



**Santiago Briceño** has translated this phenomenon into a beautiful, poetic picture book. With this he left the usual pathway of an anthropologist and wrote for a special public: children.

Briceño is not only an anthropologist, but also a musician and artist – for his book *A different place*, he chose to reduce the amount of text and leave the first voice to the illustrations.



The main character of the story, a little cricket marching alone against the wind, stands for the small/simple people coming to the big city.

Children have an easy time understanding the images. They are empathetic with the little cricket that is all alone and needs someone to keep her company. And yes, she finds friends and companions in the hostile environment of the big city. With his anthropologically trained view, Briceño shows some of its poorest inhabitants and reframes their role in a positive way. Thus, the garbage collector becomes a treasure seeker, the street vendor

becomes a jewelry maker, and for the homeless in the street, the love between him and his dog is stronger than his misery. As for the little cricket,

the tears that she could not shed turn into a song. With this rhetorical technique, the author captures the strength and dignity of these protagonists of urban life and shows how they can grow in difficult circumstances.

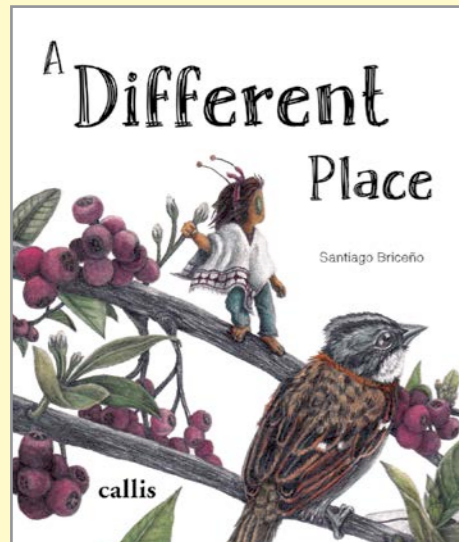
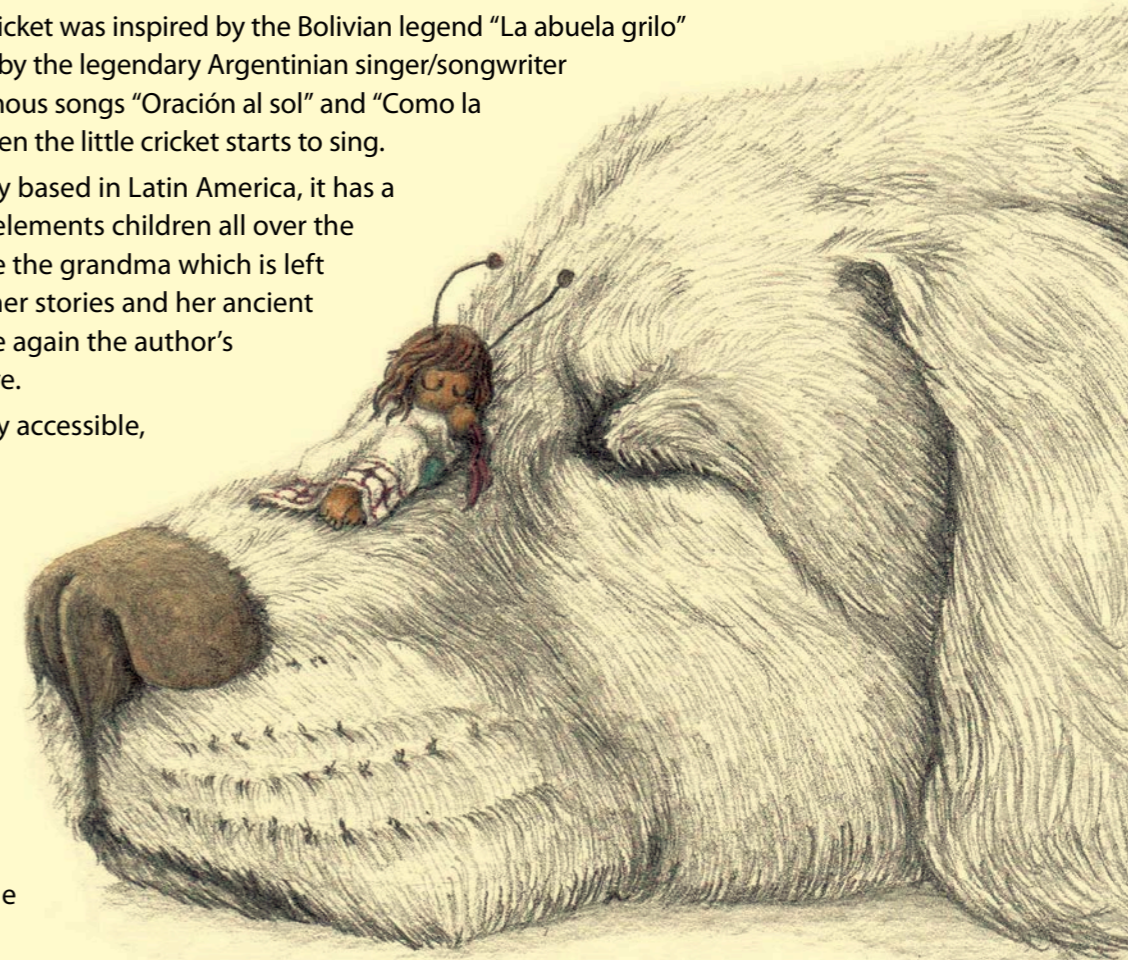
The reduced pencil drawings show scenes with tiny details and others with panoramic views. They are mainly kept in grey, playing a refined game with the finely dosed pastel colors reserved for some details like a flower breaking through the tar, a bird in a tree, or the red ribbon in grandmother cricket's hair.

The character of the little cricket was inspired by the Bolivian legend "La abuela grilo" (Grandma Cricket) and also by the legendary Argentinian singer/songwriter Mercedes Sosa with her famous songs "Oración al sol" and "Como la cigarra", which allude to when the little cricket starts to sing.

Although the story is clearly based in Latin America, it has a universal significance and elements children all over the world can identify with, like the grandma which is left behind in the village with her stories and her ancient knowledge – showing once again the author's anthropological perspective.

The story is kept in an easily accessible, implicit style and offers children and grown-ups the opportunity for a dialogue about the situation.

Children from all around the world will love the story of the little cricket that finds a friend, food and shelter, and makes her way as a flower breaking through the tar surface.



Migration Megacities Finding a new home

## A Different Place

**This poetic story, written and illustrated by the Colombian anthropologist Santiago Briceño, offers the opportunity to talk with children about the worldwide phenomenon of migration.**

Age 6+



Written and illustrated by **Santiago Briceño Hurtado**  
21x25cm • 40 pages  
World rights available except for Colombia

According to the United Nations, today, 55% of the world's population lives in urban areas – by 2050, it will go up to 68%. The phenomenon of migration to big cities exists in every continent.

Some of the main reasons for migration in developing countries are economical. Poverty makes people leave their homes looking for better opportunities and resources.

