

◆ Abstracts

Jorge A. Trujillo Bretón

The purpose of this essay is to present a series of reflections on history and crime, and particularly on the socio-cultural history of crime. I will emphasize the importance of the topic, present some concepts that may help to interpret and make more understandable the object of study, and analyze some of the principal sources that have appeared over recent years.

They have helped enrich our knowledge of past crime and law, of systems of justice and the institutions of social control, especially those who for a long time remained invisible in the historiography. In Mexico, Latin America, and the rest of the world they were pejoratively named, and were the subjects of punishment, stigma, and segregation.

Zoila Santiago Antonio

This article consists of a bibliographic analysis of research relevant to the history of childhood in México and beyond. This topic gained interest among historians with the publication of Philippe Ariès' *Centuries of Childhood*, originally published in 1960 as *L'Enfant et la vie familiale sous l'Ancien Régime*. Following this book, there has been a wide range of research that takes children as its object of study, a new historiographical

direction that sought to go beyond the presence of children as a mere statistic. Encouraged by histories of private life as well as socio-cultural histories, new scholarship on this topic has permitted, through the incorporation of a wide variety of sources, a transformation from a history of representations of children to a history of childhood, in which children emerge as active subjects in society.

Anel Hernández Sotelo

The purpose of this article is to analyze the demon's functions in *Falacias del demonio*

y de los vicios que apartan del Camino Real del Cielo [...] An example of baroque cul-

**María de las Nieves Rodríguez
y Méndez de Lozada**

The appearance of Halley's comet offered, in 1910, the perfect subject for Mexican engraver José Guadalupe Posada to develop, through three engravings, a critique of the festivities surrounding the centennial of Mexican independence organized by the Government of General Porfirio Díaz. This article analyzes

the dual dimension that characterizes this historical event through the work of Posada: on one hand, the chronicle of an historical moment that transformed itself into a document of considerable theoretical importance; on the other hand, a work of art the content of which conditions its social relevance.

Rodrigo Laguarda

This article explores the role of a novel, *El vampiro de la colonia Roma*, in the emergence of gay identity in Mexico, at the end of the seventies. This piece is still considered the classic of Mexican gay literature. In order to give an account of the reasons for its success, this paper explores the context in which the

novel was written, the images or stereotypes produced through the text and its reception by readers at the time it was first published. The argument of this essay is that these aspects are sufficient to explain how and why *El vampiro* became an important element of identification for those who began to call themselves gay.

Álvaro Fernández

Portafolios opens a space for the mythology of the middle twentieth century. Santo, *el enmascarado de plata*, appears here through the media experience of cinema. Here, while glorifying state of the art technology through the use of serial lighting and levers on cardboard boxes, Santo competes against monsters, *femmes fatales*, and crazed scientists.

These still shots of Santo freeze the action of a mythical tale that, as naive as it may sound, suggests a structure of social cohesion and offers an open image with which to read the mentality of the time. Santo evokes an allegory of justice transformed into a solid emblem of cultural identity, one of the basic symbols of Mexican modernity.

tural production in Spain that persisted in the early 18th century, this book was written by the Spanish capuchin, Fray Felix de Alamín, and reprinted in Madrid at 1714. In this period, the political and social conjunctures and long-term decadence of the Spanish empire generated a fundamental change in the forms of perception of this

Rogelio Jiménez Marce

This article analyzes the historical novel *Su Alteza Serenísima*, written by Victoriano Salado Álvarez, of the Mexican state of Jalisco, and belonging to the larger oeuvre, *Episodios Nacionales Mexicanos*. Salado pursued a dual objective in writing this novel: on the one hand, he wished to exhibit the social and politics misfortunes plaguing Mexican society during the Santa Ana period; on the other hand, he

Carlos Agustín Barreda Zamudio

Los Plateados were the most important gang of outlaws to work the region that makes up the modern-day state of Morelos during the 19th century, dominating the area during the 1860s. According to testimony from the period, they were either veterans of the Ayutla revolution, the war of the Reform, or of previous

Pedro Miranda Ojeda

Over the course of the 19th century there appeared in Mexico a series of social writings meant to shape values, attitudes, behavior, expressions, etcetera, with the intention of forming a model of the modern citizen. In fact, manuals of good manners or urbanity contributed to establishing ideals of morality and behavior that men ought to

“enemy of God.” This article examines discursive continuities and discontinuities in Alamín’s treatment of the demon, as a reflection of the period in which he wrote, drawing from Spain’s *Siglo de Oro* to underwrite a basic mysticism and new forms of Spanish religiosity through the early years of the 18th century.

was interested in leaving his readers a lesson. As with the Spanish writer Benito Pérez Galdos, from whom he adopted the monumental historical novel form, Salado Álvarez was convinced that the novel was the best way to transmit historical knowledge. For this reason, he felt the writer should do extensive research, and that this was the only way to guarantee the truth of what was written.

conflicts. In any case, they achieved almost mythical status as warriors of the nation, defending republican as well as reactionary causes, and committing a long list of crimes characterized by the efficiency and large numbers of members of the group, as well as their outlandish opulence.

cultivate in society. The regulation of the patterns of public and private behavior was generally identified with the firm conviction that men who adhered to such principles contributed to the edification of a cultured, modern and progressive society that would leave behind the inappropriate ways of backward societies.

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