation world: Eliseu Lopes Filho, animator, animation professor and researcher who, unfortunately, left us in October 2021. Founder of the FAAP animation course in São Paulo, Eliseu was a true promoter, enthusiast, and supporter of Brazilian animation. Those who attended Anima Mundi in both Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo always found him surrounded by his students, encouraging them to join professional animators, without being afraid to introduce themselves and build their respective networks. On these occasions, animators would always run to hug him and sit at a cafe table to exchange experiences and ideas. And his generosity towards everyone was incredible. Soon he would bring something the following year that he had commented on the previous year (such as acetates from his personal collection, a photography scheme he developed in college for animation classes and many other unforgettable conversations). In a memorial video organized by the International Animation Day team², César Coelho, one of the directors of Anima Mundi, defines Eliseu Lopes Filho well: "Eliseu is a symbol of what Brazilian animation is: talent, love, passion for art, generosity, and persistence to get things done."

Rosana chose the pencil with its delicate movements, a very striking symbol of animation, to represent our Brazilian Fred Flintstone of Animation (a character he loved to dress up as).

² Available at: https://youtu.be/7_K5GXUYSrg?si=wEyp14AHD2t1kE3I. Cited on: Oct 14, 2023.

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Illustration by Rosana Urbes and Eliseu dressed as Fred Flintstone.

And so, we conclude the first of a number of tributes to the world of Brazilian sequential arts brought by this edition of the journal *Diálogo com a Economia Criativa*.



Rosana Urbes and Eliseu Lopes Filho
Long live Rosana Urbes! Long live Eliseu! Long live Brazilian animation!

About the author

Gabriel Cruz: founding member of the Brazilian Seminar on Animation Studies (Seminário Brasileiro de Estudos em Animação – SEANIMA), PhD in Design, Adjunct Professor at the Department of Cinema and Video and collaborating researcher at the Postgraduate Program in Cinema (PPGCine) at Universidade Federal Fluminense.

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