

NEWSLETTER

3rd ISSUE | FEBRUARY 2013

IN THIS ISSUE

Love is in the air!

Inspired by Valentine's day, we dedicate this edition to love and lovers. As a matter of curiosity, we decided to track down couples that resulted from CLIP (you'll be surprised, some go way back...). We also publish a delicious text from our very own "*Capitão Romance*" (Francisco Peres).

Traditionally associated with carnations, hearts and candle light, the story behind this day is not as fluffy as how it is lived today.

For those that don't know, here is why this day started being celebrated (there are many stories, but this one is the most consensual):

St. Valentinus was a Christian priest that lived during the time where an emperor called Claudias persecuted the church and, additionally, prohibited young soldiers from marrying, as he believed that soldiers that had families would be less willing to give their lives for the empire.

As a Christian, St. Valentinus strongly believed in marriage and was determined to continue marrying young couples and spreading the Christian way of life. When emperor Claudias found out about his practices, he ordered the imprisonment of the priest. During his time in prison, St. Valentinus performed a miracle and healed

the daughter of one of the guards. In the year 269 AD, Valentinus was sentenced to a three part execution consisting of a beating, stoning, and finally decapitation. According to the legend, before his execution, St. Valentinus decided to write a farewell letter to the guard's daughter that ended with the famous phrase "from your Valentinus".

For standing up for marriage and love, St. Valentinus has come to be known as the patron saint of lovers and his day is celebrated with public declarations of love.

So here is our public celebration of love! We hope you had a very infatuated day. For those still looking... Spring is almost blooming!



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Invite friends that might not know about CLIP Alumni!



CLIP Couples

Check out the main characters of this 3rd Edition of the CLIP Alumni Newsletter. They are the passionate lovers who started dating back in their CLIP times and are still together in incredibly long lasting relationships. Some of them have even brought to life some "little bonuses"! Curious? Don't miss it!

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Bios

Check out what CLIP Alumni are up to!

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CLIP COUPLES!

Nicole Barroso & Miguel Barroso

Ages: Nicole – 31, Miguel – 31
Started Dating: 1997
Married: 2006
BONUS: Son, Pedro, who recently turned 6!



Inês Tolle & José Nuno



Ages: Inês – 31, José Nuno – 31
Started Dating: January 1999
Living Together Since: 2004
BONUS: Son, Mateus, who celebrated his first Birthday February 20, 2013! Happy Birthday!



Flávia Costa & Miguel Amaro

Ages: Flávia – 23, Miguel – 23
Started Dating: 2006



Catarina Santos & Pedro Amaro

Ages: Catarina – 23, Pedro – 22
Started Dating: February 10th 2007



Catarina Tavares & Renato Godinho

Ages: Catarina – 19, Renato – 19
Started Dating: Form 12 (2 years ago)



Genesis 16:8

by Francisco Peres

Imagine the Venetian in the court of Xanadu, thousands of miles away from home, kneeling before the short and squat Mongol at his throne, the great Kublai Khan. Think of our sailors, just arrived, still caked in salt and sweat before a court of pale aristocrats. Picture Odysseus sitting at a long oak table across from his patient wife in a hall where Death has just danced. There is a bead of perspiration on their brows: thousands of miles separate them and hundreds of years but they all have the Angel's question to answer and they don't know what to say.

"Where have you been?" Its simplicity is misleading. It opens up like a Japanese folding fan into many others. It asks: "what have you seen?", "what was it like?", "why did you go?" and, sometimes, "what took you so long?" The pressure it places upon the returnee is immense: it is implied that the success of one's journey depends upon the success of the answer.

Marco makes up cities where all the roofs are made of fish scales and they gleam roseate in the morning sun and silver in the moonlight. The Portuguese captain justifies his expenses recounting the battle against a monster that keeps the cape where all storms gather. In Ithaca, Odysseus has to explain a twenty-year-long absence to a wife who isn't very happy about it and he tells her of Cyclops and Calypso and a sea god's curse.

