

The humming-bird

“ A forest was being devastated by fire and while all animals were running terrified, a little humming-bird was coming back and forth from the river to the fire spot bringing little drops of water in his beak. Noticing that, the lion asked the humming-bird: “Dear humming-bird, do you think you’re going to put out all the fire by yourself?” And the humming-bird answered: “I don’t know if I’m going to do it, but I’m making my contribution” ”

* Fable used by Betinho as a metaphor for solidarity

Coordinated by the Centre for Studies in Food Security, Ryerson University, activities in the Betinho Project are developed in partnership with The Stop Community Food Centre, Toronto Food Policy Council, FoodShare, and many volunteers from Brazil and Canada.



We welcome the chance to share more with you about the Betinho Project.

Please visit our web site:
www.ryerson.ca/betinho

Mailing Address:

Centre for Studies
in Food Security

Ryerson University
350 Victoria St. Toronto, ON,
M5B 2K3
Canada

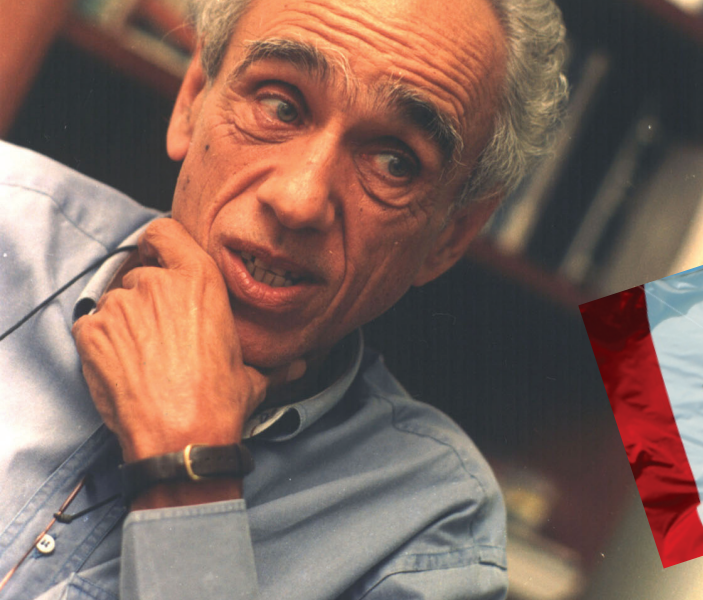
Phone:
416-979-5000

Fax:
416-979-5204

What can I do?



Be different. Don't be indifferent.



The Betinho Community Bake Oven

The Betinho Project was launched by a campaign to build a Community Bake Oven dedicated to Betinho. The Betinho Community Bake Oven is part of “The Green Barn” in the Green/Arts Barns Project in Wychwood Park in Toronto (<http://www.torontoartscape.on.ca/barns>). The Green Barn is managed by The Stop Community Food Centre and consists of a greenhouse, the community bake oven, and a community garden. This is certainly a most fitting setting to celebrate Betinho’s life and work, as the Green Barn will:

- **cultivate** community awareness of food and how it connects with the environment.
- **provide** learning opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds.
- **increase** access to healthy, locally-produced food.
- **create** a public gathering place centred around food that respects and celebrates the diversity of the neighbourhood.
- **utilize** collected stormwater to irrigate the greenhouse and sheltered gardens, promoting the energy-efficient integrated system of the Green/Arts Barns.

The Betinho Project was created in 2005 to celebrate the life and work of Brazilian humanitarian and activist Herbert “Betinho” de Souza (1935-1997). Forced into exile by the military dictatorship in Brazil in the 1970s, Betinho lived in Toronto as a political refugee where he participated in many different struggles for social justice.

The Betinho Project aims to rekindle Betinho’s connection with Toronto. Through educational and cultural activities, it proposes to make a contribution to continuing Betinho’s campaign “against hunger and for life”, building community, and promoting social justice.

As a social activist, Betinho was a leading figure in several campaigns including the Campaign for Agrarian Reform, the Movement for Land and Democracy, the Movement for Ethics in Politics and the Citizenship Action Against Hunger, Poverty and for Life. He also founded the Inter-Disciplinary AIDS Association (ABIA), and worked with street children, receiving UNICEF’s Child and Peace trophy in 1993.

Betinho

The Betinho Project Lectures

This lecture series brings to speakers on international issues of social justice, solidarity and food security.

We also celebrate Betinho’s life and work through the promotion of cultural and artistic events, such as films, documentaries, music and dance shows, and art exhibits.

Please visit our web site:

www.ryerson.ca/betinho

**Be different.
Don’t be indifferent.**