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Technical Data Sheet

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Danse & Culture

Chemin vers la réussite

Dance & Culture

Path towards the success

Once upon a time, in a village in the Middle East, there was a little girl named Hadda. On a fateful day, she learned of the arrival of an Almage who, it is said, would arrive from the "City of Dances", a source of beauty and mystery. Fascinated, Hadda decided to venture out on the path that leads to the lights of the East" ...

As the federator of a new style of storytelling, "the danced tale", Hayat Harchi produced her show "Hadda and the lights of the East" at the Institut du monde Arabe and the Paris City Hall.



Spectators will not only enjoy a story that is told. They will also discover a whole atmosphere that the storyteller, as a real thread, creates around this fabric.

To give more depth to the story, the characters will transmit their passion to us through a "mixed-up", the very expression of a new form of dance. Between reality and imagination, will Hadda succeed in reaching the "Lumière d'Orient"?

It is on the basis of this "dance tale", imagined, written and directed by Hayat Harchi, artistic director, that the Annaba association has set up, since 2003, the projects "Author to actor-dancers", "Views on the world", "Dance and Culture, path to success".

They bring children, families and teachers together in creative, artistic and cultural practice workshops.

During these workshops, children are introduced by professional artists to the different components of the "dance tale": dance, theatre, staging, music, costumes, etc.



The objective of this artistic training is to allow children to create a "dance tale" from scratch, echoing Hayat Harchi's "dance tale".

This experience allows more than 1200 children in Europe to carry out a common artistic project that reduces school drop-out rates.

*Hayat Harchi
Artistic Director of the Annaba association.*



That night, Sarah and her brother Francisco were alone at home. When they couldn't sleep, they decided to go to their father's office to look for a book that would help them fall asleep.

Suddenly Sarah exclaimed:

"Hey, look up there. On the right side! What a funny name, Portugalies. Can you reach it?"

Francisco: Of course, with the help of this chair anything is possible.

The brother and sister took the book, full of curiosity. The book was bigger than usual and the text... and the pictures...

- It's wonderful! they both exclaimed at the same time.

Then they began to read a very curious story!

Once upon a time there was a county that wanted to be a country.

This county was called Portugalense and was given to Don Henry, a French knight, by Afonso VI of Castile, as a reward for his participation in the fight against the Moors.

Count Henry married Donna Teresa, the bastard daughter of the King of Castile, and from this union was born Afonso Henriques, the first King of Portugal. He fought against everything and everyone to make this county a kingdom until he became King of Portugal. Legend has it that he won a battle against five Moorish kings and that the Pope finally recognised him as king in 1143.



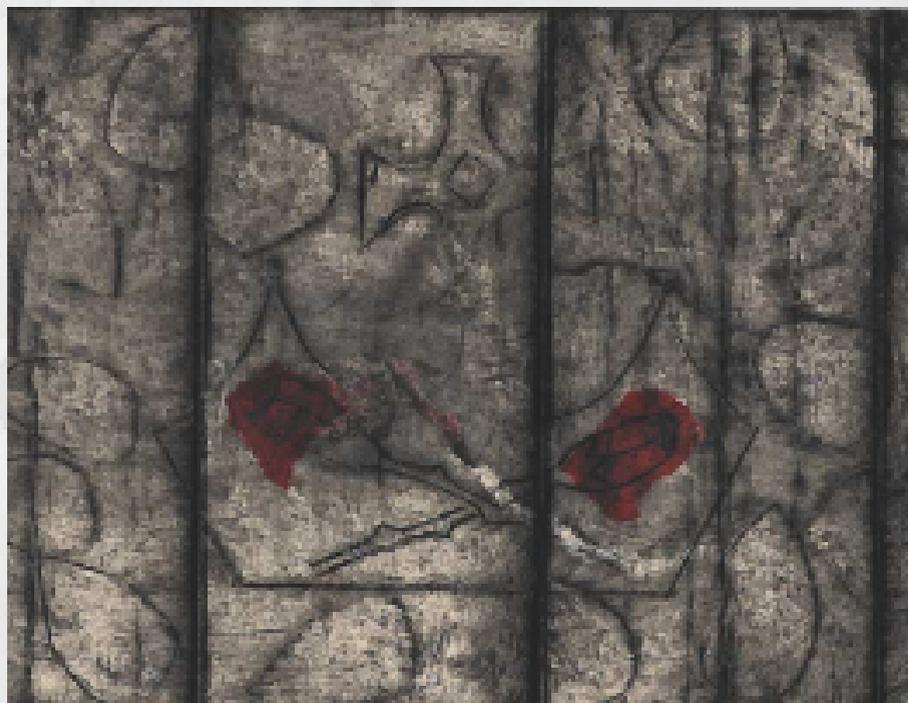
After Don Afonso Henriques, there were several kings and also several wars.

