

A THEMATIC ANALYSIS OF THE POEMS OF
FERNANDO MA. GUERRERO

A Thesis
Presented To
the Faculty of the Graduate School
University of San Carlos

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts in Literature


by
Rafaelita P. Peláez

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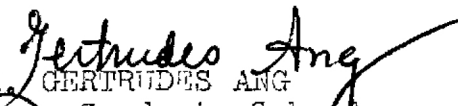
**GRADUATE SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY OF SAN CARLOS
CEBU CITY**

APPROVAL SHEET


IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Literature this thesis entitled: "A THEMATIC ANALYSIS OF THE POEMS OF FERNANDO MA. CUBRERO," has been prepared and submitted by Miss Rafaelita P. Peláez who is hereby recommended for Oral examination.

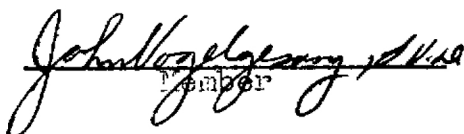

REV. FR. RODOLFO VILLANUEVA
Adviser

ACCEPTED, as Partial Fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Literature.


DR. GERTRUDES ANG
Dean, Graduate School

APPROVED by the Tribunal at the Oral Examination with


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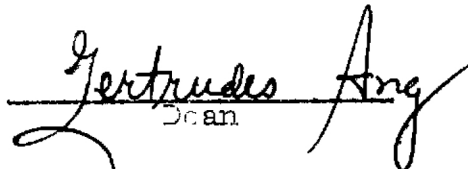
The thesis attached hereto, entitled, "A THEMATIC ANALYSIS OF THE POEMS OF FERNANDO MA. GUERRERO," prepared and submitted by Refacinta P. Peláez in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Literature is hereby accepted.



Adviser



Co-Censor



Dean

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CHAPTER I

THE GOLDEN AGE OF FILIPINO-HISPANO LITERATURE (1903 - 1942)

It is the consensus of most literary historians that the era in Philippine Literature following the Period of Revolution was the Golden Age of Filipino-Hispano Literature. Of the eras of Philippine Literature in Spanish, this period is considered the most remarkable owing to its great strides in literary progress, both in quality and quantity, and to the fact that these same years witnessed the most important achievements in the political sphere, so that its literature was almost inseparable from national sentiment and aspiration. The term "Golden Age" may then be applied to this period with respect to its literary output which exceeds in sheer volume that of any of the previous periods of Philippine Literature.

I. EXTENT OF THE PERIOD

The Golden Age began a few years after the death of Apolinario Mabini which occurred on May 13, 1903 in Nagtahan and extends until January, 1942 immediately after the start of hostilities between the United States of America and Japan. Although these dates may not be considered official, the writer has adopted the dates outlined by

historian Estanislao Alinea¹ for purposes of facilitating comprehension and in order to obtain a clearer delineation of the years covered thereby.

II. THE TWO THEMATIC CYCLES OF THE GOLDEN AGE

A gradual change of political climate took place when the American government inaugurated a policy of attraction. This transformation greatly influenced Philippine Literature in Spanish, which became conciliatory in character, in tune with the occurrences of the times. This new situation channeled the two thematic cycles: the Emancipation cycle and the Cultural cycle.²

In the first cycle are grouped together the works which expressed the clamor for political independence: Poetry, the essay, newspaper articles, and speeches excelled as expressions of the writers' persistent agitation for political liberty. Such writings were significant because of their part in the creation of Filipino national consciousness, which sought its recognition in independence.

Fernando Ma. Guerrero, one of the foremost writers in Filipino-Hispano literature gives us a vivid summary

¹Estanislao B. Alinea, "El período de oro", Historia analítica de la literatura Filipino-Hispana (1566-1964) Manila: Imprenta los Filipinos, 1964), p. 125.

²Ibid., p. 78.