

CURRICULUM VITAE

SÓNIA VAZ BORGES (PhD.)

Department of History and Africana Studies Program
Drexel University
3250-60 Chestnut Street, Suite 3025
Philadelphia, PA 19104

sv683@drexel.edu
www.soniavazborges.com

EDUCATION:

Ph.D., Education Sciences- History of Education, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany, conferred in 2016, passed *with magna cum laude*.

Dissertation: Militant Education. Liberation struggle, conscientization, and underground educational structures in Guinea Bissau 1963-1978.

Advisor: Professor Doctor Marcelo Caruso

M.A., African History, Faculty of Humanities of the University of Lisbon, Portugal, conferred in 2009, passed with distinction.

Dissertation: Amílcar Cabral: political and cultural strategies for the independence of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde.

Advisor: Professor Doctor Isabel Castro Henriques

B.A., Modern and Contemporary History – Politics and International Affairs, ISCTE – University Institute of Lisbon, Portugal, conferred in 2003.

Accredited Adult Educator, Instituto de Artes e Ciências. Lisbon, conferred in 2003.

ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2021- Assistant Professor College of Arts and Sciences - Drexel University - History Department and Africana Studies program

2019 - August 2021- Researcher at Institut für Erziehungswissenschaften - Humboldt University Berlin.

2018-2019 - Research Associate - CUNY The Graduate Center, New York

2016-2017 - Visiting Assistant Professor - CUNY Graduate Center, New York

RESEARCH FIELDS:

Militant Research; African History; Black Studies; Liberation and social movements struggles; History of Education; Decolonial Studies and Methodologies; Narratives and oral history and archives.

SPOKEN AND WRITTEN LANGUAGES:

Cape Verdean Creole: native
Portuguese: native
English: excellent
German: fluent conversational/reading
Spanish: fluent conversational/reading
French: fluent reading
Italian: fluent reading

PUBLICATIONS:

Books

Militant Education, liberation struggle and consciousness. The PAIGC education in Guinea Bissau 1963-1978. Berlin: Peter Lang 2019.

Na Pó Di Spéra. Percursos nos Bairros da Estrada Militar, de Santa Filomena e da Encosta Nascente. Lisbon: Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian; 2014.

Under Contract revision

Rágas, Common Notions ed., 2022

In preparation

Remembering the Struggles. The walking archive - life and diasporic hi-stories of liberation movements. (book-research proposal)

Edited books

A escola intercultural: Perspectivas Europeias. Documentação do Projecto. Lisbon: SPGL, 2012.

África-Europa: cooperação académica, Lisboa: Fundação Friedrich Ebert, 2008.

Militant Research Publications

The PAIGC's political education for liberation in Guinea Bissau. 1963-1974. Tricontinental - Studies on National Liberation. 2022.

Caderno Consciência e Resistência Negra. Amadora: Associação Encontros, Vol. I-X, 2007-2011.

Book Chapters

Teaching Math as a Narrative of Solidarity. GDR Educational Cooperation and Unforeseen Collaborations in the FRELIMO Mozambican Math Textbooks (1971-1975), in (Post-)Sozialistische Bildung - Narrative, Bilder, Mythen, Zeitschrift für Pädagogik, 69. Beiheft, 2023, p. 145-163.

Militant Mangrove School, in *For antifascist futures. Against the violence of the imperial crisis*. Common Notions, Philadelphia. 2022. 259-272.

Militant Mangrove School, in *Education Shock. Learning, Politics and Architecture in the 1960s and 1970s*. De Gruyter, Berlin, 2020, p. 164-169.

Um cozido à Portuguesa – ingredientes de um arquivo, in Mónica de Miranda – *Contos de Lisboa*, Arquivo Municipal de Lisboa, Lisboa, 2020, p. 19-21.

Delineating youth between the Old and the New. The youth magazine Blufo as a educational instrument for decolonization during the liberation struggle in Guinea-Bissau (1966-1973). Book Series: *Studia Educationis Historica: Bildungsgeschichtliche Studien/Studies in the History of Education/ Estudios de Historia de la Educación*, Peter Lang. 2020.

