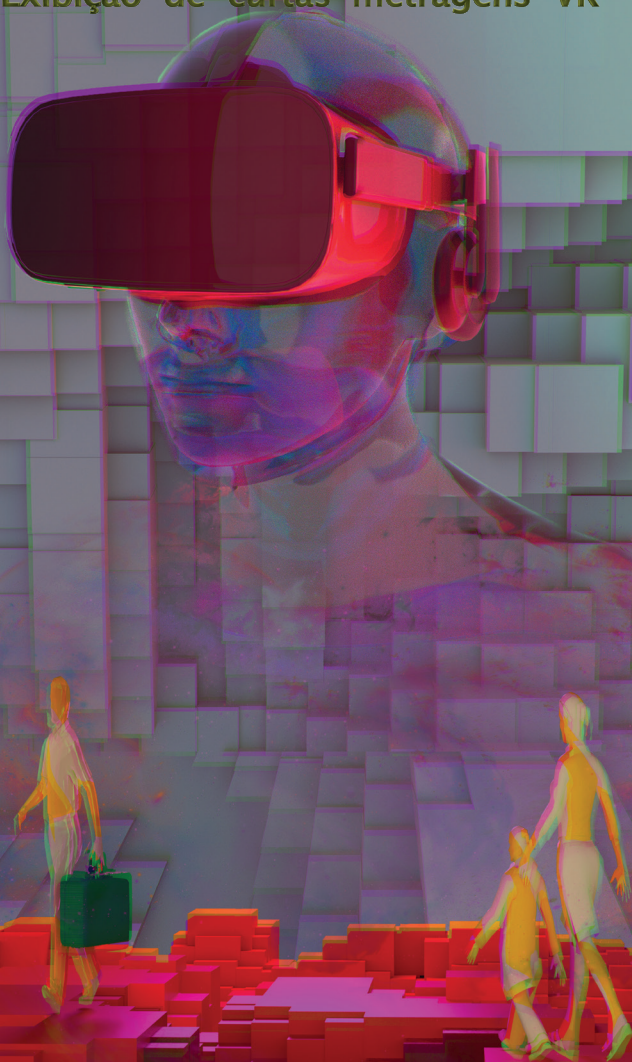


TELE-ENCOUNTERS APRESENTA

ELIPSES

Exibição de curtas-metragens VR



TELE-ENCOUNTERS

"Tele-Encounters" is an artistic research platform aiming to explore family relationships within the context of migration and to contribute to the development of telepresence (technologically mediated presence) as an artistic idiom. Following the interviews we conducted with Romanian and Portuguese migrants in Spain and left behind families in Romania and Portugal, we have created "The Planet of Lost Dreams", a telematic theatre performance, and "Ellipses", a 360° short film exhibition.



Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
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THE MOTHER

Laura is 28 years old, lives alone in the city of Oporto, where she is completing her PhD. All her life she had to deal with having an alcoholic father who was quite violent every time he drank. She repeatedly suggested her mother to complain to the police, but her mother always refused. On a visit home, Laura's mother tells her that her father is going to work to Spain because he had no job in Portugal and that things are going to change.

On the one hand, Laura is worried because her mother will be alone, but, on the other hand, with her father in Spain, she knows that her mother's life will be easier. Some time later, Laura finds out that her mother has stomach cancer. A big shock also to her father who is far away. The illness of the Mother brings everyone together, because everyone wants everything to be solved and the common desire is that Laura's mother gets better.

Facing his wife's illness, the distance and loneliness, Laura's father feels he has to change and starts a new phase of his life: stops drinking and tries to make up for lost time with his wife and daughter.

Character: Laura Silva, 28 years-old

Emigration: Dad left to Spain

Themes: Alcohol abuse; domestic abuse

Positive aspects: Change of life; illness helps behaviour changes; phone helps with communication

Negative aspects: Absence, lost time





Sérgio Araújo (father)
41 years old



Clara Freitas (mother)
63 years old



Margarida Silva (Laura)
24 years old

Scene I

Place: Cafe

Father is at the coffee counter clearly drunk. Mumbles a few words and after a moment heads to the door of the bar, falls to the ground.

