

SUSQUEHANNA UNIVERSITY

Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania 17870

el dos de febrero, 1987

Dr. José Ferrater Mora
Department of Philosophy
Bryn Mawr College
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Muy señor mío:

En Boston, a fines de diciembre, tuve el placer de saludarlo durante el congreso de filosofía. Después de escuchar su ponencia en la división fenomenológica, busqué la oportunidad de acercarme a usted. No la hallé sino hasta la noche del día siguiente cuando coincidimos en un pasillo solitario. Me charló usted de su creación literaria. Acaso me recuerde. Soy el mexicano de talla mediana y barbudo, un ilegal en el congreso ya que mi disciplina es la investigación filológica. Pero quería escucharlo a usted y conocerlo, ya que su diccionario de filosofía ha sido para mí un tesoro y me interesa inmensamente explorar los vínculos entre la filosofía y las bellas letras. Le obsequié una copia fotostática de una de mis publicaciones recientes: un ensayo de unas treinta páginas sobre Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz. Lo recoge *Cuadernos Americanos* aunque con un sinnúmero de erratas y de las cuales he hecho fe bien que, probablemente, algunas se me hayan escapado. La más seria de las erratas es la segunda que se halla en la página 154 donde se lee *metáfora en sí de la experiencia* cuando debiera leerse *metáfora en sí de la conciencia*, porque para eludir ciertas órbitas psicologizantes, a veces discurro, o creo discurrir, en los términos fenomenológicos del *Bewußtsein*. Le pedí que tuviese la gentileza de hojearlo y de darme su parecer, ya que el trabajo representa el esfuerzo de un enfoque inusitado para elucidar algunos aspectos de la índole artística de la gran escritora novohispana.

Quizá se le halla extraviado mi trabajo, o lo juzgue tan malo que prefiera no comentármelo. En todo caso, adjunto otro ejemplar, además, mi CV, y agrego otra publicación también sobre un tema mexicano y la cual se recoge en la revista oficial de la Academia de Ciencias de Hungría, *Acta Litteraria*, gesto que me parece caballeroso por parte del pueblo *mágyar* al reconocimiento de los valores culturales de mi tierra. Es posible que le llame la atención la nota vigésimotercera donde aclaro la relación entre el poeta mexicano, Manuel José Othón, y su compatriota, el ya olvidado filósofo Ramón Manterola (1848-1901) cuyo esfuerzo fue el de sintetizar algunos aspectos del hegelianismo con el positivismo que, como usted sabe, entonces dominaba en México.

Me honraría si usted tuviese la gentileza de comunicarme sus impresiones de mis trabajos, en particular, sus reparos a mi Sor Juana porque es donde más pesa el contenido teológico y

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filosófico. Inculso, me atrevo a pedirle que se valga de la adjunta hoja membretada para acotar su observaciones. Mándela firmada y fechada, por favor, a la siguiente dirección:

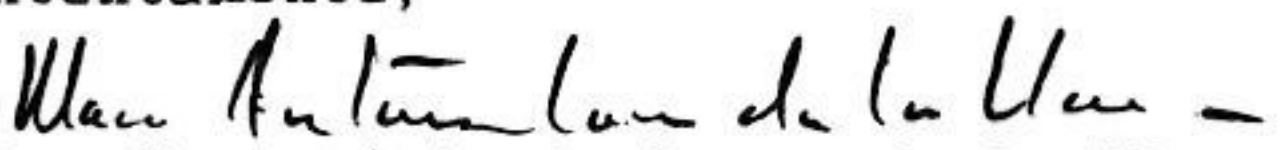
Office of Career Services
Harvard University
54 Dunster Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Su comentario, si favorable, entonces formará parte de mi expediente, lo cual me será de inmenso valor ya que usted es un renombrado pensador en nuestra lengua, y de los poquísimos de reconocimiento universal, pues como dice Benito Espinosa al concluir su *Etica: omnia praeclara tam rara quam difficilia sunt.*

Casi olvidaba indicarle que, para que conozca mi trayectoria profesional, recibirá mi expediente de Harvard. Adjunto en fotocopia una carta comprobatoria de que se acaba de publicar, o inminentemente se publicará, en Europa mi segunda *Sor Juana*. Tan pronto y reciba los sobretiros, le mandaré uno.

Sin más, aguardo con interés su contestación.

