

# EL BUQUI

Newsletter

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ASLA ROUNDTABLE ON SERVICES TO THE SPANISH-SPEAKING/ARIZONA CHAPTER OF REFORMA

## ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

### SALUDOS:

"El Buqui" marks the first issue of a quarterly publication of the newly formed ASLA Roundtable on Services to the Spanish-speaking/Arizona Chapter of REFORMA. Our membership is committed to promoting improved library services for the Spanish-speaking populace of Arizona.

This commitment carries with it a responsibility to serve as the most competent and knowledgeable representatives of the Spanish-speaking segment in voicing their informational needs to the library community at large. "El Buqui" will help us meet this obligation by providing a platform for the exchange and communication of ideas among

Spanish-speaking library workers. Equally significant is our attempt to publish an informative guide for all librarians seeking to identify and define areas for service to the ever-growing Hispanic community.

Each newsletter will feature book and media reviews, commentaries on library-related topics along with program ideas and events, job announcements and personalities. We welcome our readers to submit letters to the editor, questions, comments, and suggestions which will help make "El Buqui" a relevant and practical guide.

Sincerely,

Luis Herrera, Chairperson  
ASLA Roundtable on Services  
to the Spanish-Speaking/  
Arizona Chapter of REFORMA



"Buqui" is the Yaqui/Mexican word for child.



= ZOOT SUIT =  
AN IMPRESSION OF THE EXPERIENCE

by  
Antonio Gomez

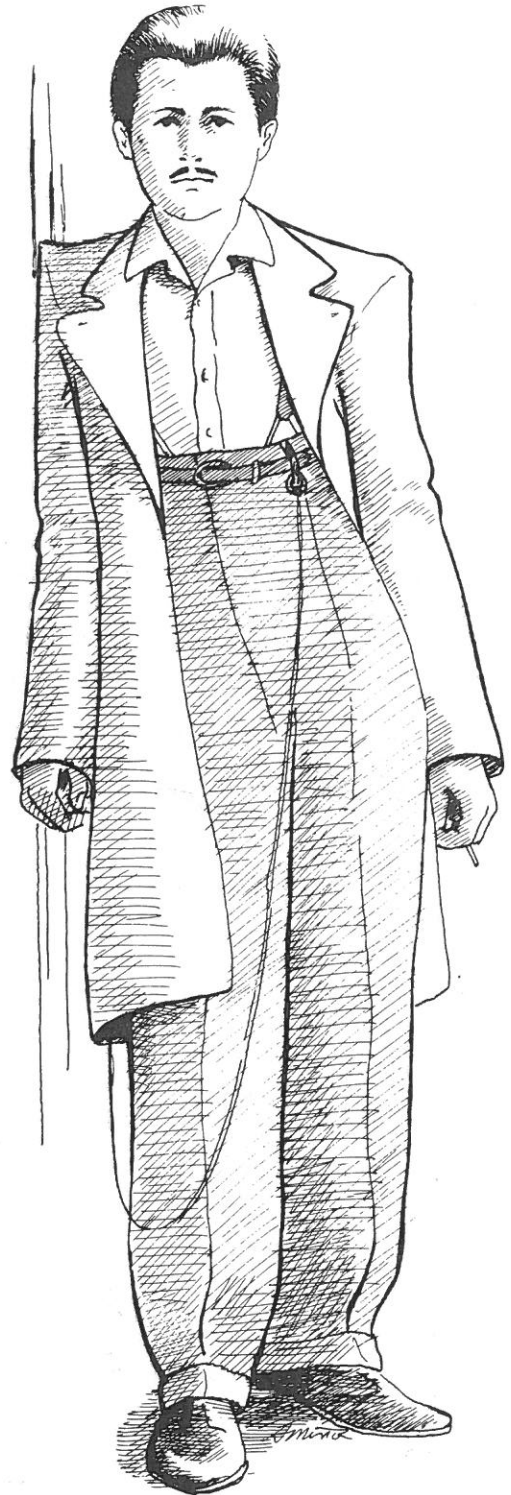
I went to see Zoot Suit during the Christmas holidays in Los Angeles. The tickets were a present from my cuñado Lefty, an old veterano from the Clover barrio; a barrio whose original territory now houses parking lots for a trucking company, the San Antonio Winery and other odds and ends of the industrial revolution. Although urban renewal gouged most of the homes, the "Barrio" has moved to adjacent land and the young vatos with their hairnets and baggy tramos who now claim Clover as their ganga live on Ave. 28 or on Workman St., both far removed from the original Clover Street. I doubt that Lefty's younger homey's know where or how their place originated, but that's another story.

