



## RENATA MAGESTE DA SILVA & HUMBERTO KEHDY

**Nadine:** What is your day job?

**Renata:** I'm a biologist by training, and I recently got my first job in Halifax in my field. I'm working as an environmental assessment officer. For example, if you have a mining company that wants to start operating in Nova Scotia, they have to meet a series of environmental criteria, and they submit a document outlining the project description, the measures they'll do to protect the environment. We assess this to see if it's viable or not.

**Humberto:** I'm a character animator, and I work in an animation studio called Copernicus Studios. We're working on several projects for clients like Disney and Cartoon Network. I'm now working on a project for Boomerang: it's Care Bears. It's a very nice project! Before coming here, I had ten years of experience as an animator in Brazil.

**N:** You've only been here two years, is that right?

**R:** Yes.

**N: And you're both from Brazil?**

H & R: Yes.

H: It's been a lot of fun, being in Halifax, doing animation.

**N: So how do you find the weather here?**

H: Oh, very good! (laughs)

R: It's getting better! We moved here in January, so when the plane was landing, I looked at Humberto and said, "What are we doing here?!" Everything was covered in snow. But at least that was the worst winter that we had.

**N: How did you get involved with FIN? How long have you been a volunteer?**

R: It was my idea! I remember that a friend of mine posted on Facebook that she was interested in watching a movie because she knew the director, and she invited me to go. And then, I started learning about the festival. It was our first year here, so I was trying to get more involved in the community. And because I love movies, I thought, "I'll try to volunteer with them." And then, I invited Humberto!

**N: So that was 2017?**

R: Yes.

H: A very good festival!

R: Yeah, we watched a lot of movies.

**N: What is your favourite FIN Atlantic International Film Festival memory?**

R: Last festival, I went to one of the shorts. And usually, you have the directors and some of the actors there. When they called one of the directors, the name sounded Brazilian: Danilo Baracho, if I'm not mistaken. When he started explaining the movie, I thought, "Oh, this is a Brazilian accent." And then, at the end of the movie, I had the opportunity to chat with him: he'd recently moved to PEI, he made a short there [Bill's Bills], and it was the premiere at the Festival! It was a really touching story, but at the same time funny. Speaking as a newcomer, it's really nice when you see different cultures be involved in an industry that you appreciate. It was a really good surprise!

H: For me, because I like animation, it was an animation I watched last year, a Japanese anime [Mirai]. It wasn't a blockbuster, it was more independent, about a family, from the point of view of a child.

**N: Was it something that you wouldn't have been able to see otherwise?**

H: Yeah, it is a kind of movie I was not going to watch—but then I watched it and I enjoyed it a lot!

**N: What part of the film festival would you recommend to a first-time festival goer?**

H: I recommend that they be a volunteer! (laughs)

**N: Haha! You get a gold star! And you, Renata?**

R: I agree with him, because you get to know more about the people involved and about the movies. You always have the opportunity to chat with people who already watched the movie. "Do you recommend this? What is going on now?"

**N: So you get more of the buzz.**

R: Exactly. You are involved. The culture of volunteering, it's something really powerful. It's an opportunity for you to enjoy the movies, the festival itself, and also an opportunity to get involved in something that is really important—an important value for the community in Halifax.

**N: What do you most look forward to every year at FIN?**

H: Watching the movies! You can chat about movies. It's pretty interesting.

R: With FIN, you take over Park Lane. It's easy for people to get there and watch movies that are more unique, for example smaller productions like the shorts. It's a good opportunity to see this kind of movie, because during the year, you don't have many opportunities.

**N: What is your favourite film?**

H: I consume a lot of Japanese animation. I like SPIRITED AWAY; it's from Studio Ghibli in Tokyo. It's very good. For me, it's one of the best animations because the script, the story itself, is very good. It's like Alice in Wonderland, but in a Japanese way. She goes to another universe.

R: I'm going to name one that's a classic movie. I've watched it more than ten times: it's GONE WITH THE WIND. It's pretty classic, it's pretty romantic, but it's something that I used to watch with my aunt and my mother, so it has this emotional component as well. But it's so hard to pick only one!

N: Well, hopefully this is an easier question. What is your favourite movie snack?

R: Popcorn.

H: Popcorn, yeah!