

A378_2016AbstractIsonVictoria

Abstract

The year 2016 marks the quatercentenary of the death of Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, a Spanish writer of great acclaim. In celebration of his life and works, I prepared a translation, modernization, and localization of his one-act play, *El Retablo de las Maravillas*. In this piece, two troublemakers arrive in a town with intentions of deceiving the people and profiting from their desires to securely cement themselves within their society's "in" group. My adaption of the play, which was entitled *The Show You Better Believe*, was performed on April 23 at Kennedy Library in Muncie, Indiana. In breaking the fourth wall and challenging audience members to recognize and confront their own tendencies to succumb to social pressures, the play communicates important messages about peer pressure, social stigmas, and integrity.

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