

Latin America: A Guide to Illustrations. By A. CURTIS WILGUS. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1981. Index of Persons. Reference-Key Index. Pp. xxviii, 250. Cloth. \$16.00.

This work, the last to be completed by A. Curtis Wilgus before his death in 1981, provides a select guide to photographs, sketches, paintings, and "imaginative concepts" illustrating a wide range of Latin American themes from the preconquest period to the present. In an effort to set practical limits to the guide, Wilgus drew his selections only from currently available English-language books, encyclopedias, and periodicals (the majority published since 1940) and generally excluded cartoons and caricatures. The guide is arranged first by broad chronological division, then by region or country, and, finally, by topic. A personal name index (containing some 2,500 entries) is also included. Inevitably, in a work of this nature, one notes some surprising omissions. The topic of race mixture, for example, seems to have been neglected entirely; nor do any references appear to such important sources for illustrations as the popular magazines *Mexican Life* and *Mexican Folkways*. These and like examples aside, however, this work should serve as a valuable reference source for Latin Americanists in a number of fields.

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The Voyage of the Armada: The Spanish Story. By DAVID HOWARTH. New York: Viking Press, 1981. Map. Illustrations. Index. Pp. 256. Cloth. \$13.95.

This book is filled with pleasant surprises. First, it is a genuine "page turner," one I rushed in the beginning and then deliberately lingered on from about midway, trying to forestall the end of a great book. Second, it is superbly written by a master of the art, re-creating the drama, mystery, and misery of the Armada's experience with a nice balance between sympathy and objectivity. Third, it is good history. Long an admirer of Garrett Mattingly's classic *The Armada* (1959), I began Howarth's book with some skepticism: no footnotes, no formal bibliography, nothing to indicate the meticulous time-consuming investment of the scholar in research before the writing. The author has plumbed brilliantly, however, the many printed sources and pieced together one of modern history's greatest stories, the defeat of the Spanish Armada of 1588. Launched by Philip II to attack Protestant (*read* heretic) England, it was doomed from the moment it began to assemble in Lisbon. Its leaders, especially the Duke of Medina Sidonia, a reluctant landsman drafted by Philip to command the Armada, were loyal and brave, but committed to a deadly errand by a sovereign who did not comprehend the tactical or strategic problems of such a monumental undertaking.

One nagging flaw is the lack of an adequate map to follow the track of the Armada in detail. For those interested in more illustrations, paintings, and drawings, both contemporary and modern—as well as a good map—turn to the Time-Life Seafarer Series volume entitled *The Armada* (1981). For a great summer read, however, pick up Howarth's compelling and compassionate account.

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