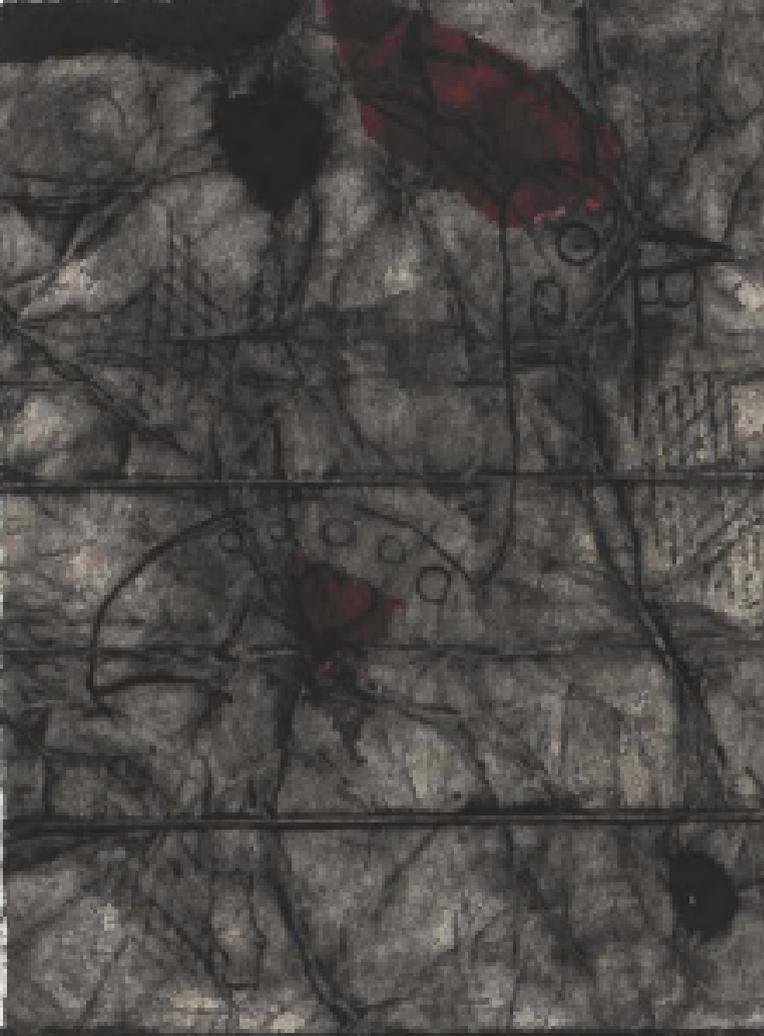
In October 1261, Don Dinis was born, the one who does whatever he wants! He is known for having developed Portugal at all levels: he ordered the planting of the pine forest of Leiria, created the first Portuguese university and was a successful troubador. He was also the protagonist of the legend that made his wife Isabel the Holy Queen.

This marriage was not a very happy one. They were very different and, as far as the underprivileged and the poor were concerned, they even had very different ideas.

The queen helped the poor in secret from her husband, who did not understand why she did it. One day, as she was going to load up with bread to give to the poor, she met her husband - imagine her fright! - He asked her what she was carrying in her lap and she, frightened, answered that they were roses. In an instant it was roses, and more roses spread on the ground!

This was considered a miracle.





