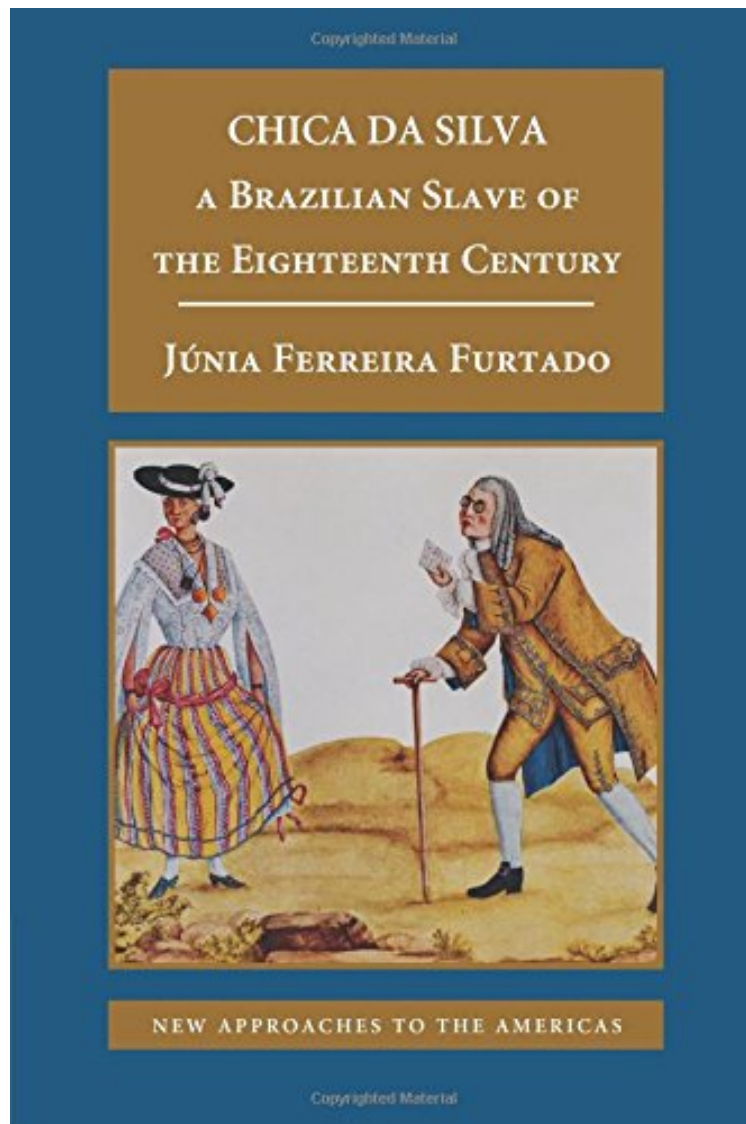


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## Chica da Silva: A Brazilian Slave of the Eighteenth Century (New Approaches to the Americas)

*Júnia Ferreira Furtado*

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#1139263 in Books Cambridge University Press 2008-11-17 2009-01-22 Original language: English PDF # 1  
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**Júnia Ferreira Furtado : Chica da Silva: A Brazilian Slave of the Eighteenth Century (New Approaches to the Americas)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chica da Silva: A Brazilian Slave of the Eighteenth Century (New Approaches to the Americas):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Awkward translation and dry writing--makes a fascinating subject

DULL. By Lucero This book was not what I expected. I am familiar with the story of Chica da Silva, and this book has a lot of information that is related to the time period. Some of it is very detailed, and although that has a historical significance, the book could have been structured better to keep Chica da Silva as the focus for the entire book. Instead, the book begins about her, and then for several chapters there is information about slaves, freed slaves and also extensive information about the Joo Fernandes' and his will once he returned to Portugal. Another problem with the book is that the translation is quite inaccurate. I did not get the impression that the translator was a native English speaker. Words were misused like "tutor" (this should be "guardian" in English), and others were either archaic, awkward or too technical, like "realm" (kingdom would have been a better choice), and "entail." The chapter about other works featuring Chica, such as the movie and the soap opera, was very superficial--a marked contrast to the overly detailed chapters on the arrangement of housing in town and the will. The author dismissed the soap opera in a few sentences. Although these works are fictionalized, they did bring Chica da Silva into the Brazilian consciousness. I didn't get the impression that the author even watch the telenovela--although it deviates significantly from Chica's real life, it is not meant to be a documentary, but entertainment. There are also many interesting and successful aspects of the program, which depict the era masterfully, in its speech, use of or lack of use of utensils, dress, and treatment of slaves. I think I would have preferred to read the Portuguese original. At least I would not have been bothered by the awkward translation. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I wish there was more on Chica, it focuses ... By Ethan G. I wish there was more on Chica, it focuses on the family and surrounding events, but I still no very little about the woman. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Must read for anyone involved or interested in latin history By 618618 Great historical book about Chica da Silva, found her life story very empowering and interesting. Must read for anyone involved or interested in latin history. Great citations for reports!

Jnia Ferreira Furtado offers a fascinating study of the world of a freed woman of color in a small Brazilian town where itinerant merchants, former slaves, Portuguese administrators, and concubines interact across social and cultural lines. The child of an African slave from the Costa da Mina and a Brazilian military nobleman of Portuguese descent, Chica da Silva won her freedom using social and matrimonial strategies. But the story of Chica da Silva is not merely the personal history of a woman, or the social history of a colonial Brazilian town. Rather, it provides a historical perspective on a woman's agency, the cultural universe she inhabited, and the myths that were created around her in subsequent centuries, as Chica de Silva came to symbolize both an example of racial democracy and the stereotype of licentiousness and sensuality always attributed to the black or mulatta female in the Brazilian popular imagination.

"...impressive, definitive study..." -Choice "In Chica da Silva, Jnia Ferreira Furtado offers a compelling account of the life and world of Francisca da Silva de Oliveira." -Mariana L. R. Dantas, *Journal of Social History* "excellent book...moves beyond the myths to uncover ther real Chica." -Katherine Holt, *Journal of World History* About the Author Junia Furtado holds a Ph.D. in Social History from the Universidade de So Paulo, Brazil. She is currently a Professor of History at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais. Her work on Chica da Silva has won awards from the Carlos Chagas Foundation for Women and Gender Research and the Ford Foundation. She has also contributed articles to *Cartografia da conquista das minas* and *History of Cartography, Volume 4*. The Portuguese language edition of this book was awarded Honorable Mention in 2004 by the Casa de las Amricas foundation of Cuba.