

## TO SPEAK OF RAILDA

Author: Soraia Salmeiro

To speak of Railda, our Mother, is to speak about beauty. Talk about color, flavor, nature. Talk about creation, transformation she had a look ahead of her world, her time. Railda was self-taught: she created, transformed, beautified. She tasted with her own hands and her imagination, Divine inspiration!

She married at a young age. A child woman! She matured and grew up with her children, learning to live and survive.

Despite a fortunate marriage, at a certain point she had to fight for her family's subsistence. It was in this moment, in that pain, the warrior, creative, VANGUARDIST woman emerges.

- She began to use her keen senses on sweets and confectionery cakes !!
- From the Caatinga and from Cerrado she harvested dry flowers. She gave life, color and harmony to enchant and beautify homes and different places.
- With paraffin she modeled: fruits, vegetables, flowers, candles and many other manufactured products.
- Tile, shackle, frame, clay, soap, plaster, glue, organdi, satin, cotton, organza, cheetah, pistil, canvas, poplin, wood, pitch, paper, plastic, wire, line, elastic, alcohol, aniline, shellac (cockroach wing) loop, string, wool, felt, cement, gown starch, colors and shapes of roses ... Handmade object on the table!
- Irons, presses, pliers, stumps, cutters, curlers, pillows, molds, hammer, stapler, mallet, nails, brush, fire and water were part of the craft.

An open-hearted woman, devoid of prejudice. It contributed to many who sought for her aid. She taught, distributed knowledge for several decades to many people in the City of Jequié, as well as influenced hundreds of others in the State of Bahia. In addition to promoting trade in the region with sustainable professional perspectives, fruitful in the area of handicrafts and craftsmanship. She taught us, with her example of daily life, to face difficulties and respect differences.

Much more than a Craftswoman, an Artist!