Sarah and Francesco couldn't stop reading, as they found more and more curious facts. Francesco found the legend of the cock of Barcelos that he didn't know at all.

In Barcelos, many years ago, there was a crime. The culprit was never discovered, but the people accused a Galician who was brought before the judge, who dined on a roast rooster and did not hesitate to sentence him to the gallows.

Then the accused said, pointing to the roast cock on the table: - "I am as sure of being innocent as the cock will crow when I am hanged!".

They all laughed.

And yet know that, even when roasted, just as they were about to hang the poor man, the rooster began to crow!



In 1385, Portugal was still fighting for its independence. The Castilians persisted in annexing it to Castile and the Portuguese resisted and fought in several battles. The most famous of these was the battle of Aljubarrota. In this battle several heroes emerged who will never be forgotten, such as Nuno Álvares Pereira, the Holy Constable, who was responsible for various military tactics.

Likewise, Brites de Almeida, was known as the baker from Aljubarrota who pursued and defeated seven Castilians.

Even if this does not seem to be the case, Portugal experienced a great period of peace. It grew a lot with the Discoveries.





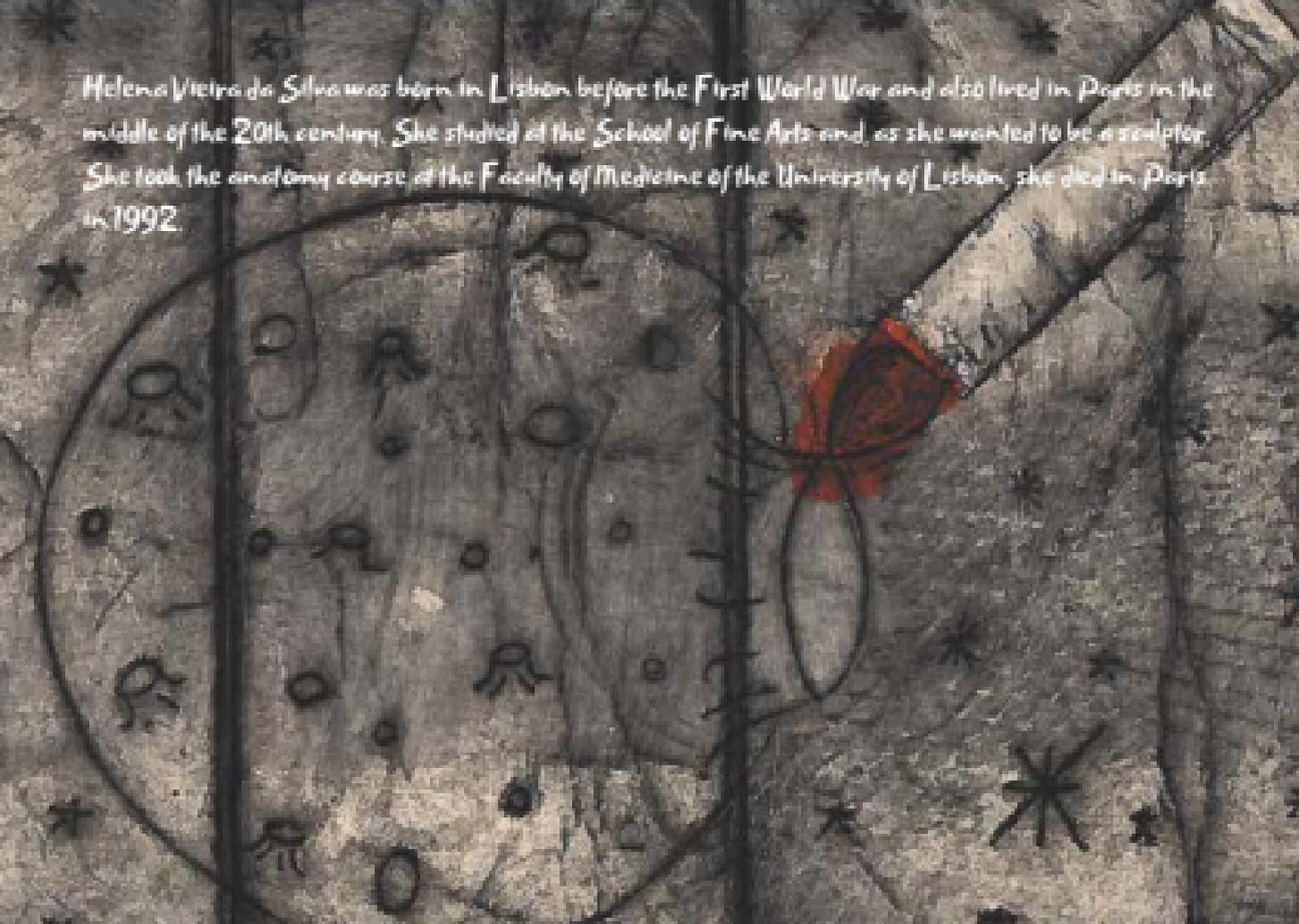
At that time, the greatest Portuguese poet, Luis de Camões, appeared and wrote *Os Lusíadas*, one of the most translated books in the world.

