

## SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Rosa Maria Neves Simas completed her PhD in Comparative Literature, with a specialty in Literature of the Americas, at the University of California, Berkeley in 1990. Her dissertation, *Circularity in Three 20<sup>th</sup> Century Novels of the Americas*, was published in 1992 by the Edwin Mellen Press of New York. Since then, she has organized and participated in numerous projects and published studies on Gender, Women, Migration, Language, Literature, Culture, Translation, Tourism, Generations and the Environment.

Rosa was born on Pico Island, Azores, but at the age of two she emigrated with her parents to the United States. She grew up in California, where she studied and taught and, during the social movements of the 1960s and 70s, became aware of Gender and Environmental Issues, while she lived the immigrant experience in the US. As an adult, she returned to live in the Azores, where she was a Professor in the Modern Languages and Literature Department of the University of the Azores (UAç) for over three decades, and is still a researcher with the Interdisciplinary Centre for Social Sciences (CICS-NOVA) of UAç and the New University of Lisbon, and is on the team of *CREATOUR-Azores: Making the Azores a Creative Tourism Destination*, a project based on the culture, history, arts, traditions and place of a people.

Between 2003 and 2008, Rosa published the bilingual 6-volume anthology *Women in the Azores and the Immigrant Communities*. From 2008 to 2012 she coordinated the *GenARE (Generations of Azoreans and Renewable Energy)* Project, a comparative study of generations of Azoreans in relation to environmental and energy issues, for the *MIT Portugal Green Islands Project*. She was the English translator of the first history of the archipelago *Azores: Nine Islands, One History*, by Susana Goulart Costa, published in 2008 by the University of California, Berkeley, and of the *Cultural Itinerary of the Azores*, a 2012 edition of the Portuguese Center for Culture and the Azorean Department of Culture, coordinated by António Machado Pires.

In 2016, she published *De abajur a zumba: Estrangeirismos no Português / From Abajur to Zumba: Loanwords in Portuguese*, Volume 1 of a translation series, and in 2019, Volume 2, *É canja: Expressões do Português ao Inglês / Easy as Pie: Idioms from Portuguese to English*. Rosa's twenty-nine-year-old daughter, Marisa, speaks both Portuguese and English fluently.