On Space of imaginations and the space of memories: Remembering Conakry PAIGC headquarters, in *The Funambulist* by its readers. *Political Geographies from Chicago and Elsewhere – Commissioned by the 2019 Chicago Architecture Biennial*, 2019, p. 54-62.

We are going to build/Nós vamos construir, in “The struggle is not over yet. An archive in relation”, Berlin: Archive Books. 2017. 132-149.

Na pó di Spera: die koloniale Peripherie Lissabons, In *Decolonize the city. Zur Kolonialität der Stadt – Gespräche | Aushandlungen | Perspektiven*, eds. Zwischenraum Kollektiv (Hg) Munster: Unrast. 2017. 14-24.

Laços, afectos e metodologias: descritivo de um projecto de formação parental. O projecto Laço no Bairro de Santa Filomena na Amadora In *Crianças e Jovens em Risco. A família no centro da Intervenção*, by Daniel Sampaio, Hugo Cruz and Maria João Leote, Lisbon: Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, 2011. 301-336.

Essays/Articles

“Introduction”. in Cabral, Amílcar, *Tell no lies, claim no easy victories*, Inkani Books, Johannesburg, 2022, p. 12-17.

“Rostu pa mar, kosta pa terra”: *The Cape Verdean Diaspora in Portugal*. in *Diasporas. The Funambulist*, Paris, 43rd issue, Paris. 2022.

The Walking Archives – Recovering the stories of the history of the national liberation struggle of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde (PAIGC), in *New Alphabet School*, HKW, Berlin. <https://newalphabetschool.hkw.de/the-walking-archives-recovering-the-stories-of-the-history-of-the-national-liberation-struggle-of-the-african-party-for-the-independence-of-guinea-and-cape-verde-paigc/> (Online Access)

House of the Students of the Empire, in *The Funambulist – Pan-Africanism*, 31, November-December 2020, 34-39.

On Space of imaginations and the space of memories: Remembering Conakry PAIGC headquarters, in *The Funambulist – Politics of Space and Bodies*, 21, January-February 2019, 20-23.

Manuscripts approved for publication

The Walking Archives. Recovering the stories of the history of the national liberation struggle of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde (PAIGC), 2023, HKW& Archive Books.

Os arquivos errantes. Recuperando as hi-stórias da luta de libertação nacional do PAIGC/ Errant Archives: Recovering histories of the liberation struggle, Documentos originais para preparação de edições Amílcar Cabral recuperados de Mário de Andrade, Bom Dia Boa Tarde Boa Noite.

FILMOGRAPHY:

Mangrove School, Sónia Vaz Borges & Filipa César et al. video & 16 mm transferred to video, 2K, sound, color, 35', 2022.

Lugares da memória, 2019, with Carla Fernandes. Culturgest – Fundação CGD (contributed with background text).

Navigating the Pilot School, Sónia Vaz Borges & Filipa César, 12', 2016.

ARTISTIC INSTALLATIONS IN EXIBITHIONS:

Artistic Installation: Navigating the Pilot School

With Filipa César, Resistência Visual Generalizada – Livros de Fotografia e Movimentos de Libertação: Angola, Moçambique, Guiné-Bissau e Cabo Verde. Galerias Municipais de Lisboa, Cordoaria Nacional, (2022).

Curation: Catarina Boieiro and Raquel Schefer
Portugal/Lisbon

Artistic Installation: Navigating the Pilot School

With Filipa César, Résistance visuelle généralisée. Livres de photographie et mouvements de libération (Angola, Mozambique, Guinée-Bissau, Cap-Vert, 1960-1980), at l'Institut national d'histoire de l'art (INHA), 2022.

Curation: Catarina Boieiro et Raquel Schefer
France/Paris

Artistic Installation: Leitura do Mangue

with Filipa César, Escola das Artes do Porto, 2021.

Curation: Daniel Ribas and Nuno Crespo
Portugal/Porto

Film Installation: Skola di Tarafi

with Filipa César, Education Shock, Haus der Kulturen der Welt. 2021.