I digressed on Lefty and Clover because of the impact that Zoot Suit is having on the entire Chicano community. Everybody wants to see it!

As I walked into the foyer of the Hollywood Aquarius Theater I saw the usual theater crowd, those who could have modeled for the ads in Playboy or Cosmopolitan and the avantgarde fuzzy intellectuals. Pero alli tambien estaba El Conrad from Palo Verde, another veterano from a barrio now buried under the massive Dodger Stadium. Conrado was innocuously dressed in his slacks and polo shirt; nothing gave him away as an old Zoot Suiter, except the tatoos on his visa and a culturally patterned walk that tells one who knows "que ay va un vato muy chingon".

Interspersed with the upper middle class crowd were a lot of other vatos that night. A lot of rucas too, with their faded india ink mole tatoos on their cheek. But also present were the younger vato locos, those who don't remember the Zoot Suit era but whose mind is still fresh with the bloody Chicano Moratorium in which several Chicanos were killed and with the daily incidents of police brutality.

"Wow!" I said to myself, "que de aquellas. El show in there can't be as good as the one out here. Pues todo esta aqui afuera." The generations have met, as have the lifestyles, for there were other middle-class types, such as myself, with brown faces. But the show inside was good ese, and I wasn't disappointed. It was a cultural event of the highest type as was demonstrated by the standing ovation that the audience gave the cast when all was over. It is too bad that most Chicanos won't ever see Zoot Suit (estan barbaros los precios \$9.50--\$15.00). It would be ATM to see it again in East Los con pura Chicanada. Que chingos le meterian a los "villans"; the racist judge,



the brutal LAPD and the Hearst newspaper reporters. As it was, there in that Hollywood Theater, los Chicanos couldn't contain themselves, and every once in a while salian las "madres" y los "putos".

The success that Zoot Suit is having is hopefully indicative of a long overdue recognition of Chicanos in the creative arts by both Chicanos and non-Chicanos.

For an excellent in-depth review of Zoot Suit, I refer you to TENAZ TALKS TEATRO (Vol. I. Nos 3 and 4, Summer and Fall, 1978). This small but very informative newsletter is free for the asking. Write to Jorge Huerta, c/o Drama Department, Q-044, University of California, La Jolla, California 92093.



### JUAN Y EL DIABLO PUPPET PLAY

by

Liz Rodriguez Miller

Juan y el Diablo, an original work based on Mexican folklore and performed in Spanish, has been viewed by over 500 people in the Tucson area. The puppet play, written by Antonio Gomez, was first presented as part of the REFORMA program at the 1978 ASLA Conference in September. Since then it has been presented at five branches of the Tucson Public Library and at the Liberty Adult Learning Center. Future performances are tentatively scheduled for three other TPL branches and in Phoenix and Scottsdale. The play deals with Juan Moreno, a poor Mexican peasant who tries to better his life by selling his soul to the devil. This cast

is composed of the following Services for the Spanish-speaking Roundtable members: Jose Aponte, Antonio Gomez, Luis Herrera, Liz Miller, and Elena Navarrette. The sets for the play were designed by Antonio Muñoz and Ruy Monroe, and guitar accompaniment was provided by Ross Sotelo. All three are students at the U of A Graduate Library School. This play serves as an example of the type of programming that can be presented in libraries to appeal to the Spanish-speaking community. Because of the enthusiastic response of the Spanish-speaking community in Tucson to Juan y el Diablo, future programs of this type are planned.

FILM PROGRAMMING FOR THE SPANISH-SPEAKING IN ARIZONA

by  
Donna López

All of us know that films are a vital part of library programming. They provide entertainment, information and they arouse interest in social issues. The use of films as an outreach tool is invaluable. Those of us who work in Arizona rely heavily on the Arizona State Library Extension Service to provide those films and many of us must rely on them exclusively. However, the films available through the Extension Service, though informative and entertaining do not service adequately Arizona's largest minority, the Spanish-speaking.

The past two years of work in the town of Guadalupe provided me with a great deal of experience in film programming for the Spanish-speaking of all ages. Although I had no trouble finding films for the Saturday afternoon kids, locating films for the senior citizens was very difficult.

