

GREGORIO LUKE

Gregorio Luke is an expert on Mexican and Latin American art and culture. He is the former Director of the Museum of Latin American Art, Consul of Cultural Affairs of Mexico in Los Angeles and the First Secretary of the embassy of Mexico in Washington D.C.

Mr. Luke has given over 1,000 Lectures in museums and universities in Mexico, Europe and the United States. He has spoken at institutions such as The Library of Congress, The Smithsonian Institution, the San Diego Art Museum, the Detroit Institute of Art, and universities such as Harvard, Columbia and Georgetown among others.

In 1995 he was conferred the *Irving Leonard Award* by the Hispanic Society of the Library of Congress. In 2005 The Ebell of Los Angeles honored him with the *Life Achievement Award*, 2006 he received the *El Angel Award* by the Bilingual Foundation of the Arts and in 2007 he was recognized by CATE (California Association of Teacher's in English) for promoting literacy in public schools. In 2008 he was recipient of the KCET Local Heroes Award.



Gregorio Luke

Lecturer

SUMMARY: Lecturer and author, specialist in Mexican Art and Culture. He has organized exhibits, concerts, lectures, book and film festivals and seminars. Former Director of the Museum of Latin American Art. Former Consul of Cultural Affairs for the Consulate General of Mexico in Los Angeles, Deputy Director of the Mexican Cultural Institute of Washington D.C. and First Secretary of the Embassy of Mexico in Washington D.C.

2009 - Present **INDEPENDENT CURATOR AND LECTURER**

2007 - 2009 **COUNSELOR**
INSTITUTE MEXICANS ABROAD (IME)

1999 - 2007 **DIRECTOR**
MUSEUM OF LATIN AMERICAN ART

1996 - 1998 **CONSUL OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS**
CONSULATE GENERAL OF MEXICO IN L.A.

Organized exhibits of DIEGO RIVERA, RAUL ANGUIANO, ALFREDO ZALCE, ANTONIO SEDANO, VICTOR HUGO ZAYAS and ANTONIO LOPEZ SAENZ, among others.

Promoted the presentation in Los Angeles of some of Mexico's most prestigious intellectuals and writers, such as CARLOS FUENTES, ALBERTO BELTRAN, LUIS ORTIZ MACEDO, RAIL CARDIEL, BEATRIZ DE LA FUENTE and CARMEN RAMOS among others.

Directed promotion and fund raising efforts to present plays and performances such as AGUILA REAL, the TALLER COREOGRAFICO DE LA UNAM and BETSY PECANINS

Worked closely with other Latin American consulates in events such as the Latino Book and Cultural Festival.

Coordinated the outreach program of the consulate of Mexico in Los Angeles, bringing lectures and exhibits on Mexican culture to more than 40,000 Los Angeles public school students.

Collaborated with Museums such as the LA COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART, THE SOUTH WEST MUSEUM, and THE GENE AUTRY MUSEUM and very especially with the MUSEUM OF LATIN AMERICAN ART, where he offered lectures and brought exhibits such as TIME AND COLOR of Diego Rivera.

1993-1996 **DEPUTY DIRECTOR**
MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE IN
WASHINGTON, DC

Founding member of the MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE, Secretary of its Board of Directors. In 1994 was promoted to Deputy Director. In this capacity, he initiated the musical series of the institute. Designed a film and lecture program, organized exhibits and participated on the Symposium on the educational implications of North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

1989-1992 **FIRST SECRETARY**
EMBASSY OF MEXICO IN WASHINGTON, DC

Responsible for educational issues. Participated in bilateral meetings. Coordinated visits and high level meetings between Mexican Government Officials and their US counterparts. Designed information package on Mexico for US schools as well as art and educational exhibits of Mexico in organizations such as the World Bank, the Organization of American States and the International Development Bank. Organized film festivals of Mexican movies in the library of Congress, the American Film Institute. Curated the exhibit "New visions of Mexico" at the Martin Luther King Library.

1984-1989

**DIRECTOR OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
NACIONAL FINANCIERA MEXICO CITY, MEXICO**

Nacional Financiera is Mexico's most important Development bank. Planned and organized all socio cultural events: 150 music, dance and theater events; 115 screenings of films; 66 cultural excursions to archaeological and colonial sites; 43 recitals; 12 exhibits and 26 lectures.