Atentamente,


Dr. Marco Antonio Loera de la Llave
Modern Languages Department

DR. MARCO-ANTONIO LOERA de la LLAVE

Department of Modern Languages
Susquehanna University
Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania 17870
717-374-0101, extensions 4176 and 4283

Degrees:

Ph.D., Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard University	1978
M.A., Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard University	1968
B.A., <i>summa cum laude</i> , English and Hispanic Literatures, University of California at Los Angeles	1966

Fields of scholarly interest and prepared to teach:

Comparative literature, history of ideas, the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries, colonial Spanish American literature, Hispanic poetry, Mexican studies, the Hispanic essay.

Submitted for publication:

La Traviata: Verdi, the Bourgeoisie and Bad Faith, eleven pages, submitted to *The Opera News* and to *The Opera Quarterly*.

Forthcoming publication:

Fantasia e intencionalidad neontológicas en Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, fifty-three pages, *Acta Neophilologica* (Univerza Evarda Kardelja V Ljubljani, Yugoslavia).

Publications:

La visión espeluznante de Manuel José Othón: Noche rústica de Valpurgis, Cuadrante (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, México), año IX, número 1 (1981), 4-51.

Oneirismo y heurística en un poema mexicano finisecular: Noche rústica de Valpurgis por Manuel José Othón, *Acta Litteraria Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae* (Budapest), 25 (1983), 263-287.

. . . sirtes tocando / de imposibles . . . en Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Cuadernos Americanos, año XLV, volumen CCLXV, número 2 (1986), 128-160.

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Honors and scholarships:

Harvard Ghikas Scholarship (declined)	1970
Harvard Committee on Latin American Studies Travel Grant	1970
Harvard Staff Tuition Scholarship	1969
NDEA-IV Fellowship at Harvard University	1966-69
Honorary Woodrow Wilson Fellowship	1966

Academic appointments:

Since the doctorate:

1985- Susquehanna University, Assistant Professor in Modern Languages
1983-84 Whittier College, Assistant Professor in Foreign Languages and Literatures
1979-82 Brown University, Assistant Professor in Hispanic Studies

Prior to the doctorate:

1970-77 University of California at Los Angeles, Lecturer in Hispanic studies

Courses taught:

Don Quijote
Graduate independent studies courses on the Spanish American novel and poetry of the nineteenth-century
Mexican literature and civilization
Stylistics and the Hispanic essay
Intellectual history of Hispanic culture
Peninsular Golden Age literature
Peninsular literature from Bécquer to Sastre
Spanish American literature survey
Spanish grammar and composition, intermediate and advanced
Business Spanish
Elementary Spanish
L'apport francophone aux belles lettres de l'occident depuis le romantisme
Elementary French
Intermediate French

Doctoral dissertation:

The Distant Solitude: The Art and Purview of Manuel José Othón

Director: Dr. Juan Augusto Marichal

My dissertation clarifies how the descriptive poetry of Manuel José Othón (Mexico, 1858-1906) contributes to the Mexican mode of Western culture. Anticipating the *Modernistas* whose artistic ascendancy he forever decried, Othón sought to fashion a style that would synthesize the major strains of

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nineteenth-century lyricism, Romantic and Parnassian, with the classical models of Latin antiquity and of the Spanish Renaissance. Less discerningly, he also availed himself of paradigms of merely transitional value such as the discreet academic verse of Fr. Joaquín Arcadio Pagaza (Mexico, 1839-1918), and the discursive and frequently bombastic verse of Gaspar Núñez de Arce (Spain, 1834-1903). The artistic balance of Othón's enterprise is uneven, betraying formal and ideological tensions. Often, he assumes the role of a national vates as he elaborates with telluric sensibility a *criollo* mythopoetry of Mexicanity rooted in conservative Hispanism and Catholicism. The descriptive craft of his Latin and Romantic precursors, however, tends toward pantheism, now naturalist and pagan in Virgil, Ovid, and Horace, now crypto-Protestant and idealist in Victor Hugo and Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer (Spain, 1836-70), therefore, perhaps more properly called panentheistic; in either case, toward a world-vision irreconcilable with the orthodoxy of Othón's religious heritage which clearly distinguishes between creation and the Creator, and thereby subordinates *natura naturans* to *natura naturata*. Further, mythicizing as immutable a complex of cherished values in terms of a pastoral meta-image surcharged with literary antecedents and tendentially reactionary, Othón seeks to artistically contradict what he dreads: the incipient spiritual transformations underlaid by Mexico's neocolonial appendage to modern international capitalism. The poetic illusion inevitably suffers a series of diremptive crises. Elegy replaces Idyll and alternates with despairing confessional outbursts. The celebration of Nature's harmonious and creative vitality surrenders to the masterful portrayal, in a series of chiaroscuro tableaux, of an infernal desert static and sterile. A unique voice in Mexican poetry, Othón did not establish a lyrical movement, although one may possibly hear a likeness of his echo in the expressionistic depictions of wasted expanses by the contemporary Mexican prose master, Juan Rulfo.

