

Robert Kelly's comment on The Other Conquest

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:thanks, and for SC

Date:Fri, 21 Aug 2015 16:25:31 -0400

From:Robert Kelly <kelly@bard.edu>

To:Jane Andromache Brien <brien@bard.edu>

Jane,

wonderful to see you at the Carrasco film, and thank you for inviting Charlotte et moi. The film is marvelous, daunting, detailedly memorable. Would you be so kind as to forward the note below to Salvador? I don't have an address for him.

And see you soon, now that the little Martians are landing....

Robert

dear Salvador,

we were deeply moved by *La Otra Conquista*, and delighted to see you again — thank you indeed for inviting Charlotte and me to the showing at Bard.

Many striking and powerful things about the film—what I think impressed me most was the sheer compositional beauty of every shot — ever frame could be a still, pregnant with the meaning of the whole film. Every shot made sense, montaged fluidly with before and after, held the eye each moment and insisted: not this is how it was, but this is how *it is*.

So despite all the history, the film insists on its present relevance, as conquest after conquest tries to break the human spirit, and is overthrown in turn.

Of course acting and décor were marvelous, and managed most of the time to disappear into the event, not feel like actors acting, etc. And it was a special joy to hear the interface of Nahuatl and old Spanish (Meshico, Ishpanya), each distancing the other and maintaining its distance from our modern ears — especially in the great scenes of the simultaneous translation.

So a grand and powerful film. We've been talking about it ever since. We've looked for traces of it on Netflix and Youtube without success...is it out there anywhere, on Vimeo maybe? I want people to see it.

And hope to see you again. All best to you and Alvaro in your current and future ventures, and once more, thank you for making the film.

Onward!

Robert

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