

XAVIER PLACER (Niterói RJ Brasil, 1916), university professor (UNIRIO) and professional librarian (BN), published books in his specialty (by MEC and MA) and translations. Mainly devoted to fiction, poetry and essay. Debuting with the novel **THE CHOICE** (J. Olympio, 1944), he continued with this **TWELVE SHORT STORIES** (Agir, 1946) this "Award of Tales Afonso Arinos" of ABL.

He then turned to poetic prose: **IMAGES OF THE CITY** (Ed Margem, 1952), with preface by Otto Maria Carpeaux; **THE SOLITARY NAVIGATOR** (Ed Margem, 1956); **THE DREAMER** (Ed Margem, 1959) and **LEGENDS OF THE FLUMENSE LAND** (AFL, 1960). They came to follow poems in prose, **SILENCE IN** (Liv San Jose, 1961); **TRAVEL NEWS** (Liv São José, 1976); **SURVEY** (Liv São José, 1977); **MEMORIAL** (Ed Zagora, 1980); **GLADE** (Ed Zagora, 1986); **MOSAIC** (Letras Fluminenses, 1988); **THE HOUSE** (Letras Fluminenses, 1989) and **MINI-PROSES** (Letras Fluminenses, 1991).

In poetry: **MINI-POEMS** (Ed Zagora, 1978); **FLOWER-ACTION** (Ed Zagora, 1983); **ELOS / EROS** (Ed Zagora, 1985); **THE YOUNG PAIR** (Ed Zagora, 1985); **YES.** (Ed Zagora, 1987); **THE SEA, THE SEA** (Ed Letras Fluminenses, 1988); **CARTUNS** (Ed Letras Fluminenses, 1988) and **THE GEOMETER** (Ed Letras Fluminenses, 1992).

His essays: **THE POEM IN PROSE, CONCEPT AND ANTHOLOGY** (MEC, Cadernos de Cultura, 1961); **TWO CONFERENCES: J. A. RIMBAUD and PANORAMA OF MODERN BRAZILIAN ROMANCE** (AFL, 1955); **IMPRESSIONISM IN THE FICTION: GRAÇA ARANHA AND ADELINO MAGALHÃES** cap. in **THE LITERATURE IN BRAZIL**, directed by Afranio Coutinho (1955-59) and **ADELINO MAGALHÃES AND IMPRESSIONISM IN FICTION** (Liv São José, 1962).

Translations: **THE WELL-BELOVED** (novel), by Thomas Hardy (Ed West, 1944), **FABÍOLA** (novel), by Cardinal Wiseman (Ed West, 1945), **A STATION IN HELL**, by JA Rimbaud (Cadernos de Cultura, MEC, 1952).

He collaborated with short stories and articles in the literary supplements of the newspapers: **THE MORNING** (Letters and Arts); **THE NEWSPAPER; NEWS DIARY; TRADE JOURNAL; MINAS GERAIS** and **O FLUMINENSE**. and literary supplements in the magazines of Rio de Janeiro: **SOMBRA; READING; CULTURE** (MEC); **JOURNAL OF LETTERS; FLUMINESE LETTERS; POETRY FOR ALL** and **ANE BULLETIN** (Brasília, DF).

(biobibliography prepared by the author)

Update 2016:

Year of the centenary of birth of Xavier Placer

Professional Resume

He was head of the SIA Library (Agricultural Information Service) of the Ministry of Agriculture, in Rio de Janeiro. With the transfer of the Capital to Brasília (1961), he was transferred to the Ministry of Education, and began to work in the National Library (Rio de Janeiro). In addition to being a librarian, he taught librarianship at the Biblioteca Nacional. In the 1970s it became part of FEFIEG, then UNIRIO).

After retirement at BN (1980s), he became titular professor and head of the Department of Librarianship at UNIRIO. In 1986 he retired, at the age of 70.

He was a member of the AFL (Fluminense Academy of Letters) and ANL (Niteroiense Academy of Letters).

Personal Information

Xavier Placer was born on October 6, 1916 in Niterói RJ Brasil. Son of Spaniards from Galicia (Pontevedra and Vigo), he was married (1947) with Margarida Moreira Placer (1923-2008), also daughter of Spaniards. He had two children: Flavio (1947) and Celio (1951) and three grandchildren: Augusto (1985), and the twins Andrea and Bernardo (1986).

He lived in Pendotiba, Niterói, RJ, Brazil in a wooden house (prefabricated) that he had built and baptized *Rondinella* (photo on the side). He lived there for 32 years (since 1976), in the middle of the green and his library, where he read, wrote and received his friends to talk about his favorite subject: Literature.

It was in *Rondinella* that he wrote most of his books. He liked painting, sculpture and classical music. When he was not reading or writing, he exchanged letters with close or distant friends. He preferred the letters on the phone. It sought to update itself on scientific discoveries and new technologies and thought that the printed book would be replaced by the electronic book (which did not yet exist). He did not like to watch television. She slept and woke up early. He read and wrote in Spanish, French, Italian, English, Latin and a little Greek, but he did not speak any foreign language, he said that he had "heard badly at tongues." Although he knew almost all of Brazil (traveling to work) he never went abroad, but he knew the world through readings and liked to locate cities and countries on the map. He spoke a correct Portuguese but without grammar. He had a stable temperament, always the same, and he was optimistic about the future. In addition to literature, he read about Philosophy, History and Religion (all but sympathized with Zen-Buddhism). Where he went, he carried one or two books (bought in tallow or received from

friends). He always carried a few blank sheets of paper and a pencil stump with rubber eraser on the end, and every now and then he would note down some idea that occurred to him or mark the book he was reading. I once asked him if he was happy, he replied that he was happy ... This, in short, the Xavier Placer I knew.

He died in Niterói RJ Brasil on March 24, 2008, when he was almost 92 years old. He left without publishing the novel **ARNÓBIO, THE YOUNG** (finished in 2006).

Celio M Placer
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Acronyms:

ABL - Brazilian Academy of Letters
AFL - Academia Fluminense de Letras
ANE - National Association of Writers
BN - National Library
FEFIEG - Federação Federal Escolas Isoladas de Estado de Guanabara
MA - Ministry of Agriculture
MEC - Ministry of Education and Culture
UNIRIO - Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro