To Cecilia Bevilacqua

From the highest window of my home
With a white scarf I wave goodbye
To my verses leaving for humanity

And I am neither happy nor sad.
Such is the fate of the verses.
I wrote and I show them to everyone
Because I cannot do otherwise
As the flower can not hide its color,
Neither the river hides its flowing,
Neither the tree hides its fruit.

......

Walk, walk, from me!
The tree passes and is dispersed by Nature.
The flower wilts and its powder lasts forever.
The river runs and enters the sea and the water is always that it was his.

I pass and stay, as the Universe.

XLVIII — Da mais alta janela da minha casa, “O Guardador de Rebanhos”.
In Poemas de Alberto Caeiro. Fernando Pessoa. s. d.

In one of hers last trips, Cecilia said she had found the answer for those who did not understand her relentless attitude towards Audiology and the hearing-impaired person since the beginning of her career. She did not abate even before the difficulties of her struggle against her enemy myeloma. As Fernando Pessoa, she said that she had not done it with this passion it would had been like “the river that hides it runs ... the tree that hides it bears fruit.” - “That’s me!”

And that was her mark! Since the 70s, she brought books from abroad and immediately organized a study group to read, translate and share the new knowledge. She involved students, professors and colleagues, created departments and research centers at the institutions she was part of, PUCSP, Santa Casa de Misericordia, crowning with research projects and teaching at USP Bauru.
Motivation and commitment to knowledge production always resulted in achieving impact actions. Unquestionably, she socialized her knowledge and consolidated an intervention model with a solid base on teamwork with the exercise of a positive and entrepreneurial leadership.

Her aggregator personality and her awareness of the universality of knowledge had always boosted the search to encourage research and training of professionals as the path to growth and strengthening of Audiology in Brazil. Thus, in 1985, with the first International Meeting of Audiology, was planted the seed for our Brazilian Academy of Audiology, formed in 2000 during the 15th EIA.

Her Master’s thesis already involved working on combining research with quality and affordable clinical practice, beginning a relentless struggle that culminated with the first public policies for the hearing-impaired person with Ordinance 1278, October 1999, bringing cochlear implant to the users of SUS. She assumed this leadership with joy and determination, always grounded in a humanistic conception until the transformation of project into actions, with the same initial vigor and enthusiasm.

Her deep knowledge about hearing loss and her scientific rigor allowed her a clear vision of reality. Thus, her research activity, always innovative, opened new paths and possibilities to people with hearing loss by providing the national scientific evidence necessary to support her struggle in CORDE, Ministries of Health and Education, Congress, together with the scientific societies. With guidelines and criteria for the Cochlear Implant in 1999, the Hearing Health in 2000, 2004 and 2012, the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening in 2013, and her latest project which enabled the granting of FM systems for children and adolescents in schools, she acted tirelessly on the two Ministries, sitting at the door of Secretaries and Coordinators until all the documents had been signed.

She leaves for new generations of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists her legacy, her passion for science, her humanism and numerous doors opened to large projects in Audiology and quality of life for the person with hearing impairment. Cecilia had heart, mind and eyes open, as the tree and the river,

She passes and stays, as the Universe.

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