Scene II

Place: Entrance hall

The Father is lying on the floor with the door open, Laura sees him and takes refuge in the room. There is an argument between the couple (Laura's parents). He goes out again slamming the door.

Scene III

Laura and her mother talking.

Laura: Why don't you report him to the police?

Mother: Because I know this is just a phase. Being unemployed can mess with a man's head.

Laura: And mess with a woman's body too...

Mother: I know sweetie, don't worry. It's all going to be fine soon.

Laura: Soon? Are you going to divorce him?

Mother: No, sweetie. Your dad is going to work in Spain.

Laura: In Spain?

Mother: Yes, no one would give him a job here. He has to take what he can get. Don't worry, things will change.

Laura: I'm concerned about you being all alone but I don't like the way he treats you either.

You know I'm not going to be here for much more time, I've got my PhD to finish.

Mother: I know sweetie. Don't worry, I'll be fine.

Laura: Good night, mom.

Mother: Good night.

Scene IV

Place: House door leading to the outside

The Father looks at his wife and daughter, puts the suitcases in the car, get in the car and leaves.

Scene V

Place: living room

Laura opens the door to the living room where her mother is sitting on the sofa.

Mother: (concerned) I was so eager for you to come home. We need to talk.

Laura: What's going on? You're scaring me Mom.

Mother: You know those hot flushes I have and the stomach aches?

Laura: Yeah, and have you been to the doctor yet?

Mother: Yes, I did. I've been taking some tests.

Laura: And?

Mother: (cautious) I have stomach cancer.

Laura: Why didn't you call me?

Mother: What for? To get you worried?

Laura: Oh mom! (she hugs her mom)

Mother: But I don't want you to worry, you're in a very important phase of you PhD and you can't be distracted.

Laura: You've got to be strong, Mom. Does Dad already know?

Mother: No. I was not even supposed to tell you, but these things cannot be hidden for long.

Laura: These things can't be hidden from the family. Haven't you told dad yet?

Mother: No. I haven't got the courage to do it.

Laura: Do you want me to tell him?

Mother: That might be better.

Scene VI

Place: house terrace

The father sitting in a chair with one hand on his head, the other holding his wife's hand. Laura brings her some tea.

Different scenes portraying the passing of several days: father and daughter become closer.

Scene VII

Place: Laura's room and her father's office in Spain

Laura and her father speak by video call

Father: How are you?

Laura: I'm doing okay. These trips to and from University annoy me a bit because mom's all alone and I can't help but be worried.

Father: And Mom, how is she?

Laura: The worst part is over.

Father: I'll try to visit you more often.

Laura: Make an effort, for her.

Father: For her and for me, sweetie.

Laura: For you? How come?

Father: Do you think I'm not aware of how I hurt you both?

Laura: It's all over now, dad. What matters now is that you can hold it together.

Father: Yes, yes, yes. I am going to, I am going to. I already went to the doctor and he forwarded me to a psychiatrist and he's been helping me a lot. I haven't drank in over three months. When your Mom got ill, I realized that I could have lost both of you.

Laura: Right...

Father: What matters is that you finish your PhD, I'll try to gather a few bucks and then I'll go back home to be with your Mom.

Laura: I'm happy to hear that.

Father: [emotional] I'm sorry sweetie.

Laura: It's ok Dad, it's all over now...

Father: Give your Mom a kiss.

Laura: Do you want to talk to her?

Father: No, no, no. Don't worry. I'll call her later.

Laura: You know what?

Father: What?

Laura: I think we should toast to your three months of sobriety!

Scene VIII

Place: Next to a chapel on top of a hill.

Father and daughter sit on a boulder and toast to life with two glasses of juice, drink and smile.

