

In Memoriam: Margarita Mendoza López

A life devoted to promoting and cherishing the arts ended when an earthquake destroyed the Hotel Regis in Mexico City on September 20, 1985. Leaving her native Guadalajara, Margarita Mendoza López first knew the world of performing arts on tour with her father, the eminent musician Luis Mendoza López. In all the years following, she participated in activities related to theatre, cinema, dance, music, literature—as critic, historian, raconteuse, and public. With her husband, José Rojas Garcidueñas, she lived in downtown Mexico (“*mi centro*,” she called it), where they reached out to artists and received them in the hospitality of their home. We remember seeing her, two months before the final curtain, in the foyer of the Teatro Jiménez Rueda—tall, slender, effortlessly elegant—talking with Miguel Córcega. And now we think there was no final curtain, because, with our eyes closed, we see her again, in a grand foyer, making small, dance-like gestures, as she chats with Esperanza Iris and some others whose faces almost come into focus.

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