

The aim of this thesis is to describe the mayor changes that the Hispanic American historical drama underwent in the last third of the 20th century, in connection with the increasing influence of the poetics of postmodernism. The work will mention the decisive artistic and philosophical concepts that had impact on the creation of postmodern historical dramas. The main part of the study is dedicated to the analysis of two examples of the postmodern representation of history and the historial myths: *Acto cultural*, by the Venezuelan playwright José Ignacio Cabrujas and *La noche de Hernán Cortés* by the Mexican writer Vicente Leero.

The inicial chapters provide a theoretical base for the subsequent analitical part of the thesis. They outline the general features of drama and historical drama as a specific gender, and trace the postmodern changes over the Latin American culture, with a special focus on theatre production. Although the work is based on the textual analysis, we cannot avoid mentioning the distinctive features of the postmodern staging for its innovative significance.

*Acto cultural* and *La noche de Hernán Cortés* represent two different ways of dealing with the famous historical heros: Cristopher Columbus and Hernán Cortés. They both offer quite an intimate, familiar picture, using some the postmodern creative resources as deconstruction, destabilization of the historical myths.