

April 20, 1966

Dr. Jose Ma. Ferrater Mora  
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Dear Professor Ferrater Mora,

I have just finished reading your interesting article on Xavier Zubiri in the collection edited by George Kline under the name of European Philosophy Today. As I am interested in writing my doctoral dissertation on Zubiri, I have taken this liberty to ask your advice as to what suggestions you could make regarding a topic, given my intellectual background.

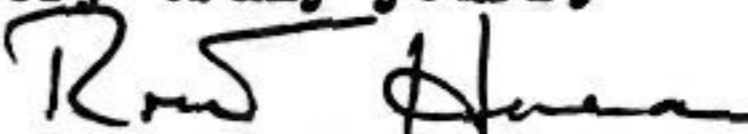
My college-level education began at Havana University, and the Catholic University of Sto. Tomas de Villanueva. After a lapse of approximately eight years, I continued my studies in this country at Queens College, Columbia University, and lastly - the graduate faculty of the New School for Social Research. From the last institution I received an M.A., and have presently terminated residence and course requirements for the Ph.D. I am presently teaching at Seton Hall University, the Newark annex.

In so far as my special interests are concerned, I would say that I am rather well prepared in classic Greek philosophy and the Medievales; somewhat less in the philosophers of the Seventeenth Century, Kant, and later - Husserl and Ortega; absolutely ignorant of Analytic philosophy, and British-U.S. philosophies of science. My M.A. thesis treated the philosophical presuppositions of the mysticism of St. John of the Cross, attempting to trace two main lines of influence, one flowing from St. Thomas, the other from Pseudo-Dionysius and ultimately, Plotinus.

I trust this rather summary outline will serve to give you a good idea of what I am capable (and not capable) of. Insofar as Zubiri is concerned I have read only the Cinco Lecciones, and Historia Naturalis, Dios. I intend to begin Sobre la Esencia this very week.

Once again, I would like to excuse myself for presuming on your kindness, and thank you sincerely for your interest,

Very truly yours,

  
Roberto Herrera

25-4-66.

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