I have spent the last six months travelling in South East Asia, which pales by comparison, but I have the same question to answer.

"What was it like?" Everyone asks and I haven't figured out what to say. If you want to know, now is the time: sit down and I'll try to explain.

My journey was spontaneous. Its planning was flawed. I visited a small area, arriving in Singapore and departing from Hanoi. I did so, however, in a number of small spirals. The map of my route looks like a kid in Reception drew all over it with a crayon. I travelled into and out of Thailand five times.

It wasn't always easy. I was robbed three times. Some days, I was very, very hungry. Others, I had to eat things I wouldn't normally touch with a glove. I was very, very sick at one point and my fingers fit between my ribs.

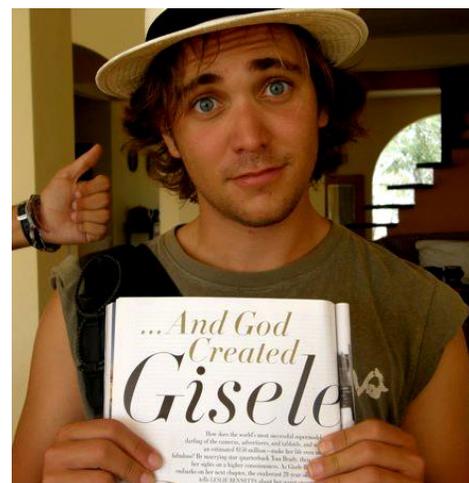
I was punched by a hooker and stalked by a ladyboy. I was attacked by monkeys, dogs and triggerfish. I spent days entirely on my own and it got really lonely. On days I was surrounded by thousands of teenagers it was even lonelier. I got lost several times, and once or twice I even nearly found myself. Not quite, though.

I saw incredible places. Angelina's ruins. The city on stilts that floats between Penang and the end of the world, a planked gangway labyrinth five Clans control. Old Phrae, the walled town where a million flowers bloom and where houses are made of teak. In Kampong Chnnang, I was taken on a boat to the middle of a marsh to a ceremony that had drawn pilgrims from all over Cambodia, I was made guest-of-honor and performed that duty with a religious feeling of awkwardness. Twice I fell in love with sunflower-yellow Hoi An, the most picture perfect town of the Orient, where a million Chinese lanterns burn at night in all the opalescent colors of fey fires.

I sailed for five days up the Mekong. It is a great, winding python the color of milky mud. One boat I was on was smuggling goods. Another I had to flag down with my scarf and it was leaking and its captain nearly sunk it at the docks.

The Mekong comes from distant Tibet and flows into the South China Sea. On its way, it washes quietly off the walls of the monastic island city of Luang Prabang. Just as the river upon its banks, time flows softly, silently there. Those immersed in the magic of this old place do not notice as minutes turn to hours and days to weeks; they wander like the Lotus-eaters in a mindless reverie. I walked its streets one night, long past the midnight curfew. It was just me and a great big moon, a black cat hunting on the rooftops, a conspirator and the ghosts of old, forgotten gods hanging on to secret prayers. Eerie does not even begin to cover what that was like.

There was a dusty coffee town where I only nearly escaped being raped by three ogre-women. I rode the back of a tractor and walked through an old road and I came upon Tad Lo, a village huddled before a monumental waterfall. The children came to



TRAVEL BLOGGER

Francisco Peres has been travelling the world extensively, visiting the most remote and interesting civilizations! As he travels, Francisco keeps tabs of the interesting people and good conversations that populate the road. Read his travel log at:

<http://www.capitao—romance.blogspot.com>

play and the women washed their sacred bodies and their old clothes on its banks. An old man taught me to fish with a bamboo rod, and I caught a cricket in mid-air with my bare hands for his hook. The look in his eyes turned from condescending to impressed and I beamed with pride like a school child.