1976-1983

**DIRECTOR OF PROMOTIONS
TALLER COREOGRAFICO DE LA UNAM MEXICO CITY, MEXICO**

Taller Coreográfico de la UNAM is Mexico's foremost contemporary Ballet Company. Directed press, fundraising and promotional campaigns, managed national and international tours. Increased membership by more than 200%. Organized three international competitions of painting, poetry and photography of dance.

EDUCATION

Masters Degree in Communications
Specialization: Film and Video
American University, Washington, DC

Masters in Marketing
Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México

Bachelors of Arts Degree in Communications
Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, México

LECTURES

Gregorio Luke is an accomplished lecturer on themes of Latin American culture and art. Among the themes he has covered are:

**DIEGO RIVERA
FRIDA KAHLO
SOR JUANA INES DE LA CRUZ
DAVID ALFARO SIQUEIROS
RUFINO TAMAYO
JOSE CLEMENTE OROZCO
MIGUEL COVARRUBIAS
OCTAVIO PAZ
TINA MODOTTI
5 DE MAYO, THE BATTLE OF PUEBLA**

**LUIS BARRAGAN
MEXICAN HISTORY
MEXICAN FILM
MEXICAN MUSIC
MEXICAN ART
CHE GUEVARA
THE ART OF LOVE
DAYS OF THE DEAD**

He has lectured at institutions, museums, universities and government agencies such as:

The Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum for Women in the Arts, the Detroit Institute of art, the Museum of the Americas of the Organization of American States, the Phoenix Art Museum, the Corcoran Gallery, Dumbarton Oaks. Universities such as Harvard, Columbia, John Hopkins, Georgetown and Berkeley, the Department of State, Labor, Treasury and Justice as well as the national Conventions of the most important Latino Organizations such as: National Council of La Raza, NABE, CABA, and the Hispanic Youth Leadership Conference.

SEMINARS

Conducted all day seminars on Mexican culture for US diplomats posted in Mexico; also lead seminars on Mexican Art for teachers at Fairfax County Virginia. Two day Seminar on Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera at the Smithsonian Institution, a four week course on Mexican music, dance art and cuisine at the Library of Congress, conferences on Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, Mexican Art and Mexican Film at the Johns Hopkins University. Coordinated seminars on Archaeology of Mexico and the Mayan World for the Resident Associate Program at the Smithsonian with some of the worlds most distinguished archaeologists such as George and David Stuart, Michael Coe, Roberto Garcia Moll, Dorie Teents Budet, Richard Diehl and Elizabeth Boone.

EDITORIAL WORK

Author of forty articles on International themes that were published by EL NACIONAL, Mexican newspaper of national circulation.

Director of magazín TALLER (1983-1988)

Supervised the edition of Books: "Elogio de la Danza", "Contrologia", "El Espejo del Cuerpo" and "El Espectro de la Danza"

Has published articles on diverse cultural aspects in prestigious journals and magazines such as: REFORMA, FOTO ZOOM, LOS UNIVERSITARIOS, ENCUENTRO and CASA DEL TIEMPO.

This year he delivered the Key note speech at the WESTERN ALLIANCE OF MUSEUMS

AWARDS

IRVING LEONARD AWARD conferred by the Hispanic society of the Library of Congress.

Commendation of the Congress of the United States.

Mayoral Citation by the District of Columbia for the Promotion of Mexican art in Public Schools.

El Angel Award- Bilingual Foundation of the Arts 2006

CATE (California Association of Teacher's in English) Award 2007

REVIEWS

"What a revolutionary thought, to make museum goers happy with eloquent and passionate talk about art. Just love and faith in the power of art and art alone. What a daring concept!"

Edward Goldman
KCRW 89.9 FM (NPR)

"Who would have ever thought that art lectures would get so popular. Luke's lectures combine the scale of film, the excitement of theatre and the exhilaration of learning."

Daniela Walsh
Orange County Register

"Gregorio Luke gives cultural lectures with the fervor and reverence of a missionary hungry for converts. Luke speaks as if he's seen a vision. His listeners can't help but see it too."

Agustin Gurza
Los Angeles Times