

old storyline. Five centuries later, the Second Vatican Council allowed that native ways, customs, flowers, feathers, fauna, etc., can be used in the liturgy provided that "they are in keeping with the true and authentic spirit of the liturgy" (p. 262). In his appendixes, Lara offers an excellent interpretation of the illustrations and other historical documentation. This book is highly recommended to the curious of mind.

*Coloniality At Large: Latin America and the Postcolonial Debate.* Edited by Mabel Moraña, Enrique Dussel, and Carlos A. Jáuregui. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2008. viii + 628 pp. Bibliography, index. \$99.95 cloth, \$34.95 paper.) Mabel Moraña, Enrique Dussel, and Carlos A. Jáuregui have brought together a number of established writers who deal with colonial and postcolonial models which, indeed, represent a microcosm of the plurality of discourses. They explain that "the purpose of this book is to explore and to interrogate, from the cultural perspective of the Latin American *difference*, current theories dealing with both the historical phenomenon of colonialism and the plurality of discourses it has generated from the beginning of colonial times. In coordinating a collective reflection on these topics, our critical and theoretical project has been twofold: we have been particularly attentive to the strategies utilized by imperial powers in American territories, since the initiation of the 'Hispanic' era" (pp. 1-2). Topics in this volume range from colonial encounters, decolonization, colonial difference, globalization, occidentalism, and geopolitics to religion, secularism, liberation, and postcolonial ethnicities in Latin America. This book is recommended for classroom use.

*Conquered Conquistadors: The Lienzo de Quauhquechollan: A Nahuatl Vision of the Conquest of Guatemala.* By Florine G.L. Asselbergs. (Boulder: University Press of Colorado, 2008. xv + 372 pp. Illustrations, pocket copy of the Lienzo, maps, notes, appendixes, bibliography, index. \$45.00 paper.) Florine Asselbergs' groundbreaking and precise study of a colonial pictorial focuses on the Indian conquest of the Americas, particularly the conquest of Guatemala by the Spaniards and their Quauhquecholtecan allies. Asselbergs is thorough in her research, not just in presenting the historical chronology, background, and personages, but in her analysis of the cloth on which the painting appears, the origins of the painting, the glosses, and subsequent copies of the Lienzo. Throughout the study, Asselbergs reminds us that if history is written by the victors, the Spanish were not alone in their victory. The native voices, she asserts, have all but been silenced for centuries. Behind Spanish successes in the conquest was the misunderstood and indispensable role of indigenous war captains and their followers, warriors, slaves, and servants who provided manpower and much needed information about the land and enemies they faced. The center of this study is the Lienzo de Quauhquechollan, which documents the conquest from the indigenous point of view. Asselbergs firmly establishes the historiographical significance of the

Lienzo de Quauhquechollan. She writes: "*The Lienzo de Quauhquechollan* is a valuable historical source that is not accessible. It sheds new light on the conquests of Jorge de Alvarado in the late 1520s, which are poorly documented elsewhere. Also, together with the *Lienzo de Tlaxcala*, the *Lienzo de Analco*, and our knowledge of the lost *mapa* of Tonicapán, the *Lienzo de Quauhquechollan* demonstrates a continuation of the prehispanic tradition of creating conquest pictorials to legitimize a conqueror's status and a large and widespread tradition of creating pictorial accounts of the Spanish conquest. But most important, the story of the Quauhquecholteca contributes to a better understanding of the Spanish conquest. The latter is traditionally seen as a Spanish achievement, but the *Lienzo de Quauhquechollan*, the conquest pictorials from Tlaxcala and Analco, and the written (alphabetic) claims of indigenous conquistadors prove otherwise. This is the story of a joint conquest, a conquest achieved by Spanish and indigenous conquistadors together. These indigenous sources make us aware of the fact that the stories of the Spanish conquest told today are unbalanced, even unfair, and that revision is badly needed" (pp. 256-57). This excellent study is recommended not just for professionals and students, but to those who seek knowledge about the nature of the conquest of the Americas.

