

Documental sobre Paz presenta hechos inéditos

El filme realizado por el estadounidense Robert Gardner se proyectará hasta el 3 de mayo en el Museo de San Ildefonso

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The writer Jose de la Colina said that the documentary "Voice and Image of Octavio Paz" made by the American Robert Gardner shows facts that he himself did not know about the life of the poet, whom he loved and admired.

Despite the fact that "I ended up fallen out with Paz for an issue in which we were both right for many years I waited for the moment of reconciliation, because I thought we were immortal, and I never thought we would stop being immortal" he recalls.

De la Colina, who once was close to Paz, said that watching the documentary about the Mexican author, which will be publicly screened from April 1st to May 3rd in the room that now has the name of the poet in San Ildefonso, that is a very well done piece.

"Suddenly the camera turns and captures Marie Jose, his wife, but immediately turns again and goes back to him, as if the filmmaker thought that the poet would be jealous", he recounts.

We should recall that Octavio Paz, Nobel Prize of literature in 1990, was honored yesterday evening in San Ildefonso with the aforementioned documentary.

Moments before the screening, Jose Narro, the director of UNAM, said that: "everyday tens and hundreds and thousands of Mexicans remember Paz through his work and thoughts".

He went on to say that there are many appropriate occasions to remember him, because "if one is to speak about literature, poetry and an illustrious Mexican, you must remember Paz".

He also said that, if you think about culture, intellects of the 20th Century and not simply a great analyst of Mexico, you must refer to Paz.

In the documentary "Voice and Image of Octavio Paz", the filmmaker shows images shot in 1978 when he spent



(Photo: Archivo ELUNIVERSAL)

some time with the poet and his wife in Mexico City. There is an outstanding walk through the streets of the City Center, as well as other significant places in Paz's life, such as the neighborhood of Mixcoac, where he was born, and the Church of Santa Maria Tonantzintla.

Prior to this tour, Paz reads aloud the complete poem "Nocturno de San Ildefonso", dedicated to his beloved high school.

He also emphasizes a vision of life, from a political and social perspective, that culminates with the desire for a change in society.

For his part, the writer Adolfo Castañón commented that he was fortunate to be able to work with Paz as his assistant, his interlocutor and his friend, and that this allowed him to confirm he had a powerful mind.

He pointed out that the documentary seems to him "very significant, magical, charming... I have already seen it four times".

"I feel that in some way the documentary reflects the structure of the poetry itself, it has touched something that is magical and alive, I mean, seeing Paz again, his gaze, his splendor, his smile...".

(English translation by Antonio Ziron)