The Portuguese people have always been very creative. In the 19th century, Portugal saw the birth of many artists and intellectuals.

In 1887, one of the great Portuguese painters, Amadeo de Souza Cardoso, was born in Manhufe-Amarante. He was part of the first generation of Portuguese modernist painters. He met great painters of the world, such as Pablo Picasso. He studied and lived in Paris.



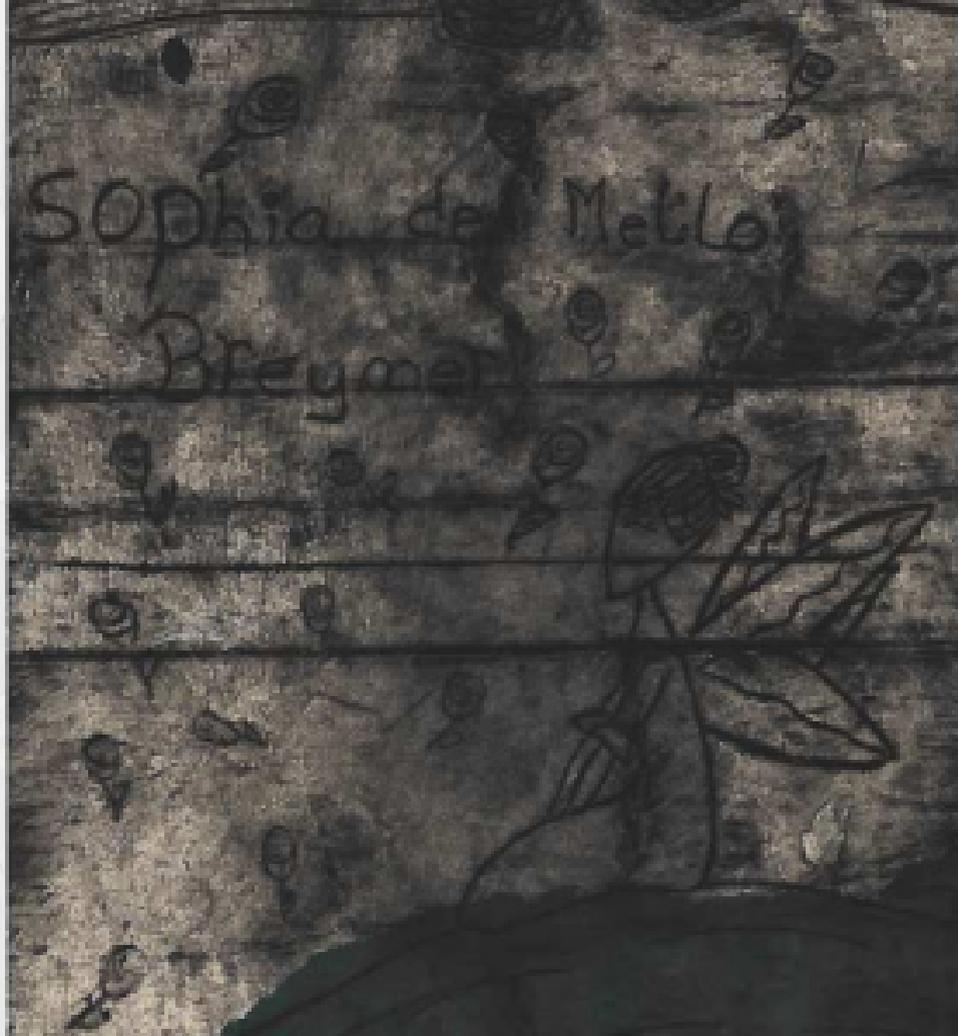
Helena Vieira da Silva was born in Lisbon before the First World War and also lived in Paris in the middle of the 20th century. She studied at the School of Fine Arts and, as she wanted to be a sculptor, she took the anatomy course at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Lisbon, she died in Paris in 1992.