HAPPY FAMILY

Miguel is 17 years old and is in the 11th grade and his brother, who is 23 years old, is at the University, in the 3rd year studying to be a Lawyer.

Their parents worked in the same company, which went bankrupt, a few years ago and their father had to emigrate. Miguel's brother accepted the situation well, but Miguel felt a great revolt, because he preferred that his father had never emigrated. Their mother tries to change Miguel's attitude towards his father, but she cannot, because he insists that material goods do not replace the time they could have been together, the moments of absence and the moments they didn't share.

Miguel is about to enter the University and now he the one who will be leaving home.

Character: Miguel Silva, 17 years old

Emigration: Father went abroad to work

Themes: Company bankruptcy

Positive aspects: Economic improvement

Negatives aspects: Absence, uncertainty, loneliness, sense of outrage, unknown family core

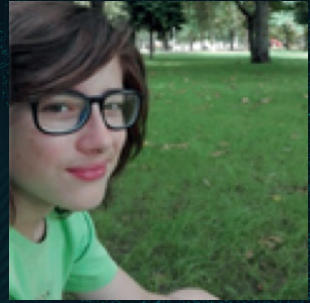




João Quintas (father)
42 years old



Patrícia Oliveira (mother)
47 years old



Mário China (Miguel)
13 years old



Gabriel Dias (Luís)
21 years old



Joshua Swift (Miguel)
21 years old

Scene I

Place: Backyard

Father and the two children are playing ball, while the mother peels a mandarin and smiles while viewing the scene. Mom calls them to take a picture.

Scene II

Place: Luís bedroom.

Father and children are sitting on the bed, father is playing the guitar, Miguel catches the photo, they play with each other, Miguel rests the photograph and Father plays again.

Scene III

Place: Outside the house

Miguel comes in through the gate and faces his mother and brother. Luis is his mother are crying, and that makes him sad, too. The Father appears with a suitcase, puts the suitcase on the floor and hugs his wife, then Luis and in the end he hugs Miguel and leaves. Everyone is watching him leaving, Miguel follows his father and stands still watching the gate closing.

Scene IV

8 Place: The mother's bedroom

Miguel peers through the door and sees his Mother looking at the photograph.

Scene V

Place: Outside the house

Father comes home with many gifts.

Father- How big my children are. Give me a kiss. Are you ok? My love.

(Luís hugs his father but Miguel walks way)

Father - Miguel, don't you give your father a hug? Didn't you miss me?

Miguel - (Gets closer) Why did you leave?

Father- Miguel... It had to be Miguel.

Miguel - It had to be or did you want to go?

Father - Don't you know that the factory where your mother and I worked went bankrupt?

Miguel - Even so, many others got jobs here. You could have done the same.

Father- Here the salary is miserable.

Miguel - A lot of people live like that and are happy. We could have been like that.

Mother - Come on, Miguel.

Father - Look, I brought you gifts. Come on. This one is for your brother and this one is for you. Open them!

Miguel - I'd rather have our life back as it was before.

Luís - Stop that.

Miguel - You can give the gifts to anyone you want, I don't want them.

Mother - Miguel. Come on. Wait...

Miguel goes away angry. His mother goes after him.

Scene VI

Place: Miguel's bedroom

Miguel (17 years old) looks at the photograph of when they were younger and happy.

Mother - I also miss those times.

Miguel - Luís is already in the 3rd year of Law. Time goes by fast.

Mother - Your father is almost arriving. 2 more years and he comes home.

Miguel - He's coming back and I'm leaving.

Mother - You have never understood your father, have you?

Miguel - I did, I just don't know if the sacrifice was worth it.

Mother - Wasn't worth it? Do you think that if he stayed in Portugal, we would have the life that we have? Do you think you would be studying?

Miguel - What about life mom? A life of absence?

Mother - It's not like that.

Miguel - No? So what is it like? Dad only comes home three times a year. Do you think that is being present?

Mother - We can't have it all, son.

Miguel - Either way, I would rather have the little that we had than what we have now.

Mother - We can't go back in time.

