tatiana nascimento

lunduzinho

Translated from the Portugese by Natália Affonso

lunduzinho is a bilingual chapbook of selected poems by Brazilian poet tatiana nascimento, translated by Natália Affonso. This selection is meant as a celebration of tatiana’s acclaimed Lundu (2016) and of her Afro-Brazilian, sexual dissident, silence and sea-led poetic craft. nascimento threads the complexities of the formation of Brazil and uses elements of Pretuguês (Black Portuguese), Spanish, English, pajubá (an Afro, Indigenous, Cuír Brazilian dialect), and Afro-Brazilian cosmologies to conjure poetry that is deeply rhythmical, spiritual and ancestral.

// lunduzinho is tatiana nascimento’s living testament, demiurgic engine, and praise poem to the boundless possibilities inherent in a queer Afro-Brazilian poetical philosophy. Her revelatory linguistic artistry travels through Natália Affonso’s potent translation into English as ecocentric technology for renewed, renewing, and renewable ways of being. In defiance of a rigid colonial blueprint, nascimento splits, remixes, and reforges words not to discover but to reclaim epistemological lineages released from capitalist temporalities into a fluid, circular time that encompasses a shared knowledge.

— Akilah White

// nascimento’s provocative Afro-futurist poems demand to be read out loud, and felt in the body in their own terms. In Affonso’s inventive translations, they sing in multiple languages and dialects, from Black Portuguese and Cuír lingo to Spanish and English, to form a language all their own. A stunning chapbook to cherish and reread.

—Bruna Dantas Lobato

tatiana nascimento is from Brasília, Brazil. She has published almost two dozen books, as well as 50+ titles of other Black and queer authors through padê editorial, her publishing house. Her research/production dives into silences, memories, noises, melodies, to disarchitect words and assemble a re-engineering of the senses, especially in the themes of affection, Blackness, the Brazilian savannah, the sea & her beloved daughter Irê.

Natália Affonso is a translator, teacher, researcher and activist who sometimes commits (to) poems. She’s from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where she created the award-winning literary salon Sapatão & Ficção. She studies Caribbean and Brazilian sexual-dissident literature at U.C. Irvine, where she is one of the head editors of the journal Interversar.

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