Curation: Tom Holert
Germany/Berlin

Artistic Installation: Navigating the Pilot School

short film and exhibition presented at the international exhibition “Imminent Pedagogization. Architecture, Instructional Technology and (Experimental) Pedagogy around 1970” at BACK, basis voor actuele kunst. 2021

Curation: Tom Holert
Netherlands/Utrecht

PRIZES

Mangrove School (2022), awarded The No. 1 African Film Award, at the Ann Arbor Film Festival 2023.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

Visiting Research Scholar. Center for Place, Culture, and Politics, Graduate Center. New York. 2022-2024.

Radio MAC. Programme curated by Sónia Vaz Borges and Monica de Miranda. Chimurenga & Hangar. Lisbon, March 2021.

Rosa Luxemburg, Sweden Uppsala archive and Oral History Interviews, April 2015.

Rosa Luxemburg, Guinea Bissau, Archive research and Oral History interviews, Mai-July 2014.

Rosa Luxemburg Doctoral Fellowship. (Berlin, 2012-2016).

Fellow Lifelong Learning – Berlin Scholarship from EU-Programms Grundtvig, ILE- Berlin Institut Für Lebenslanges Lernen in Europa (2012-2013).

Fellow Internship in Political Education – Germany Scholarship from EU-Programms Grundtvig Zeitpfeil e.V (2011).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS/LECTURES:

Keynote talks

Bulding Archives and Writing Histories through Walking. Guest Speaker at IDS Public Lecture Series at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art College, NY, December 15th, 2022.

Picturing revolt. Closing keynote for the International Conference on Revolutionary Arts, Center for Place Culture and Politics, annual conference. New York, Mai 2022.

A educação militante do PAIGC. Práticas e memórias na construção da cidadania, opening Keynote paper presented at open session of the XV Congress Sociedade Portuguesa de Ciências da Educação, Porto, September 11th, 2020.

Invited talks

The power of writing: Stories from the liberation struggle, Drexel Writing Festival, Drexel University, Philadelphia, May 11th, 2023

Militant Education, Liberation Struggle, Consciousness: The PAIGC education in Guinea Bissau 1963-1978, Guest Lecture Race, Land and (Dis)/(Re)possession: Critical Topics in Environmental (In)justice and Subaltern Geographies course (AFR 235.01) on Williams College, April 6, 2023.

Envisioning collections: The tote bag and the things they carry!, Historians and the Collections Symposium, Drexel University, March 9th, 2023.

For Antifascist Futures: Against the Violence of Imperial Crisis. Book launch and film presentation. Making Worlds Bookstore. September 30th, Philadelphia. 2022.

PAIGC Political education. in conversation with Victor Barros. Mbongi67. July 30th, 2022 Amadora (Portugal).

Memory, Identity and Representation – The Black Presence in Portugal. in conversation with Cristina Roldão, Avenida da Índia Gallery, July 23rd, 2022, Lisbon (Portugal).

Political Education for Liberation: Learning from the PAIGC. PanAfricanism Today; Tricontinental, August. 2022 (Webinar)

The Liberation Struggle in School Manuals. The FRELIMO Math Book in Mozambique and the International Collaborations. Africa at Noon - African Studies Program UW–Madison. December 8, 2021.

Writing the Third World. Political education & the PAIGC. Conversation with Elena Serrano. Center for Political Education. November 30th. 2021. (Webinar).

Militant Mangrove School, Collective lecture presented at Porto Summer School, together with Filipa César, July 7th, Porto, 2021.

Pó di Terra: Amílcar Cabral's Agropoetics of Liberation, Lecture presented at Gropius Bau as part of the exhibition Otobong Nkanga: There's No Such Thing as Solid Ground, together with Filipa César and Diana McCarty, Berlin, October 29th, 2020.

Amílcar Cabral and the liberation struggle, lecture presented at The People's Forum (online), Berlin- NY, August 12th, 2020

Arte/ Educação decolonial com prática de liberdade, paper/conversation presented at Hangar- Centro de Investigação Artística (online), Berlin-Lisbon, May 20nd, 2020.

Luta Ca Caba Inda. Making(collective) History. paper presented at Symposium Condition Report 4: Stepping out of line; Art Collectives and Transnational Parallelism, at Dhaka Art Summit – Seismic Movements, Bangladesh, February 2nd, 2020.

