# The Buenos Aires Affair

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manuel puig s masterful and ironic detective novel concerns the abduction of a woman an impending murder and the dim memories of a thousand old glamour queens garbo dietrich veronica lake rita hayworth all combining to make a powerful portrait of two decidedly unglamorous lives gladys hebe d onofrio a lonely 35 year old sculptor tormented by her fantasies and perpetually in search of the ideal lover and leo druscovich an outwardly confident and successful art critic deeply troubled by a

terrible guilt that surfaces in his repeated sexual failures taking on exchanging and growing into the roles of victim and criminal their lives presented through a variety of different kinds of evidence lists scribbled notes transcripts one sided interrogations these two lost souls gradually find themselves entirely dependent on one another and heading towards precisely the sort of violent ending a detective novel demands

in 1965 the bridge world was rocked by an accusation of cheating at the world championships in buenos aires the pair involved were britain s terence reese and boris schapiro two of the world s best players now almost fifty years later the true inside story can be told the investigation the accusation and the very different results of the world bridge federation and british bridge league inquiries

manuel puig the spider woman tells the life story of the innovative and flamboyant novelist and playwright himself suzanne jill levine his principal english translator draws upon years of friendship as well as copious research and interviews in her remarkable book the first biography of the inimitable writer manuel puig 1932 1990 argentinian author of kiss of the spider woman and pioneer of high camp stands alone in the pantheon of contemporary latin american literature strongly influenced by hollywood films of the thirties and forties his many layered novels and plays integrate serious fiction and popular culture mixing political and sexual themes with b movie scenarios when his first two novels were published in the late 1960s they delighted the public but were dismissed as frivolous by the leftist intellectuals of the boom his third novel was banned by the peronist government for irreverence his influence was already felt though even by writers who had dismissed him and by the time the film version of kiss of the spider woman became a worldwide hit he was a renowned literary figure puig s way of life was as unconventional as his fiction he spoke of himself in the female form in spanish renamed his friends for his favorite movie stars referred to his young male devotees as daughters and as a perennial expatriate lived often with his mother everywhere from rome to rio de janeiro

in this witty and incisive memoir suzanne jill levine winner of the 2024 pen ralph manheim award for translation establishes a new way of writing about a translator s life levine is a living legend in the translation world who credits her good fortune as a young translator to being in the right place at the right time beginning in the era of the cuban revolution with growing interest in latin america and its writers and unfolding in

new york city in the turbulent 1960s and 1970s and beyond in unfaithful a translator s memoir levine interweaves her personal history and translation history in an important period levine analyzes how her openness to another culture and new experiences along with a knack for translating the most difficult latin american novels and positive interactions with her authors took her from a modest new york background into a whole new literary and linguistic world she also writes about how her friendship and then long relationship with uruguayan writer and intellectual emir rodr guez monegal helped her develop her career and how translating creatively subversive guillermo cabrera infante and manuel puig taking on the task of making spoken cuban and argentine into a new literary language in translation was her true entry into the world of writing it is now common for translation scholars to talk about the embodied nature of the act of translation levine fleshes out that embodiment in provocative detail with humor and style

d®cio torres cruz approaches connections between literature and cinema partly through issues of gender and identity and partly through issues of reality and representation in doing so he looks at the various ways in which people have thought of the so called cinematic novel tracing the development of that genre concept not only in the french cin® roman and film scenarios but also in novels from the united states england france and latin america the main tendency he identifies is the blending of the cinematic novel with pop literature through allusions to pop art and other postmodern cultural trends his prime exhibits are a number of novels by the argentinian writer manuel puig betrayed by rita hayworth heartbreak tango the buenos aires affair kiss of the spider woman and pubis angelical bringing in suggestive sociocultural and psychoanalytical considerations cruz shows how in puig s hands the cinematic novel resulted in a pop collage of different texts films discourses and narrative devices which fused reality and imagination into dream and desire

for many serious readers robert alter writes in his preface the novel still matters and i have tried here to suggest some reasons why that should be so in his wide ranging discussion alter examines the imitation of reality in fiction to find out why mimesis has become problematic yet continues to engage us deeply as readers alter explores very different sorts of novels from the self conscious artifices of sterne and nabokov to what seem to be more realistic texts such as those of dickens flaubert john fowles and

the early norman mailer attention is also given to such individual critics as edmund wilson and alfred kazin and to current critical schools in alter s essays a particular book or movement or juxtaposition of writers provides the occasion for the exploration of a general intellectual issue the scrutiny of well chosen passages the joining of images or themes or ideas the associative and intuitive processes that lead to the right phrase and the right loop of syntax for the matter at hand all these come together unexpectedly to illuminate both the text in question and the general issue recent discussions of mimesis in fiction generally proceed from a single thesis by contrast motives for fiction offers an empirical approach attempting to define mimesis in its various guises by careful critical readings of a heterogeneous sampling of literary texts intelligent and good humored the book is also old fashioned enough to wonder whether mimesis might not be a task or responsibility to which much contemporary fiction has not proved entirely adequate