Miguel - No we can't, what a shame.

Miguel leaves the room and the mother continues looking at the photograph.

THE RETURN

Ana and João were emigrants in France for 23 years. Ana emigrated with her parents when she was a child and João emigrated when he was already a young man. They met in France, married and had a daughter. However, they always wanted to return to Portugal and, after 23 years away from their homeland, finally managed to return. After a few years, when her daughter finished her degree and became a nurse, she didn't get a job in Portugal and decided to emigrate with her boyfriend. It was a shock to Ana and João, because they never thought that their daughter had to go through what they had experienced in the past.

History repeats itself and once more a family has to be separated. Although in a very different scenario, emigration touches this family again.

Character: Ana Costa, 51 years old

Emigration: Emigrant in France for 23 years

Theme: Financial issues

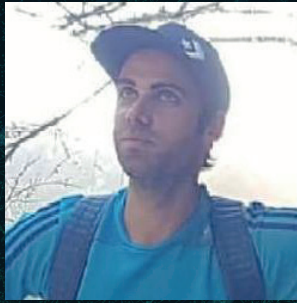
Positive aspects: Gathering money; better living conditions; investing in children's future

Negative aspects: Working for years in a country that says nothing to them; children repeat their parents' example and emigrate; stay alone in their homeland





Marta Pinto (young Teresa)
21 years old



Adriano Vieira (young João)
30 years old



Céu Barros (Teresa)
64 years old



Carlos Gama (João)
64 years old



Dalila Lourenço (Ana)
25 years old

Scene I

Place: Outside, on the street

Teresa - Mom, João and I decided to emigrate.

João - I know that it's difficult for you, because father is not here anymore. But Teresa and I have to think about our future.

Teresa - You know I've always dreamed of having children, and I do not want them to go through what we've been through.

Scene II

Place: Outside their house

Teresa - Finally, we are back home (hugs her husband).

João - Finally.

Scene III

Place: Living room

Ana looks for a job on the computer.

Scene IV

Place: Kitchen

Ana - Mother, Father, we need to talk.

Teresa - So, sweetie? Why do you look like that? What's wrong?

Ana - It's something very important.

Teresa - Don't tell me that you are getting married.

Ana - No mother, not that I haven't thought of it yet.

João - So, what do you have so important to tell us?

Ana - I'm going to emigrate.

João - Emigrate?

Ana - Yes father, emigrate. I have already finished my studies, I have done a lot of research and I don't find work here. I'm going back to France.

João - To France?

Ana - Yes, the country where I was born, it's going to be the one that will give me a job. I can speak French very well, I know the country, my future will be there. Here I have no future.

Teresa - What an irony of life. We've been working in France for so many years, and we saved some money with the dream that you would study here and continue your life here with us.

Ana - I know mother, but your country don't have the ability to fulfil your dream.

Scene V

Place: Bus station

Ana says goodbye to her parents, Teresa offers her the handkerchief her mother had given her and John offers her the pocket watch that her father had given him. They say goodbye to each other.

Scene VI

Place: Park bench

João - We wanted to come back to Portugal so much, educate our daughter, give her a future, have her around us and...

Teresa - And it was all down the drain.

João - Not all of it. Our daughter is a good nurse and it's going to practice her job in the country where she was born. We have to accept it. One day we also had to leave our parents.

Teresa - But those were different circumstances.

João - No woman, there's no differences. We have emigrated to France and our daughter did the same. The only difference is that our daughter was born there.

Teresa - Look, do you think that the land where we were born call for us? Or it's our blood that wants to go back to its origins?

João - So it is. We wanted to go back to our country and our daughter wanted to go back to where she was born.

Teresa - Maybe someday this will get better and our daughter will come back to us.

João - Keep on dreaming woman, keep on dreaming.

Scene VII

Ana - Mom? Dad? I want to tell you that I am very happy here because of my work. But the memories... The memories are immense. I love you so much. See you soon.

