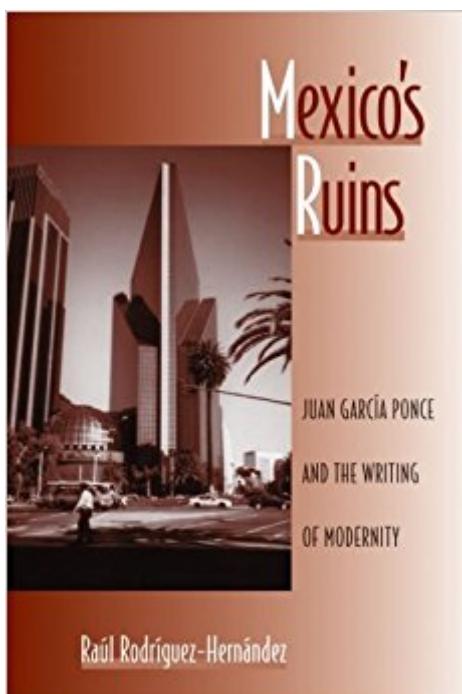


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Mexico's Ruins: Juan García Ponce And The Writing Of Modernity (SUNY Series In Latin American And Iberian Thought And Culture)



Synopsis

Explores the trope of modernity in GarcÃ-a Ponceâ™s writings. At face value, the concept of modernity seems to reference a stream of social and historical traffic headed down a utopian one-way street named âœprogress.â • Mexicoâ™s Ruins examines modernity in twentieth-century Mexican culture as a much more ambiguous concept, arguing that such a single-minded notion is inadequate to comprehend the complexity of modern Mexicoâ™s national projects and their reception by the nationâ™s citizenry. Instead, through the trope of modernity as ruin, author RaÃºl RodrÃ-guez-HernÃ¡ndez explores the dilemma presented by the etymology of âœruinsâ •: a simultaneous falling down and rising up, a confluence of opposing forces at work on the skyline of the metropolis since 1968. He focuses on artists and writers of the generaciÃ-n de medio siglo, like Juan GarcÃ-a Ponce, and envisions both the tales of modernity and their storytellers in a new light. The arts, literature, and architecture of twentieth-century Mexico are all examined in this cross-cultural and interdisciplinary book.âœâ | RodrÃ-guez-HernÃ¡ndez offers an intriguing interpretation of [GarcÃ-a Ponceâ™s] writing.â | This well-researched work incorporates historical and literary references, Freudian precepts, and the plastic arts (Mexican murals, photos, monuments).â • â " CHOICEâœ RodrÃ-guez-HernÃ¡ndez accomplishes what he describes in GarcÃ-a Ponceâ™s fiction: he opens readers to new connections, moving them beyond a Manichaean choice of modernity versus ruin, toward a flexible reading of the mobility and inter-referential nature of both. RodrÃ-guez-HernÃ¡ndez teaches his readers the pleasure and necessity of reading ruins, whether archeological, cultural, political, or literary. The debris of the past is ever-present.â • â " Carol Clark Dâ™Lugo, *The Fragmented Novel in Mexico: The Politics of Form*

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