Militant Education: "Pilot Schools" and "Jungle Schools" in Guinea and Guinea Bissau around 1970. Paper presented at Education Shock. Learning, Politics and Architecture in the Global 1960s and 70s, Berlin, November 30th, 2019.

Micro – Resistances, in Rights of Future Generations, Sharjah Architecture Triennial. Dubai, November 10th, 2020

Building schools in the forest. Nature and the Architecture of the space. paper presented at Forum Rights of Future Generation: schooling and Education, Sharjah Architecture Triennial. Dubai, February 9th, 2018.

The Walking Archives. Recovering the (hi)stories of the PAIGC Liberation Movement, paper presented for a seminar co-sponsored by the Departments of Race and Resistance Studies, Africana Studies, Asian American Studies, Latina/Latino Studies, and American Indian Studies, at San Francisco State University. San Francisco, November 15th, 2017.

Militant education and the making of school curriculum during the liberation struggle. The example of Guinea Bissau, paper presented at the 39th ISCHE International Standing Conference for history of Education. Buenos Aires, Jul. 18-21st, 2017.

We are going to build, paper presented at the 4th Edition Encounters Beyond History. Luta Ca Caba Inda-An Archive in Relation. Guimarães- Portugal. Dec. 12, 2015.

The youth magazine Blufó: an educational instrument for decolonization in the PAIGC's, paper presented at the Decolonization(s) and Education. New Men and New Politics. Berlin – Germany. Nov. 27th, 2015.

Conferences/Workshops

Speculative Practice and the politics of the Wayward. A workshop Windoek to Tombua and Return. South Africa, Namibia and Angola. June 25th- July 7th.

Building Schools in the forest. The Guinean liberation movement experience between 1963 and 1974, paper presented at the 40th ISCHE International Standing Conference for history of Education. Berlin, Aug.29 – Sep.1st, 2018.

Liberated Zones were Real, Insurgent Solidarities: CPCP Annual Conference, April 12th, 2018 (Moderator and co-organizer).

“The Militant Image”: and the struggles against colonialism: CPCP Film Series, February-March 2018 (Moderator and organizer).

Education for Liberation: The Role of Political Education in the PAIGC's Struggle for Independence and the lessons for today, paper presented at the Center for Political Education and LeftRoots. Oakland, November 15th, 2017.

Silences in African history. The underground education structures, paper presented at the Narrative in Practice: Dissonance, Encounter, Opacity, Underground, Erasure. Graduate Center, New York March. 16th, 2017.

Education Pending Revolution, Consciousness and Revolution II: Educating for Change in the Era of Authoritarian Populism. May 5th, 2017, (Moderator and co-organizer).

The ‘Liberation struggle’ and the educational system in the liberated areas in Guinea Bissau, 1960-1974, paper presented at 25th DgfE Kongress. Räume für Bildung. Räume der Bildung. Kassel – Germany, March. 14th, 2016.

Can a liberation struggle be considered an educational practice? paper presented at the Forschung Kolloquium, Humboldt University, Berlin – Germany. Jul. 7th, 2015.

SCIENTIFIC/ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

Atlantica: Contemporary Art in Cabo-Verde, Guinea-Bissau and São Tomé and Príncipe and its Diasporas. Hangar Books; Lisbon (2020)

Conference: Visible Evidence - the annual conference for documentary film and media, Frankfurt (2021)

Conference: Consciousness and Revolution II: Educating for Change in the Era of Authoritarian Populism. Graduate Center, New York (2017)

Symposium: Narrative in Practice: Dissonance, Encounter, Opacity, Underground, Erasure. Graduate Center, New York (2017)

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE:

Interview “militant memory & the walking archive w/ Sónia Vaz Borges” in Africa World Now Project, 2023.

<https://soundcloud.com/africaworldnowproject/militant-memory-the-walking-archive-w-sonia-vaz-borges>

Interview “Education as an act of civil Resistance” in The Morning after the Crisis by RAW Podcasts, 2020.

<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/raw-material-company/episodes/2--Education-as-an-act-of-civil-resistance-efaqko>

Interview “Learning from Amílcar Cabral” in A moment of true decolonization- a daily podcast series by the Funambulist in Confinement, 2020.