In that same year died Salgueiro Mata, the captain of April, who, as Sophia wrote - "The one who, at the hour of victory, respected the vanquished! The one who gave everything and did not ask for payment..."

"He who in
the hour
of victory
respected the
loser
He who gave
everything
and
asked for
nothing..."

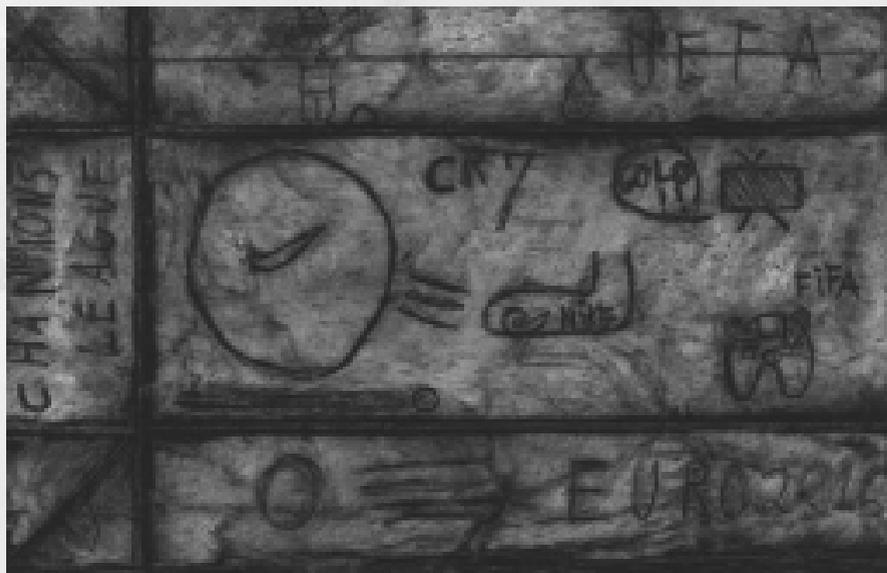




Sara interrupted herself aloud: It is said here that in the 20th century important names also appeared in music, in 1920 Amalia was born... Amalia! She had a very intense life, full of travels, shows... it was her destiny!

What hours later, Sara and Francisco finally fell asleep on this fantastic book. They revered a country full of stories, famous football players like Cristiano Ronaldo, and filmmakers who lived for more than a century under the name of Manoel de Oliveira.

Once this county wanted to be a country. Today it is a country recognised throughout the world.



Once this county wanted to be a country.
Today it is a country recognised throughout the world.



Fin

Once upon a time...

A "dance tale" entirely imagined and created over several months by students and teachers.

Based on reading, debating ideas on themes of interest to the students and thanks to the collaboration of professional artists in the field of dance and theatre, our class stayed and danced the tale created.

The families provided invaluable help in the creation of props and costumes for the show and in the intonation of a song, the basis of one of the dances performed by the students.



What makes this project an innovative experience is its ability to articulate the artistic disciplines with the fundamental contents of the different subjects, which are part of the curriculum, promoting and facilitating the consolidation of learning throughout its implementation.

The project focuses on two objectives :

- to offeriate school drop-out among the most sensitive and disadvantaged student population ;
- to improve understanding and communication between teachers, students and families.