*Flat Earth: The History of an Infamous Idea.* By Christine Garwood. (New York: Thomas Dunne Books, 2008. xii + 432 pp. Appendix, notes, bibliography, index. \$27.95 paper.) Christine Garwood's book is absolutely enjoyable reading. Indeed, she writes that "From religion to reason, superstition to science, there are deep waters, yet still they run through the assumption that flat-earth belief was commonplace before Columbus successfully avoided sailing off the edge of the world. Under these circumstances, it is somewhat ironic that, beneath these false images of science and history, flat-earth belief has a chronology far stranger than all the inventions" (p. 14). Just when everyone believed that the flat earth theory had been put to rest by the ancient Greeks, it was resurrected in the nineteenth century and survived in early twentieth-century textbooks. Although Columbus and his contemporaries believed and accepted that the earth was round, modern writers still wrote that Columbus and his men thought the earth was flat. Garwood explains that "a study by geographers at the University of Sussex, undertaken in 1996, revealed that a fifth of children in British primary schools believed the earth to be flat" (p. 361). The phenomenon, writes Garwood, is not isolated to Great Britain. Another study demonstrated that of ten-year-olds in the United States and Israel "almost half of the children...believed the earth to be a plane" (p. 361). At close range, she explains, it appears a logical conclusion, because optically the earth does appear flat, especially to the uninitiated. Yet, Garwood presents a serious history of how such notions have not only affected communities and individuals but government and religious entities, and others who, historically,

have believed the notion of a round earth to be a conspiracy. This is a must read book by anyone who delights in historical fact and trivia.

*Invading Colombia: Spanish Accounts of the Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada Expedition of Conquest.* Edited and translated by J. Michael Francis. (University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2007. xix + 125 pp. Illustrations, maps, tables, bibliography, index. \$19.95 paper.) J. Michael Francis explains that "through a series of sixteenth-century primary documents, translated into English for the first time, this book aims to reconstruct the compelling tale of the Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada expedition and the early stages of the Spanish conquest of Muisca territory. What follows is a fragmented story, pieced together from multiple sources and told in numerous voices. In part, the decision not to privilege any single account of the expedition was unavoidable" (p. xvii). This volume complements the traditional historiography of the conquest of Colombia and its disastrous consequences. This volume is recommended for classroom use.

*Invading Guatemala: Spanish, Nahua, and Maya Accounts of the Conquest Wars.* Edited by Matthew Restall and Florine G.L. Asselbergs. (University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2007. xvi + 132 pp. Illustrations, map, bibliography, index. \$20.95 paper.) Editors Matthew Restall and Florine Asselbergs have collaborated on a series of translations and interpretations of the conquest of Guatemala that differs in degrees with what has heretofore been presented in monographs and textbooks. The "Spanish" conquest of the region was greatly assisted by various Indian allies, including the Quauhquecholtecas from Mexico. The Spanish force was small and greatly outnumbered by their Indian allies. The editors have identified the Spanish army comprised of dozens of Spanish and black conquistadores. They were supported by indigenous allies—comprised of Tlaxcalans, Mexica, Xochimilcan, and other Nahuatl-speaking warriors numbering in the thousands. As they moved toward Guatemala from Mexico, Alvarado picked up other warriors such as Mixtecs and Zapotecs from Oaxaca. At El Pinar, the Spanish would have faced a much larger force of K'iche, warriors who numbered in the thousands, were it not for their allies. Thus, Spanish horsemen armed with lances and swords were able to shock the K'iche who were overrun by Alvarado's *indios amigos*. This volume describes the perspective from the point of view of native voices on both sides of the battlefields and supports the theme of the Indian conquest of the Americas. This book has two audiences: researchers and students. This book is recommended for classroom use as supplemental reading.

*Santa Fe: History of an Ancient City.* Edited by David Grant Noble. (Santa Fe: School for Advanced Research Press, 2008. ix + 134 pp. Illustrations, maps, bibliography, index. \$40.00 cloth, \$19.95 paper.) This work is a newly revised edition of a book that was originally published in 1989. Of the new edition,