

Classic Poetry Series

Olava Bilac
- poems -

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Olava Bilac(16 December 1865 – 28 December 1918)

Olavo Brás Martins dos Guimarães Bilac (December 16, 1865 – December 28, 1918) was a Brazilian Parnassian poet, journalist and translator. Alongside Alberto de Oliveira and Raimundo Correia, he was a member of the "Parnassian Triad". Elected the "Prince of Brazilian Poets" in 1907 by the magazine Fon-Fon, he is famous for writing the lyrics of the Brazilian Flag Anthem. He founded and occupied the 15th chair of the Brazilian Academy of Letters, from 1897 until his death in 1918.

Life

Bilac was born in the city of Rio de Janeiro, to Brás Martins dos Guimarães Bilac and Delfina Belmira dos Guimarães Bilac. As a young man, he was a brilliant student, gaining acceptance to Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro at the age of 15. He began studying medicine, but did not finish the course. He also tried to study Law at the Faculdade de Direito da Universidade de São Paulo, but did not finish the course either. Instead, he found pleasure in writing and journalism. His first work was the sonnet "Sesta de Nero" ("Nero's Nap") in the newspaper Gazeta de Notícias, in 1884, which received praise from Artur Azevedo. In addition to poetry, Bilac wrote publicity texts, chronicles, schoolbooks, children's poetry and satirical works. In 1891, he was arrested at the Fortaleza da Laje in Rio de Janeiro, for opposing the government of Floriano Peixoto. Bilac would never marry; thus, he never had children. Initially, he was engaged to Amélia de Oliveira, sister of poet Alberto de Oliveira. But their engagement was short-lived, since it was opposed by another brother of Amélia, who said Bilac had no future. He would have an even shorter engagement with Maria Selika, daughter of a violinist named Francisco Pereira da Costa. However, a legend says that Amélia was very faithful to Bilac: she would never marry and, when Bilac died, she put a lock of her hair in his coffin. Bilac died in 1918. His last words were "Give me coffee! I'm going to write!".

Trivia

In 1897, Bilac lost control of his car, crashing it in a tree. He was the first person that suffered a car accident in Brazil.

A Avó

Olava Bilac

A Boneca

Olava Bilac

A Borboleta

Olava Bilac

A Mocidade

Olava Bilac

A Um Poeta

Olava Bilac

A Velhice

Olava Bilac

A Vida

Olava Bilac

Ao Coração Que Sofre

Olava Bilac

'Benedicite'

Olava Bilac

Ciclo

Olava Bilac

Como A Floresta Secular

Olava Bilac

Como Quisesse Livre Ser

Olava Bilac

De Outras Sei

Olava Bilac

Deixa O Olhar Do Mundo

Olava Bilac

Dormes...

Olava Bilac

Em Mim Também

Olava Bilac

Fogo-Fátuo

Olava Bilac

In Extremis

Olava Bilac

Inania Verba

Olava Bilac

Junho

Olava Bilac

Leio-Te:

Olava Bilac

Língua Portuguesa

Olava Bilac

Longe De Ti

Olava Bilac

Maldição

Olava Bilac

Natal

Olava Bilac

'Nel Mezzo Del Camin...

Olava Bilac

O Cometa

Olava Bilac

O Pássaro Cativo

Olava Bilac

O Rio

Olava Bilac

O Tempo

Olava Bilac

O Universo

Olava Bilac

Olha-Me!

Olava Bilac

Ontem

Olava Bilac

Ora (Direis) Ouvir Estrelas!

Olava Bilac

Os Pobres

Olava Bilac

Palavras

Olava Bilac

Penetrália

Olava Bilac

Pinta-Me A Curva

Olava Bilac

Plutão

Olava Bilac

Por Estas Noites

Olava Bilac

Por Tanto Tempo

Olava Bilac

Quando Adivinha

Olava Bilac

Quando Cantas

Olava Bilac

Remorso

Olava Bilac

Sai A Passeio

Olava Bilac

Satânia

Olava Bilac

Só

Olava Bilac

Talvez Sonhasse, Quando A Vi

Olava Bilac

Tenho Frio E Ardo Em Febre!

Olava Bilac

Um Beijo

Olava Bilac

Velhas Árvores

Olava Bilac