The State Library's collection includes THREE Spanish language films: EL CUENTO DE HANSEL Y GRETEL (for children), MAKING A PINATA (probably more valuable for English-speaking patrons), and MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURE: IT'S HERITAGE. How many times can the State Library expect us to show these three films?

My recourse was to show selected English language films that would be of interest to the Spanish-speaking. The most popular were: CHULAS FRONTERAS; SABINA SANCHEZ; PEDRO LINARES; DAY OF THE DEAD; OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE; THEY ARE COMING TO NOROGACHIC; CHILDREN OF THE FIELDS; THE UNWANTED; SOUTH AMERICA TODAY; I AM JOAQUIN; and MIGUEL: UP FROM PUERTO RICO.

When I couldn't book the above mentioned titles or had shown them more than twice, I turned to films of less relevance to this audience. Most of these are very outdated (Chile 1965) or very wordy and anthropological. Try to keep an audience's interest with that kind of film!!

As a last desperate effort I began using travel films with little or no dialogue. Some good ones are A PARIS, IRAN, and HAITI. I also had success with 'scenic' films those with nice photography, such as A WALK IN THE FOREST, and NOVEMBER. Other good fun films were TOES TELL, THE BLUE DASHIKI, THE HANDS OF MARIA, and WATCH OUT FOR MY PLANT. However the requests kept coming. Can we have more films in Spanish or on Mexico?

Later, part of the problem was solved when Guadalupe received grant monies to rent full length Spanish language films from Azteca Films of Los Angeles. They were shown once a month and were very successful in the community. But the funds ran out.

I wanted to use the series of video tapes available from State Extension on the problems of aging but was unable to because of the language barrier. This video tape series, READY OR NOT, covers survival problems the aged must face in every community. But why is it being kept from those who need it so desperately? In the past suggestions have been made to the State to translate this series (and others) onto tape cassettes to be used with the video tapes. There are some video tapes available in Spanish (8 tapes) but most are pure entertainment. Our Spanish speaking population is being kept out of libraries not only through lack of bilingual staff and materials, but through lack of Spanish language programs.

My own suggestions to the State Extension Library for film purchases do not seem to be enough. The Extension Library thinks I am the only one programming and requesting films for the Spanish-speaking. I have given them names of films to purchase--some they have, many they have not. We don't always need the best in the field, but those most relevant to this area's needs. We need films on performing Mexican dances...the audience doesn't care if the camera work is artistic. We need films such as LOS VENDIDOS or BRUJERIAS, both done by Chicano teatro groups, to appeal to the younger age group as well as the rest of the Spanish-speaking community.

A film bibliography included in the packet "The Southwestern Mosaic: Living in a Land of Extremes" produced by SWLA-NEH gave films to use in discussion programs on issues facing communities. Five films on the Mexican American were included; State Extension has only one -- FELIPA. Those films not available are: A LA BRAVA (Univ. of Calif. Extension Media Center); SALT OF THE EARTH (Macmillan Films); STRANGERS IN THEIR OWN LAND (Xerox Films); and YO SOY CHICANO (Tricontinental) the latter has been requested several times.

A Film List About the Chicano in the United States, by Christine Marín, Chicano Studies Librarian at Arizona State University (1974) annotates 38 films. State Extension has only five of these. This same list includes two films on Mexican dances in color.

OPINIONES (cont.) I am aware that there is not an abundance of Spanish language films produced in this country, but those that are available should be purchased for programs for the Spanish-speaking. Films dealing with Mexico and Mexican Americans also can be used effectively.

The State Library Extension Service has been receptive to suggestions for purchase in the past and we hope they will continue to be. In 1977, the Extension Librarian provided \$10,000 to purchase films of interest to the Spanish-speaking. But much more needs to be done to catch up. Spanish-speaking library services are increasing as are bilingual education classes. Why can't the State Library prepare for the future? Tucson Public Library does a log of Spanish language programming; Guadalupe has done a little; more programming will occur in Tolleson, Avondale, El Mirage and Phoenix. These and other communities wanting to plan programs for the Spanish-speaking need to let the State Library know of these plans and what kinds of films they need. They need to recommend specific films requested by people in their community. Perhaps then the State Library can effectively serve all groups.