the latin american novel burst onto the international literary scene with the boom era led by julio cort zar gabriel garc a m rquez carlos fuentes and mario vargas llosa and has influenced writers throughout the world ever since garc a m rquez and vargas llosa each received the nobel prize in literature and many of the best known contemporary novelists are inspired by the region s fiction indeed magical realism the style associated with garc a m rquez has left a profound imprint on african american african asian anglophone caribbean and latinx writers furthermore post boom literature continues to garner interest from the novels of roberto bola no to the works of cosar aira and chico buarque to those of younger novelists such as juan gabriel v squez alejandro zambra and valeria luiselli yet for many readers the latin american novel is often read in a piecemeal manner delinked from the traditions authors and social contexts that help explain its evolution the oxford handbook of the latin american novel draws literary historical and social connections so that readers will come away understanding this literature as a rich and compelling canon in forty five chapters by leading and innovative scholars the handbook provides a comprehensive introduction helping readers to see the region s intrinsic heterogeneity for only with a broader view can one fully appreciate garc a m rquez or bola¶o this volume charts the literary tradition of the latin american novel from its beginnings during colonial times its development during the nineteenth and the first half of the twentieth century and its flourishing from the 1960s onward furthermore the handbook explores the regions representations of identity narrative trends and authors that make this literature so diverse and fascinating reflecting on the latin american novel s position in world literature

sub versions of the archive manuel puig s and severo sarduy s alternative identities analyzes recent theories of the archive to examine how manuel puig and severo sarduy reformulate the latin american literary tradition this study focuses on eclectic theories of the archive as both repository and danger drawing from an array of sources both within and outside the hispanic literary tradition from borges foucault arrom derrida gonz lez echevarr a and guillory to digital media and biotechnology this book also applies theories of cultural contamination maria lugones and symbolic capital pierre bourdieu to the novels of puig and sarduy to explore the representation of marginal cultures within a body of literature that previously altered or elided these subaltern cultures from the tradition through close readings and critical theoretical applications this book demonstrates how archival fiction continues to be one of the most popular strategies among latin american novelists and most importantly how they have successfully managed to find new ways to inscribe their alternative fictions within this tradition puig s and sarduy s novels reproduce discourses popular culture and the mass media that lack prestige within the traditional archive these discourses mirror realities of marginal groups gay people children the poor the illiterate women and racial minorities their cultural variants sub versions of hegemonic masterstories are endowed with truth bearing power for them but were previously left out of the archive as legitimate novelistic models to date this is the only study of contemporary latin american fiction that puts current theories of the archive especially that of roberto gonz lez echevarr a to practice in such a systematic way riob s analysis of how puig and sarduy reformulate the latin american canon is both a necessary complement of gonz lez echevarr a s work and an intelligent answer to the first of his projected masterstories riob s multidisciplinary approach

rebecca biron breaks new ground in this study of masculinity violence and the strategic construction of collective political identities in twentieth century latin american fiction by engaging current sociological psychoanalytic and feminist theories murder and masculinity analyzes the cliche of proving virility through violence against women biron develops her argument through close readings of five works jorge luis borges s

la intrusa armonia somer s el despojo clarice lispector s a maca no escuro manuel puig s the buenos aires affair and reinaldo arenas s el asalto although men murdering women is often interpreted as nothing more than machista misogyny biron argues that the five narratives addressed in this book show that healed masculinities are essential to the achievement of cultural identity and political autonomy in latin america the introduction to this study deftly situates biron s work in relation to previous theoretical arguments on the social and political dimensions of latin american writing the five subsequent chapters offer superb analyses of the individual texts like their male protagonists who experiment with the psychological and legal extremes of gender division these narratives risk nonconformity to the laws of genre in their quest for liberation from violent social and literary conventions in combining elements of detective stories crime narratives psychological case studies and magical or grotesque realism they offer metafictional commentary on a network of discourses that confuses images of masculinity national identity and political autonomy in postcolonial latin america

psychoanalysis and narrative analyzes narrative in literary fiction film and autobiography through different psychoanalytic lenses including gender and socio cultural perspectives this book aims to demonstrate how fictionists and film makers have intuitively developed through their own creativity many of the psychoanalytic discoveries about the human mind subverting the usual direction of applied psychoanalysis the book goes from creativity to psychoanalysis and focuses on four internationally known argentine writers jorge luis borges julio cort zar manuel puig and luisa valenzuela two argentine women filmmakers lucrecia martel and luc a puenzo and french essayist and writer serge doubrovsky this volume will be of interest to students and academics interested in autobiography and autofiction

the connection between travel and translation is often evoked in contemporary critical theory both practices seen as metaphors of mobility and flux linked to globalized post modern society travel is a multiple activity encompassing temporary and voluntary displacement repeated movement exile economic migration diaspora places of origin are often plural and unstable in spite of the enduring appeal of traditional labels such as mother country or patrie the multiple interfaces between translation travel and migration are the focus of all contributions in this special issue starting from different