(see Publications above, also Enrique Anderson Imbert, *Historia de la literatura hispanoamericana*, primer tomo [México: Fondo de Cultura Económica, 1962], pp. 316-319, or its translation, *Spanish American Literature: A History*, second edition revised and updated by E. Malley, Volume I [Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1969], pp. 304-306; Julio Caillet Bois, *Antología de la poesía hispanoamericana* [Madrid: Aguilar, 1958], pp. 728-736; Aurora M. Ocampo de Gómez, *Diccionario de escritores mexicanos* [México: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, 1967], pp. 267-270)

Dossier upon request

February 1987

UNIVERZA EDVARDA KARDELJA V LJUBLJANI
FILOZOFSKA FAKULTETA
PZE za germanske jezike in književnosti
Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures
61000 - Ljubljana, Aškerčeva 12, Jugoslavija

Ljubljana, July 2nd, 1986

Dr. Janez Stanonik

Professor
Dr. Marco-Antonio Loera de la Llave
Modern Languages Department
Susquehanna University
Selinsgrove, PA 17870
U.S.A.

Dear Professor Loera!

This is to confirm the receipt of your final version of the study on Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz. Your text came in the last minute, just before we have sent it to the printing enterprise. So you will have now printed this last version. The financial means for the printing have been given to us, and so the printing of the 1986 issue is secured. The printing will be completed until the end of this 1986 year. You will receive a number of Acta Neophilologica and between 30 to 50 separate copies of your study, the number will depend on the financial calculation. Certainly we will try to get the most favourable solution.

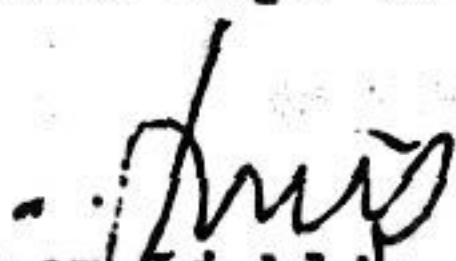
As I have told you, I have been very much impressed by the scholarship you show in this study, both the knowledge of mediaeval literature as well as of the modern literary theory. As much as I know the situation is especially the knowledge of the German literary theory of the beginning of the XIXth century quite an exception of American Spanish scholars, most of whom do not know German. You are a very rare exception.

The 1986 year of Acta Neophilologica will be in a way a Mexican number, because besides your study I will also publish the biography of mine countryman, a Slovene who went to America and worked in Sonora as a close coworker of Kino. His name was Marcus Antonius Kappus. As regards the first name your namesake.

I will be very pleased to meet you if you have the chance to come to Yugoslavia. I am in July in Slovenia, not in Ljubljana, but at my weekend, the village of Žabja vas in the valley of Poljanska Sora above the small town Škofja Loka. The best thing would be if you could inform me well ahead of the exact time of your arrival.

I am very sincerely yours. Hope to hear from you

yours



My weekend is some 36 km distant from Ljubljana

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

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CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138
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Dr. Marco-Antonio Loera de la Llave is establishing a dossier with this Office.
(Name in full)

Please type below a recommendation for the candidate and return this recommendation to the Office of Career Services at the address above. In evaluating the candidate you may wish to refer to his or her professional qualifications, character, experience and potential. The Massachusetts Fair Employment Practices Law prohibits reference to the candidate's age, race, religion, or ethnic origin.

A letter of recommendation will be treated as a non-confidential letter unless it is accompanied by the candidate's signed statement waiving his or her right of access to the letter (see Optional Waiver below).

Name of recommender Dr. José Ferrater-Mora Title _____
(please type)
Department _____ Institution _____
City & State _____
Signature _____ Date _____

OPTIONAL WAIVER *Under the terms of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, I hereby waive my right of access to this letter of recommendation.*

(Candidate's signature)

(Date)