\*P E R S O N A S\*

Donna Stephenson Lopez, former director of the successful two-year LSCA demonstration grant to develop a library in the trilingual community of Guadalupe, Arizona, has now been hired as Project Director for the \$23,620 LSCA State demonstration grant to improve library services to the Spanish-speaking in Maricopa County. As project director, Ms. Lopez will serve as a statewide resource person. A workshop on the selection and acquisition of Spanish language materials will be held in April for those interested librarians. More information: contact Donna Lopez, Maricopa County Library, 3375 West Durango, Phoenix, Arizona, 85009, or call 269-2535.

\*C O N T R I B U T O R S\*

AMANDA CASTILLO, Librarian, Mission Branch, Tucson Public Library.  
ANTONIO GOMEZ, Head of Reference, Valencia Branch, Tucson Public Library.  
LUIS HERRERA, Program Coordinator, Graduate Library Institute for Spanish-speaking Americans, (GLISA).  
DONNA STEPHENSON LOPEZ, Librarian, Maricopa County Library.  
ELIZABETH RODRIGUEZ-MILLER, Librarian, South Tucson Branch, Tucson Public Library.  
ILIANA SONNTAG, Reference Librarian, Spanish American Specialist University of Arizona Library.

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ILLUSTRATIONS BY ANTONIO MUÑOZ, GRADUATE STUDENT

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\*\* BOOK REVIEWS \*\*

Teatro Libertad. LOS PELADOS. Tucson: Teatro Libertad, P.O.Box 775, 85702, 1978. \$4.50.

An original, bilingual play that explores... "the lives of an urban working class Chicano family. The play focuses on their struggles with housing, job security and domestic problems brought on by outside pressures". Includes a well documented history of teatro in the Southwest, photographs. Highly recommended for all Spanish-language collections.

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Latorre, Dolores. COOKING AND CURING WITH MEXICAN HERBS. Austin, TX: Encino Press, 1977. \$10.00.

Some great 'hard to get at' recipes such as barbequed head of goat, agua de flor de jamaica, cabrito, etc. The second part of the book on cures is also valuable. Contains a glossary.

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Terhune, William Barclay. COMO PREVENIR EL PROBLEMA DEL ALCOHOLISMO. México: Diana, 1974.

Sociological and psychological aspects of alcoholism and how to prevent its occurrence; also how to deal with an alcoholic in the family.

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Fuertes, Gloria. AURORA, BRIGIDA Y CARLOS. Barcelona: Editorial Lumen. (K - 1) \$5.25.

A colorful alphabet book with silly rhymes. Names of children denote the letters. "B es para Brígida. Brígida bulliciosa que baila y rebaila y no hace otra cosa." Fun to read.

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LA BELLA DURMIENTA. Illus. by Fernando Saez. Madrid: Susaeta, n.d. (Gr.2-4) \$2.95.

Three stories included are: SLEEPING BEAUTY, THREE LITTLE PIGS, and THE FIR TREE. There are colorful watercolor illustrations on every page. The language is clear and simple.

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Carballido, Emilio. EL ARCA DE NOE, ANTOLOGIA Y APOSTILLAS DE TEATRO INFANTIL. México: Sep/ Setentas, 1974. \$1.85.

Seven short plays for children in Spanish -- good material but both audience and actors must be fluent in Spanish.

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Amo, Monteserrat del. CHITINA Y SU GATO. Barcelona: Juventud, 1976. (Gr.1-3) \$3.95.

Casi, Chitina's cat, gets lost in the night and Chitina overcomes her fear of the dark to find her. Large glossy illustrations are very colorful.

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Anderson-Imbert, Enrique. VICTORIA. Buenos Aires: EMECE, 1977. 206p

Anderson-Imbert, Harvard professor of Spanish literature and author of the most-used texts on Latin American literature, gives us a jewel of a novel. A plot of passions and feelings, memories and doubts, which ends in a never suspected way. In Spanish.

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Borges, Jorge Luis. TODO BORGES Y .... Buenos Aires: Atlántida, 1977. 210p \$8.00.

All about Borges... was published as a special issue of GENTE Y LA ACTUALIDAD. It is a pict album and scrapbook where we find Borges' family tree, excerpts of his works, newspaper clippings related to his trips around the world. Pictures of his ex-wife, things he says about himself, his mother, his work, his country. An interesting introduction to his work. In Spanish.