I don't mean to say all I had time for were little towns that time forgot. Cities freak me out, and these megalomaniac metropolises more than most, but I explored them all. Expensive Singapore, the model city, so pretty and so shallow. Colorful Kuala Lumpur with its all-day traffic jam. Pattaya, high queen and arch-priestess among all the Sin Cities of the world. Bangkok, trendy and touristic and beautiful and dangerous. Phnom Penh, sometimes mephitic, commonly chaotic, always unique. Saigon, where the girls have no match and each street crossing is a perilous adventure. Hanoi, where I tried a Vietnamese pipe and it brought all the old ladies and all the little boys of the neighborhood to have a good laugh at me. Vientiane where I became a Portuguese gangster's best friend - his influence was said to spread from Singapore to Shanghai.

There was all of this, and there was so much more. Six months is a long time, and it would take me just as long to tell it all. This odyssey could have been planned more thoroughly, executed more sensibly. It couldn't have been any better, though, and I'm happy with that.



Gabriela Mota

Current Location: Lisbon, PT

Graduation Year: 1999

Age : 31

Since Form 8 that Gabriela knew that she wanted to study abroad, so after graduating from CLIP in 1999, she moved to the UK. Anglia Ruskin University, in Cambridge, was the destination, and after an amazing experience, she completed her degree in Communication Studies. Gabriela took the most out of it. She made friends for life and indulged every single minute of her student life. In 2002, she moved to Miami, Florida, in search of her "American dream" and she was lucky to work in two newspapers as sports journalist and editor, but not lucky enough to have the American Green Card, so she had to leave after one year. She describes the whole experience as "unbelievable and a total privilege, Florida is paradise on earth." Back in Portugal, she worked in TVI, as a football journalist and lived the EURO 2004 in a very particular way. She then left journalism, and embraced a new professional area, where her five languages could be more useful, and join Starwood Hotels in 2005. Since then, Hospitality Industry has been her comfort zone. 2012 was the most special year of her life as Gabriela became a mum of Maria Benedita! She got married in 2009, has a Labrador Retriever called Hoshi and is currently living in Lisbon.

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Luís Pina Rebelo

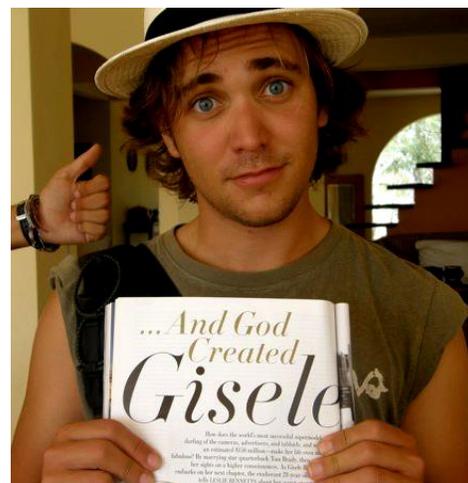
Current Location: Porto, PT

Graduation Year: 1999

Age : 31

Luís Pina Rebelo started his life at CLIP at the age of 12, after studying in OBS, and graduated Suma Cum Laude at CLIP in the year of 1999. He graduated top of his class in Management (Gestão de Empresas) at the Portuguese Catholic University (Porto), and concluded his PhD in Economics with Distinction at the University of Porto – Faculty of Economics (FEP), specializing in Health Economics & Management, and Econometric and Prevision Modeling. He is currently a Lecturer at the Portuguese Catholic University, in the Strategic Management Department, teaching both Management and Economics graduate and post-graduate courses. He is the Coordinator for the Health Care Management & Economics department of Católica Porto Business School, and besides developing research in this area, also acts as a consultant for several organizations, and TV debates. Previous non-academic related professional experiences include internship as a financial analyst, and working as a strategic consultant, followed by Marketing Director for a Real-Estate company. In parallel to his professional life, he has always demonstrated interest in pursuing social volunteering activities. He was founder of Católica Solidária (CASO), where he coordinated more than 200 volunteers, participated in a humanitarian mission in Africa (Angola), and is currently the Director of the Porto Diocese Secretary for all Socio-Charitable affairs.