WE'RE SIX

Carla is 14 years old. She belongs to a large family: she has two brothers and one sister. Her Father is a very loving man with his children. He played with them in the park, played football with them. When they were all at the same table it was always a party. But life became difficult and her Father had to emigrate to give them a better life. Her Mother was left alone to take care of her children.

From that point on, all their lives changed completely: their Mother could not stand the absence of her husband, she went into depression with four small children ... the kids were raised either by their aunt or by their grandparents, sometimes by the neighbours. Margarida was the youngest and did not understand why life has changed so drastically! It was painful to see Mother suffer like that. For some time they neither had Father nor Mother.

Character: Carla Monteiro, 14 years old

Emigration: Father went to work out

Theme: Financial issues

Positive aspects: Better financial conditions

Negative aspects: Absence of father and mother; distance; loneliness; depression





João Quintas (father)
42 years old



Beatriz Neri (Carla)
18 years old



Miguel Carvalho (brother)
12 years old



Adriana Coutinho (sister)
10 years old



Luísa Carvalho (sister)
9 years old



Sofia Lemos (mother)
38 years old

Scene I

Place: Living room

Father plays hide and seek with his children.

Carla - We are a big family. I have two sisters and a brother. My father is a very loving man with his children. He played with us, helped us with our homework, played hide and seek.

Mom calls them to dinner.

Scene II

Place: Kitchen

Carla - When we were at the dinner table, it was always a party.

Scene III

Place: Bus station

Carla - Life has become hard and my dad had to emigrate to give us a better life, so my Mom was left all alone taking care of us.

They say good-bye to the father

Scene IV

Place: The mother's bedroom

Carla: From that moment on, our life changed completely. My Mom couldn't handle my Dad's absence and she got depressed with four little children to take care of...

Scene V

Place: Children's bedroom

Scene VI

Carla: I didn't understand why life had changed so dramatically. It was painful to watch my Mom suffer in such a way.

Scene VII

Place: House hall

Carla: The next day grandma took us with her. We were raised at our aunt's, at our grandparents', at our neighbours'...

Scene VIII

Place: Carla's bedroom and her father's car.

Carla and her father are in a video call.

Father - So daughter, how are you?

Carla - I'm fine.

Father - Then, tell me something. How is mom?

Carla - Grandma took her to the doctor, she's getting better already. She takes us to school and picks us up.

Father - How nice. This is very good.

Carla - We all miss you, Dad.

Father - I know kid, you need to be patient and strong. It's been very painful for me too.

Carla - I know Dad. When are you coming over?

Father - On Christmas.

Carla - Christmas? Aren't you coming over this summer?

Father - No kid, I can't. I have to save some money first and trips are quite expensive.

Carla - Of course...

Father - Carla, you're the oldest one, I'm counting on you to help Mom with your siblings

Carla - It's what I've been doing.

Father - I know I have no right to ask this to you, but we're a family and we must stick together.

Carla - Together? Since you've left our family was never together again. We've been going and coming back from our grandparent's house to our aunt's house.

Father - I had to come, kid, we couldn't handle it anymore. I couldn't be there. Here, I make decent money that I can send you back some.

Carla - In exchange for great sacrifices.

Father - Without sacrifices, nothing gets done.
Carla - Everything was different when you were here.
Father - I know. And everything will be like it used to be. You'll see...
Carla - Well, Dad, I've got to go to school. See you.
Father - Carla? Thank you for being there for me.
Carla - And thank you for never giving up.



A DREAM FUTURE

When we are young, we dream of a future, and everything seems so easy to achieve ... Two young people meet and fall in love, they have love and a life of dreams, they plan a future, a family, a house, a home ... They get married. He holds a Degree in Administration, and works in an English bank in Portugal.

