

Sergio Arrau Receives Theatre Award

Sergio Arrau has been awarded the Premio Eugenio Dittborn at the Tercer Concurso Nacional de Dramaturgia, which took place at the Universidad Católica de Chile in October 1985. Arrau won for *Santa María del Salitre*, which deals with the salt miners' strike and subsequent massacre at Iquique in 1907. The playwright became interested in the topic of the strike through contact with Professor Pedro Bravo-Elizondo of Wichita State University, who provided background material on the conflict. The result is an example of "teatro-documento," tracing the events chronologically and in detail while dramatizing them.

Arrau, first cousin of pianist Claudio Arrau, has written some fifty plays, most of which have been performed outside Chile. He has won several other awards, including the Premio Andrés Bello twice.