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Francisco Peres

Current Location: Porto, PT

Graduation Year: 2007

Age : 23

Francisco Peres remembers getting his tiny hand shaken by Dr. Cabral on his first day of school and graduated 13 years later, dressed in a sleeping gown and a square hat. He left CLIP with a letter of recommendation in which a hopeful head-master described him as being a young man that had put his problematic adolescence behind him, and who was ready to make a leap into adulthood and maturity. He was not asked about what he thought of all this. Francisco read Politics and History in the University of Hull, where he became the President of Human Rights Action by mistake and was made Secretary of the International Students Association against his will. Having finished his degree, he did what any other Politics and History student would do and went to Mozambique, to work in a small island in the Quirimbas for six months. He taught Portuguese and English, bar-tended, dived, and was made the Island's doctor for a week. Like Adam and Eve, Francisco got kicked out of Eden, probably for drinking too many Forbidden Apples. He has interned at a Hostel in Porto, worked bars in Thailand and travelled extensively. He is currently looking for a job as a PADI divemaster. If he was asked about this, he would probably say he is still not ready to make a leap into adulthood and maturity.

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Ricardo Sá Ferreira

Current Location: Brussels, BE

Graduation Year: 2005

Age : 25

After graduating from CLIP in 2005, Ricardo went to the UK to study Politics and International Relations at the University of Kent in Canterbury. When he graduated in 2009 he instantly proceeded to Brussels where he enrolled in a Masters degree in International Political Economy at the Brussels School of International Studies. It was in Brussels that he first developed his passion for the Middle East, which lead him to grab a backpack, without his family's knowledge, and spend 2 weeks in the Westbank, Palestine. With this trip he quickly became fascinated with Arab culture. After finishing his MA, Ricardo hurried back to Portugal in order to organize and contribute for Bloco de Esquerda's legislative bid in 2009. In order to further

pursue his academic interest he took a second MA, this time in Sociology at the Universidade do Porto. In Porto he integrated various student bodies, was president of the Jornal Universitário do Porto and was a coordinator for the Student's Union at the Faculdade de Letras. In September 2012 he was asked to become a political advisor for Bloco de Esquerda's MEPs at the European Parliament. He was integrated in the first international committee to visit Gaza after the November 2012 Gaza War. He loves reading and writing while drinking coffee. He is looking forward to visit Lebanon in the summer.

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NEWSBOARD!

CLIP & Alumni Events

PRESENT

Open Day

Open Day & Careers Fair

On the **21st of March**, CLIP will be holding its Open Day/ Careers Fair from 9:30 to 15:30. The door is open for whoever might wish to visit, and Alumni experience shall, of course, be useful for this day in particular. If you know of people wishing to know CLIP better, do divulge CLIP's Open Day!

FUTURE

Mentoring Club

Would you dare share your Experience?

As some of us know, the Mentoring Club idea has been around for a while already. Previous developments have already been announced and now we're glad to declare that the platform is up and running! We are scheduling a meeting with a group of upper school students to align their needs to the way the platform works and we will publicize the official Mentoring Club domain shortly! **If you would like to be a Mentor, do get in touch with us!**

CLIP Alumni New Year Gathering

Sports, fun and friendship for Everyone!

In order to celebrate the New Year, CLIP Alumni organized a sports gathering! The motto was Basketball and Football games, that took place Friday, January 4th, late afternoon. After the games, there was time for a picnic and some catching up. What a fun afternoon it was! Basketball Team and Football Teams 1 & 2 photos below. **Don't miss out on our next gathering!**



**VALENTINE'S
2013**

Feel free to be a part of
this Newsletter!

CLIP ALUMNI

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