<https://thefunambulist.net/podcast/daily-podcast-13-sonia-vaz-borges-learning-from-amilcar-cabral>

Interview “Militant Education, Liberation Struggle, Consciousness - PAIGC Education In Guinea Bissau 1963-1978” Millennials are Killing Capitalism, 2020.

Website: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/episode-50-militant-education-liberation-struggle-consciousness/id1292638162?i=1000469847260>

Interview by Brian Kamazi “From Plataforma Gueto to Militant Education in the PAIGC in conversation with Sónia Vaz Borges” Pathways to Free education.

Website: <https://www.mixcloud.com/pathwaystoedu/from-plataforma-gueto-to-militant-education-in-the-paigc-in-conversation-with-sonia-vas-borgez/>, 2018.

Interview by Walter Turner “Amílcar Cabral, education and the walking archives” 94.1 KPFA.

Website: <https://kpfa.org/player/?audio=278253>, 2017.

Interview by João Carlos. “Para Amílcar Cabral, a educação era a principal arma da libertação” África, Cabo Verde. Deutsche Welle.

Website: <http://www.dw.com/pt/para-amilcar-cabral-a-educacao-era-a-principal-arma-da-libertacao/a-18200807>, 2014.

Interview by Carla Fernandes “Sónia Vaz Borges apela à produção literária dos afro-descendentes” Rádio AfroLis, Lisbon.

website: <http://radioafrolis.com/2014/12/11/audio-35-sonia-vaz-borges-apela-a-producao-literaria-dos-afrodescendentes>, 2014.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Drexel University (undergraduate students)

History of education and resistance (Winter Quarter 2023)

In relation. Black woman intellectuals (Spring Quarter 2022)

Silences in African History (Winter Quarter, 2022; Fall 2023)

The New School - Parsons School of Design (undergraduate students)

Seminar Students Final Presentation Review - Nigerian School - Design Studio (March 2018)

CUNY- The Graduate Center (Graduate students)

Liberation struggle(s). Militant activism, civil society and strategies of resistance (2017 -2018).

Aga Khan Foundation

Introduction to Sustainable Local Community Development (Aga Khan Foundation - Lisbon 2011 - 2012).

CECOA - Secretariado Diocesano de Lisboa da obra Pastoral dos Ciganos

Citizenship and Human Rights (Lisbon, 2011).

Friedrich Ebert Foundation – Goethe Institute

Lisbon Rally Paper- Teacher training course on teaching diversity in urban settings (Lisbon, 2011)

STUDENTS ORIENTATION/PRIZES:

Prize: The Raymon M. Lorantas (Drexel University)

2023 Student orientation on the essay, "A Narrative of African History and Development" (inbound student College of Computing and Informatics)

Prize: The Raymon M. Lorantas (Drexel University)

2022 Student orientation on the essay, "Theology, Education, and African Liberation Struggles" (Global Studies major)

Prize: VP Franklin Award for Africana Studies and the African Diaspora

2022 Student orientation on the essay, "Prisoners of Geography: The Silencing of African History" (political science major)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Project Assistant, EU-Programms Grundtvig Institut für Lebenslanges Lernen, Berlin, 2013.

Project Manager, Instituto das Comunidades Educativas, Setúbal, 2011.

Transnational Project Coordinator TEIAS, Instituto das Comunidades Educativas, Setúbal, 2007.

Archive Assistant, Arquivo Histórico Ultramarino/ NLS Solutions S.A, Lisbon, 2005-2006.

MILITANT COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Collaborator and founding member of the Podcast History of Education On Air (HistEdOnAir).
<https://histedonair.com>

Collaborator and founding member *Plataforma Gueto* - antiracist and anti-police violence organization, Portugal.

Street social worker and community organizer in the neighborhood of Santa Filomena, Lisbon, 2010-2013.

Founding member and President of *Associação Encontros* an African descendent NGO in Lisbon – Portugal 2004- 2011.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:

Certificated Event Manager, CECOA, Lisbon, 2011.

Conflict management training, Gabinete de Apoio ao Movimento Associativo (GAB), Amadora, 2006.

Basketball Player ESA–Escola Secundária da Amadora, Lisbon. 1994-2002.