

## MICROCOMPUTER *SINCLAIR ZX SPECTRUM*

The release of the ZX Spectrum microcomputer in April of 1982 is a major breakthrough in personal computers, rapidly invading the home of many teenagers.

MUHNAC's April object of the month – the model *Sinclair ZX Spectrum 48 K* – became one of the most renowned videogame microcomputers developed by Sir Clive Sinclair (b. 1940, UK). Distributed by *Sinclair Research*, successor of the founder's first company *Sinclair Radionics*, created in 1961, the ZX Spectrum was a sales leader in England and soon became a symbol of national cultural identity. In Portugal, the firm *Triudus* began its distribution.

The ZX Spectrum's design was attractive, even by contemporary standards, and its size was pioneer. Its concept was based on increased accessibility and easy transport, combined with affordable prices. Its functioning had limitations in games loading, but the ZX Spectrum depended only on a TV connection and some peripherals to operate.

The ZX Spectrum was mostly used for videogames, but for several users it also represented an initiation to BASIC programming. In 2015, the ZX Spectrum was back with the *Vega* model, also endorsed by Sir Clive Sinclair, for the delight of fans of this type of retro gaming and hardware around the world. Its release marks the rebirth of the ZX Spectrum culture, dormant since the 1990s.

