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A Philosophical Adventure

I first became acquainted with Vilém Flusser during my studies of Philosophy, Portuguese Language and Literature at the University of Masaryk in Brno, Czech Republic. His name appeared in a philosophical dictionary compiled by professors of our department. The article was only a few lines long and it would have gone unnoticed, were it not for the fact that it also mentioned Flusser's 30-year stay in Brazil. This information was essential to me. I did a brief initial search. In the late nineties, the Czech literature related to Flusser was scarce, but it was sufficient to spark my interest.

I decided to investigate the Brazilian period of his work, which was still unknown in the Czech Republic. In this endeavour, I was helped by Sérgio Paulo Rouanet, who at that time was the Brazilian ambassador in the Czech Republic, by Edith Flusser, who promptly answered my letter, and by Gustavo Bernardo, who sent me a box full of Flusser's Portuguese texts. My research started and has never stopped ever since. The research eventually caught up with my personal life. I have been living in São Paulo for ten years, the very city where Flusser spent more than 30 years of his life. Because of this, I have had the opportunity to understand that his language and translation theories are far more than simple theories. I can only confirm that living within a Portuguese-speaking context is very different from living in a Czech-speaking context.

Many years have passed since I first encountered Flusser's name. Nevertheless, it was a crucial moment; philosophy was no longer an academic field for me but started to enter my life, to penetrate and to change it completely. If there is an adventure within philosophy, for me it is related to Vilém Flusser's thinking.