

The Amazing Characters of The Brazilian Folklore

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The Current Decline of Folklore in Brazil explores the gradual disappearing of the Brazilian folklore and highlights its historical factors by creating a timeline on how the issue has grown, in order to develop an approach on how we can revive the folkloric culture in Brazil.

Folktales and myths are passed down from generation to generation for the same reason: they teach us basic life lessons we will never forget. They are timeless examples and constant reminders of what is important or not, of what is wrong and what is right. However, these folktales and myths are no longer a strong pilar holding the 21st century generation.

This research allows you to visualise the real scope of the problem generated by the lack of interest from people towards the Brazilian folklore. However, as most of the answers to this lack of concern are related to the media and technology we must understand that these powerful tools are meant to be used in our favour. To change the misconception that we do not need myths and folktales in a society we must use mediums to develop a wide range of contents such as books, movies and video games that can become as successful and compelling as the world abroad, making us proud of our culture as we used to be.

I interpret Folklore as a gift we have been passed down, something we must cherish and keep going on an ever lasting flow. It amazes me to see the progression of a tale from the time I was a child to the present moment when I have become a grown up.

Currently in Brazil folklore has been disappearing, it has lost its space in the cultural scenario. We come across children who barely have knowledge about the most basic stories. It is a part of us that is slowly dying. "The Amazing Characters of The Brazilian Folklore" is a mini illustrated encyclopaedia regarding the most famous characters all over the regions of Brazil. This book is my personal approach to bring back and spread knowledge about Folklore in Brazil. The idea is that the reader is receiving the gift of discovery and knowledge through the book.

The Amazing Characters is structured as if it is a field guide to discover the eccentric and unique characters, an interactive way to learn about the Folklore. To every character illustrated you will find its story and extra notes upon the visual representation of each of them.



Boitata

Boi + tata comes from the Tupi meaning snake and fire.

Boitata kills whoever disrespects nature and devours their eyes.

In letters from jesuit José de Anchieta, in 1560 there were mentions about Boitata as the fire that runs.

The pattern going all over Boitata's body is similar to the Brazilian flag. I wonder what came first, the myth or the flag...

The fire that comes out from Boitata is magical, and for such reason it doesn't burn the forest or its plants.

For the same reason, when he goes under the water the fire on his back is not hurt.

"I believe in everything until it's disproved. So I believe in fairies, the myths, dragons. It all exists, even if it's in your mind. Who's to say that dreams and nightmares aren't as real as the here and now?"

John Lennon