Notice of the Final Oral Examination for the Degree of Master of Arts

of

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BA (Universidad Veracruzana, 2008)

“Luis de Sandoval Zapata: Poesía y Libertad”

Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies

Thursday, August 27, 2015
11:00 A.M.
David Turpin Building
Room A137

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Beatriz de Alba-Koch, Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies, University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. Pablo Restrepo-Gautier, Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies, UVic (Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. Patricia Saldarriaga, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Middlebury College

Chair of Oral Examination:
Prof. Kevin Kerr, Department of Writing, UVic

Dr. David Capson, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

This thesis argues that the playwright and poet from New Spain, Luis de Sandoval Zapata (1620?-1671), freed himself from the social restrictions of his time through his creative work. Sandoval Zapata was a well-educated, land-owning criollo (Creole). His poems are studied within the historical and artistic contexts of the seventeenth century in which the Baroque, a European cultural movement transplanted to the Americas, played an essential role. Connections between Creole patriotism and Baroque aesthetics are traced through the contextualization of his “Relación fúnebre,” a politically charged romance or ballad. At a time when social life and artistic endeavours were closely regulated, this poet broke with his own literary tradition by paradoxically using the same cultural resources of his time, arguably transcending himself in doing so. This search for autonomy is shown through the close textual analysis of the metaphors used in seven of his sonnets of desengaño or disillusionment.