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The Migrações Journal is proud to present a “succulent” number 7, dedicated to the topic of Music and Migration.

This issue, wisely coordinated by Maria de São José Côrte-Real, displays an amazing musical rhapsody.

In fact, there is no lack of pleasant surprises and stunning diversity in this edition of the Journal. Featuring a remarkable number of researchers from ethno-anthropo-musicology, the volume firstly offers us a true mosaic of research articles: from the Indo-Pakistani diaspora to Luso-identities in the USA, from colonial and postcolonial identities in Goan diaspora to Cape Verdean batuque, from Afghan music in Australia and Kurdish music in Berlin to music scenes in Vienna, Barcelona and Lisbon, from music as an indicator of social integration in Melbourne to Afro-American music in neighborhoods of the Bronx to music of political intervention in the American presidential elections of 2008.

Secondly, respecting the common guideline of the Journal, the present thematic issue offers nine articles regarding good practices in which valuable associative, foundational and communal initiatives stand out.

Finally, again following the Journal’s normal and established structure, the coordinator presents us with a set of nine opinion articles with a strong lusophone accent and celebrating its multiple expressivities in Portugal and in the African Continent.

Music is undoubtedly a remarkable language of universal communication. In other words, it is an aesthetic communicator of particular cultures emphasizing genuinely universal elements.

Without musical expressiveness, population movements and identity encounters would find themselves impoverished in revealing their authenticities and in the creation of musical “hybrids” that constitute one of the most portentous emergences in the meeting of peoples and cultures. Should there be any doubt, there is fado, tango, samba or jazz to fully prove it.

The issue Music and Migration thus is a remarkable tribute to the creative human genius that, tireless and irrepresible, fulfills the mandate of co-creator that it has been carrying since the extraordinary rise of the Homo Sapiens Sapiens in the upward chain of the mysterious work of creation.

Migration and migrants are vehicles of spiritual nobility that are inherent to the human condition and subject to the inviolability expressed in the sacred dignity of each and every human being, be they moving or sedentary.
This issue of the Migrações Journal translates that with a unique communicational strength.

Its coordinator, Maria de São José Côrte-Real, captures the essence of the topic in an exceptional way, and for that let us express our profound gratitude and recognition to her.

Music and migration turn out to be two connected and inseparable sides of the unique human pilgrimage through outer and inner worlds of existence.

Let us celebrate these two sides, integrally and with the veneration they deserve, at a time in which the supreme materiality of selfish interest seems to want to make us forget the essential wisdom of the universe and its most timeless laws.