points of view and using a variety of methodologies the authors raise fundamental questions about the way in which we perceive the link between language national or ethnic identity and individual voice topics range from the interaction between travel travel narratives and translation in early english representations of china to the special role played by interpreters in mediating the first contact between a literate and a non literate culture from the multiple functions and audiences addressed by contemporary romani literature and its translation to the political as well a cultural implications of translating popular music across the bosporus a number of the articles focus on detailed textual analysis covering the intersection between exile self translation and translingualism in the work of manuel puig the uses and limitations of translation in the works of migrant authors or the impact on figurations of europe of experimental work embracing polylingualism collectively these contributions also underline the importance of a closer examination of our assumptions about who the translators and the interpreters are and what roles they play in our society

this collection of essays derives from a conference on violence culture and identity held in st andrews in june 2003 it is a contribution to the understanding of representations of violence in latin american narrative the collected essays are dedicated to the study of the problematic history of violence as a means of civilizing the region violence used by dictatorial regimes to eradicate the collective memory of their actions violence as a result of the history of marginalizing segments of the population sexual violence as an attempt at complete control of the victim the essays establish a clear link between historical political and literary constructs spanning the past five hundred years of latin american history close readings of political texts historical documents prose poetry and films employ identity theories postcolonial discourse and the principles of mimetic and sacrificial violence the volume adds to the ongoing critical investigation of the relationship between latin american history and narrative and to the key role of representations of violence within that narrative tradition

this work is a guide to writers works and topics in central and south america and the caribbean it contains over 400 entries written by 160 contributors which are organized into four major types topic individual writer individual work and survey

containing roughly 850 entries about spanish language literature throughout the world

this expansive work provides coverage of the varied countries ethnicities time periods literary movements and genres of these writings providing a thorough introduction to spanish language literature worldwide and across time is a tall order however world literature in spanish an encyclopedia contains roughly 850 entries on both major and minor authors themes genres and topics of spanish literature from the middle ages to the present day affording an amazingly comprehensive reference collection in a single work this encyclopedia describes the growing diversity within national borders the increasing interdependence among nations and the myriad impacts of spanish literature across the globe all countries that produce literature in spanish in europe africa the americas and asia are represented covering both canonical authors and emerging contemporary writers and trends underrepresented writings such as texts by women writers queer and afro hispanic texts children s literature and works on relevant but less studied topics such as sports and nationalism also appear while writings throughout the centuries are covered those of the 20th and 21st centuries receive special consideration

long acclaimed by latin american critics the argentine novelist manuel puig became best known in this country for his novel kiss of the spider woman while puig s seven novels are available in translation an immense body of criticism and many of his most important interviews remain inaccessible to the non spanish reader written especially for the english speaking audience this study analyzes aspects of puig s novels summarizing the most important criticism in spanish and offers a biographical sketch of the man making available for the first time in english selections from the most informative interviews readings of each of puig s novels combined with lavers s overview of the criticism in spanish provide new insights into one of the most original and profound bodies of fiction of any current writer

discusses how theories of queer performativity as articulated within the us academy are unable to capture the whole of latino american queer subjectivity and experience the avowal of difference explores the potentialities and limitations that queer theory offers in the context of latino american texts and subjects ben sifuentes j uregui contrasts latino american sexual genealogies with the anglo european coming out narrative and interrogates the centrality of the coming out story as the regulating metaphor for gay lesbian or queer identities in its place the book looks at other

strategies from silence to circumlocution from disavowal to indifference to theorize queer subject formation in a latino american cultural context the analysis of texts by jos® lezama lima luis zapata manuel puig severo sarduy junot d az and others offers a comparative approach to understanding how queer sexualities are shaped and written in other cultural contexts the avowal of difference is a delightful critical encounter between queer criticism and latino american literature and culture i wish i had written it myself ram n e soto crespo author of mainland passage the cultural anomaly of puerto rico

this study of hong kong cult director wong kar wai provides an overview of his career and in depth analysis of his seven feature films to date teo probes wong s cinematic and literary influences from martin scorsese to haruki murakami yet shows how wong transcends them all

with 25 essays that embrace a wide spectrum of topics and perspectives including intertextuality transnationality gender representation repetition the use of music color and sound depiction of time and space in human affairs and wong s highly original portrayal of violence a companion to wong kar wai is a singular examination of the prestigious filmmaker known around the world for the innovation beauty and passion he brings to filmmaking brings together the most cutting edge in depth and interesting scholarship on arguably the greatest living asian filmmaker from a multinational group of established and rising film scholars and critics covers a huge breadth of topics such as the tradition of the jianghu in wong s films queering wong s films not in terms of gender but through the artist s liminality the phenomenological wong wong s intertextuality america through wong s eyes the optics of intensities thresholds and transfers of energy in wong s cinema and the diasporic presence of some ladies from shanghai in wong s hong kong examines the political historical and sociological influence of wong and his work and discusses his work from a variety of perspectives including modern post modern postcolonial and queer theory includes two appendices which examine wong s work in hong kong television and commercials

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11

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15 The Buenos Aires Affair

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16 The Buenos Aires Affair

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