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Vallejo de Bolívar, Gaby. HIJO DE OPA! La Paz: Amigos del Libro, 1977. 191p

This young Bolivian author exposes us to the intricacies of the human soul; love, hate, fear and loneliness are depicted in the setting of a provincial, middle-class family within the political turmoil of Bolivia. For people with good reading ability in Spanish.

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Sorrentino, Fernando, ed. 40 CUENTOS BREVES ARGENTINOS. Buenos Aires: Plus Ultra, 1977.

A collection of really short stories (some one or a couple of pages) by some well known and some new Argentine writers; a biographical note is included on each of them. The stories are entertaining and a good introduction for those readers not acquainted with the writing of Latin America. 236p

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Barnes, John. EVITA, FIRST LADY: A BIOGRAPHY OF EVA PERON. New York: Grove Pr., 1978. 195p

Evita, wife of dictator Peron of Argentina, was a controversial and fascinating subject. It is almost impossible to write objectively about her, yet Barnes makes no judgement. An eyewitness of the Peron era --1942-1955-- when he was editor of the British newspaper BUENOS AIRES HERALD, he tells all he knows, which is plenty, about her background, ambition, ruthlessness, and the incredible devotion of her followers the 'descamisados' (shirtless ones) who worship her as a saint. Barnes' journalist style is interesting and easily readable; although he does not document his facts his account is serious and believable. For those with an interest in women, or Latin America, a must.

## STUDENT NEWS

A special project of a group of G.L.S.A. 111 students during the past Fall semester was the taping of Spanish language talking books, undertaken as a project for the course "Spanish Language and Culture for Spanish-speaking Librarians" taught by Antonio Gomez.

This effort arose out of student concern for the very limited availability of Spanish titles provided by the Library of Congress. Taping the Spanish language stories for the blind proved to be no easy task, however, invaluable orientation, instruction, and guidance was provided by Betty Waznis, Coordinator of Volunteer Services for the State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

In addition to producing the taped stories for use by the Library for the Blind, another component to this project included conducting a needs-assessment for the use of this service in the Tucson area. Since all users must be medically certified for eligibility with the State Library, determining the local need for this service by the Spanish-speaking became a difficult undertaking.

The Tucson Public Library provides a collection of talking books, however only a very small number are in Spanish. The Spanish titles are available at the Freeman Woods Branch Library.

The students involved in the talking book project have developed a slide presentation documenting this service effort. Participating students were Andrea David, Diana Gonzalez, Salvador Guarena, Graciela Parsons, Jerry Perez, Rolando Romo, and Olga Sanchez.

## JOB S . . .

CENTRAL REFERENCE LIBRARIAN. University of Arizona Library. Position available July 1, 1979. To assist in providing social sciences, humanities and fine arts reference service (including evening and weekend rotation), on-line bibliographic searching and library orientation/instruction. Book selection and faculty liaison responsibilities primarily in the areas of education and sociology. ALA-accredited library degree required. Strong background in education or sociology preferred. Course work in psychology or business desired. Academic library reference experience and familiarity with on-line literature search systems desired. Ability to speak Spanish helpful. Salary range \$11,800-\$12,800. Faculty status, 12-month appointment, 22 days vacation, fringe benefits. Send resume by April 30, 1979 including list of three references to: Mary Dale Palsson, Public Services Librarian, Main Library, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona 85721.

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## U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

A series of films in Spanish on the Mexican Revolution will be presented during the week of March 26th through the 30th in Tucson. This film series, sponsored by The Graduate Library Institute for Spanish-Speaking Americans, (GLISA), will be shown at the following Tucson Public Library Branches:

### MONDAY, MARCH 26

7 PM El Pueblo Center...LA SOLDADERA  
7 PM El Rio Center...MEMORIAS DE UN  
MEXICANO

### TUESDAY, MARCH 27

5 PM Mission Branch...MEMORIAS DE UN  
MEXICANO  
7 PM Mission Branch...LA SOLDADERA  
7 PM Valencia Branch...LA ROSA BLANCA

### WESNESDAY, MARCH 28

7 PM El Rio...EPOPEYAS DE LA REVOLUCION  
7 PM South Tucson Civic Center...EL COMPADRE MENDOZA

### THURSDAY, MARCH 29

7 PM Valencia Branch...LA SOLDADERA  
7 PM Woods...EL COMPADRE MENDOZA

### FRIDAY, MARCH 30

7 PM El Rio Center...LA ROSA BLANCA

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