

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is a praxis starting a work that demanded so much of us by thanking everyone that stood on our side. This one, fortunately, is no exception.

First of all, my family: Pedro, my husband; Teresa and Mafalda, our daughters, who managed to deal with my absences and have always supported, encouraged and inspired me and to whom I also hope to be always inspirational.

Secondly, I cannot thank enough my friend and colleague for almost five years, Natacha Amora, whose support and availability made all the difference. A special thanks also to my friend Ricardo Mota, whose insights gave me important clues of reflection.

Finally, a grateful recognition to all the people that kindly accepted to meet me and/or to discuss with me my ideas, from friends to others, some of whom didn't even know me, but generously shared their thoughts with me (sometimes in written form, due to geographic distance). Their kindness and availability also made all the difference: with their inputs, new lines of interest were opened in this unlikely *wedding* between the gaming industry and the city which I chose to study.

This is a work based on hope, as it aims to help conceive a better city. Hope is also what I feel when interacting with intellectually generous people.