

ORLANDA AMARILIS: WOMEN'S CAPEVERDIAN LITERATURE

MARIA R. TURANO

Orlanda Amarilis expresses a deep attention to the female world, both as a writer and as a teacher and a socially involved person.

Orlanda remembers that her childhood world in the island was inhabited only by female characters. Her particular sensibility to women's topics can be found in her short stories and in her social activity. In fact since she has been living in Lisbon for years, she has always been concerned with the capeverdian women's immigration and with the many related problems. Her social concern is expressed in the collection of short stories *Cais do Sodre até Salamansa*, whereas another collection *Ilheu dos passaros* is more lyrical being steeped in moods, magic atmospheres, family relations, childhood experiences and ancestral myths. The sea and the wind, which are essential elements in capeverdian nature ripple and sigh through in the writer's pages.

The last collection, published in the last months of 1989, represents a further step in the writer's aesthetical pursuit.

In the next issue we shall present an interview with the author and a translation of a short story with a few biographical and critical notes.