Isabel graduated in Psychology and worked part-time. Isabel gets pregnant and they are enchanted with the idea of being parents because the couple see their dreams happen at the desired time. Everything seems to go well, until one day. Isabel's husband comes home with news that has shaken the whole family structure. The bank where the Luís worked was bought by a Spanish bank, agencies were closed, some employees got fired. He was forced to go to Spain accepting the proposal of the President of the new bank, leaving Isabel alone with a six-month-old baby. From that moment on life took many turns and the strength of the love of a young couple full of dreams was completely shaken and tested by fate.

Characters: Young Couple

Emigration: Man migrates to Spain

Theme: Man placed on a Bank outside Portugal; parents of a newborn

Positive aspects: Secure job; good salary; internet help in communication

Negative aspects: Absence in daughter's growth, lost time, distance in the prime of youth, shaken love





Vânia Silva (Isabel)

29 years old



Júlio Vilas Boas (Luís)

29 years old

Scene I

Place: A garden

Isabel - What is it? Why are you looking at me like that?

Luís - I don't know. Why do you think I'm looking at you like this?

Isabel - Because you love me?

Luís - I do but that's not all.

Isabel - Isn't it?

Luís - No. My eyes are also asking you to...

Isabel - Are you being serious right now?

Luís - Have I ever lied to you?

Isabel - Not that I know of, no. What are my eyes saying?

Luís - That you do?

Isabel - Yes, I do silly!!! Do you think we're going to make it?

Luís - Make it? What?

Isabel - Have a house...

Luís - Of course we are, I make decent money working in the bank and you...

Isabel - I've finished my PhD...

Luís - And you'll soon get a job, you'll see.

Scene II

Place: Bedroom

Luís - Good morning.

Isabel - Good morning!

Luís - Did you sleep well?

Isabel - A hot cup of coffee and a kiss from the love of my life, that's all I need.

Luís - Right...So? How's work been?

Isabel - It's been good, very good!

Luís - Good? That's nice.

Isabel - Do you know what day is it?

Luís - Wednesday?

Isabel - You know what day this is?

Luís - Course I do, do you think I'd forget our first wedding anniversary?

Isabel - A rose!

Luís - A rose, for each year.

Isabel - You're such a romantic...

Luís - Don't you like it?

Isabel - I love it, I just think that I don't correspond the same way.

Luís - Don't you worry, I can handle it... Got to go to work. I see you later.

Isabel - Bye.

Scene III

Place: In a garden, under a tree

Luís - What is it? Why are you looking at me like that?

Isabel - Why do you think I'm looking at you like that?

Luís - Because you love me?

Isabel - I do, but that's not all.

Luís - No?

Isabel - No. You're not going to ask me to marry you, are you?

Isabel - No. My eyes are also telling you that....

Luís - No! No! I can't believe it! I'm going to be a father!

Isabel - Yes. You're going to have a baby!

Scene IV

Place: In a garden.

Scene V

Place: Living-room.

Isabel - What's going on, darling? You look tired.

Luís - I am (he sits on the couch in silence)

Isabel - What is it? Are you okay? (she puts her hand on his knee)

Luís - I am... (pauses)

Isabel - Tell me what's going on.

Luís - The bank is closing down.

Isabel - So what? Is it that serious?

Luís - Yes, It is that serious! I'm gonna lose my job.

Isabel - Darling, you're young, you'll get a job at any bank.

Luís - Isabel, It's not that simple, you know it's not that easy. Portugal isn't the best place to find a job.

Isabel - Don't worry, we'll make it through.

Luís - How? You're doing part-time. We have the home and car loan to pay. The car. How are we gonna make it?

Isabel - We'll figure it out.

Luís - There is something...

Isabel - Oh yeah? Have you found a solution already?

Luís - The bank was bought by a Spanish bank and the new boss made a proposition to some of us.

Isabel - What proposition?

Luís - Going to Spain.

Isabel - See! So not everything's lost.

Luís - You're not listening are you?

Isabel - What am I not understanding?

Luís - We'll have to be separated.

Isabel - It's not a separation, darling.

Luís - What is it then? What do you call this if not a separation?

Isabel - Well, just a couple of moments of physical absence. We're bound together by love.

