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

of

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BA (University of British Columbia, 2006)

“Schadenfreude and the Don Juan Archetype in the Theatrical Works of Seventeenth-Century Spain”

Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies

Monday, August 17, 2015
10:00 AM
University Centre
Room A207a

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

External Examiner:
Dr. Mercedes Duran, Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies, UBC

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Sheila Rabillard, Department of English, UVic

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

This thesis explores the various manners in which schadenfreude – taking pleasure in the misfortunes of others – functions in the theatrical works of Golden-Age Spain, specifically in three donjuanesque plays of the seventeenth century. The first chapter of the thesis analyses schadenfreude as exercised in Tirso de Molina’s *El burlador de Sevilla y convidado de piedra*, a play in which Don Juan’s pleasurable deceptions incur the enjoyment of his demise. In the second chapter, a variation on the theme of Don Juan finds playwright Alonso de Córdoba y Maldonado applying schadenfreude as a literary technique in his play *La venganza en el sepulcro*. Finally, the female representative of the Don Juan archetype is examined in the third chapter, which features María de Zayas y Sotomayor’s only known comedy *La traición en la amistad*. 