Luís - Like you once said, love's not everything.

Isabel - Well I was wrong... Love is everything. Let's think, nowadays we have the internet. We can talk every day.

Luís - Are you telling me I'm gonna see my daughter on the Internet? You are not serious, are you?

Isabel - Come on Luís. I'm trying to figure it out. Either you go and we manage to make it through the physical absence or you stay and we try to sell something, I don't know. We can sell the car.

Luís - We're not gonna sell anything.

Isabel - Okay so what are we gonna do?

Luís - I'm taking the offer, I don't have any other option. In fact, it is a good position in a new office and the truth is that the salary is significantly higher. But I don't want to leave.

Isabel - Everything is gonna be alright, okay? Everything will be fine.

Scene VI

Place: In a garden, under a tree. A café in Spain.

Isabel - Hi daddy!

Luís - Hello, my little princesses!

Isabel - So, love? It's been three months, how are you feeling?

Luís - When I come home I recharge batteries. Our daughter is so pretty. Hi!

Isabel - This week we're gonna have a holiday on Friday, we will have a mini-vacation.

Luís - True. Can't wait!

Isabel - And how's work going?

Luís - Good, it's still going ok. Look, it's still better than when I was in Portugal.

Isabel - Of course. A good family leader could only be a good professional, too!

Luís - And you? How are you holding up taking care of our little one alone?

Isabel - It's fine, sometimes I take her to your Mom, sometimes I take her to mine. When I need to take care of some stuff.

Luís - Yeah. Wait a couple of months and I can find a place here for the three of us. Do you want it, too?

Isabel - Maybe it's better, so you don't have to make as many trips. And do you think I could get something there in Psychology?

Luís - Yeah, I think so. But look, my salary is enough for everything right now. We can have a decent life here.

Isabel - Look, now we have to go. Bye daddy.

Luís - Bye princess. Bye. Kiss

Isabel - Bye





Daniel Martins - Creative Lemons

Daniel Martins is the CEO and Co-Founder at Creative Lemons. With a background in art school and photography before co-founding Creative Lemons, this is something always present in the vision of new and innovative projects. By 2012, the project "City of Braga", a mix between photo and video (timelapse), was concluded with great success and visibility worldwide. By 2013, his pursuit of innovation brought the creation of the first 360° video in Portugal, in a time when 360° video was just a concept and there was no specialized equipment or software to develop this kind of videos. To date, the focus has been in leading the Creative Lemons company on a journey to create great projects for quality clients and agencies and get the name "Creative Lemons" associated with content creation, creativity, innovation and quality.



Cristina Leite - Creative Lemons

Formed in the course of communication sciences, with a specialization in Audiovisual and Multimedia, Cristina is a proactive and enthusiastic member of Creative Lemons, working as videographer, a function she has been performing for the past three years. Among several passions that began with the cinema, she's passionate about creative storytelling and making compelling videos. The post-production area was first her main activity, but just as the book needs a pen, Cristina has gained an interest in filming, and today she feels fulfilled performing both. Cristina hopes to find a path in advertising videos where the creators can extend their views in order to break trivial ways of creating new realities.



Vânia Silva - Creative Lemons

In the Secondary School she created a theater group that presented several plays related to important books of the Portuguese Literature, in the school library.

In 2008 she represented the Academy in the Czech Republic with the show "The Others".

In 2010 she played the lead role in a short film "Surviving" which was awarded in England.

Between 2009 and 2012 she worked as a resident actress, acting assistant and trainer at the Creativity Center.

In 2011 she participated in the Festival January which is a festival of great shows in Recife, Brazil, with the show "Bird of Paper". That show was also presented in other cities in the north of the country.

From 2012 to 2013 she worked as a resident actress, staging assistant and trainer at Fafe Cidade das Artes. Throughout her artistic career she has always been linked to Tin.Bra as a director, trainer and actress.

From 2014 until the present day she is artistic director, director, actress and teacher at Tin.Bra - Theater Academy.



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