



ba Newsletter

Malawakil Buenos Aires

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July – December 2016

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NEW KING ELECTED



Malaysia's Conference of Rulers on Friday, October 14th elected the Sultan of Kelantan as the next Yang di-Pertuan Agong. Sultan Muhammad V will serve a five-year term from December 13th, 2016. Sultan of Perak Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah was elected as the Deputy Yang di-Pertuan Agong for the same period.

Yang di-Pertuan Agong acts as the country's head of state, and is elected from among the Sultans that form the Conference of Rulers.

The Sultan of Kedah, Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah, is the current king and his tenure ends on December 12th, 2016. After Kedah, Kelantan is the state that is next in line for the post. Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah is the country's first ruler to have held the position twice.

MALAYSIA NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION



On 31st August Ambassador Dato' Mohd Ashri Muda opened the Embassy's doors to Argentine officials, ASEAN Ambassadors and Malaysian to a small reception to celebrate the 59th Anniversary of Malaysia Independence. The event was held at the Embassy's garden during a lovely spring day in Buenos Aires. After Ambassador's welcoming remarks, guest enjoyed the delicious Malaysian home cook food namely Nasi Lemak, Mi Goreng, Karipap, Kuih Seri Muka and famous drink Teh Tarik. Not to forget the Argentine speciality Asado (a typical Argentine dish) was also serve to show our appreciation to the host country's dishes. Embassy officials and local staff, together with some Malaysian nationals living in Argentina later visited the Floralis Genérica, a sculpture made of steel and aluminium located in the United Nations Park in Buenos Aires to display the banner "We Love Malaysia" to mark the occasion.



ASEAN DAY CELEBRATION

On August 8th 2016, the five ASEAN Embassies present in Argentina namely Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina celebrated the 49th Anniversary of ASEAN at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina in Buenos Aires. H. E. Thao Nguyen Dinh, Ambassador of Vietnam as ASEAN Chair delivered the welcoming remarks and followed by opening address by Ambassador Lila Roldan



Vazquez, Director General of Foreign Policy of the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ambassador Lila expressed Argentina's desire to work closely with ASEAN and its intention to sign the ASEAN Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in the future. It thus intends to become a partner to ASEAN to enhance cooperation in all areas of cooperation.

VISIT TO INTA



H.E. Ambassador Dato' Mohd Ashri bin Muda and Mr. Sanmugan Subramaniam, Counsellor of the Embassy visited the National Institute of Agricultural Research facilities (INTA) on 27th July to learn more about Argentina's agricultural research and technology. After holding a meeting with INTA's President in

their headquarters in the city centre, they visited the Agro Industry Research Centre in Castelar, Buenos Aires. After a short presentation on the work and research activity of INTA, the officials visited the flower cultivation and research centre and followed by lunch.

RURAL EXHIBITION IN BUENOS AIRES

On 28th July, H.E. Ambassador Dato' Mohd Ashri Muda and Mr Sanmugan Subramaniam, Counsellor attended the Annual Rural Exhibition of Argentina, an agricultural and livestock exhibition. The event was organised by The Argentine Rural Society.

Breeders arrive from all over the country to exhibit their livestock, agricultural produce.

During the eleven days' exhibition, more than

120,000 m2 were destined for exhibition of agriculture produce and technology. The addition, the Rural Expo also showcase various breeds of animals and the latest trends in agriculture, genetics, machinery and technological development as well as offered varied cultural entertainment for the public.



TOURISM EVENT ORGANIZED BY EMIRATES AIRLINES

Emirates Airlines, together with ASEAN Embassies, organized a tourism promotion event in the Alvear Art Hotel, Buenos Aires to promote ASEAN tourism. The talk was attended by around 60 tourist agents from all across the country.



Mr Sanmugan Subramaniam, Counsellor, made a presentation on Tourism Malaysia which includes video presentation on wonderful places, food and sights of Malaysia.

VISIT FROM THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF SALTA

As part of their visit to different Embassies and organizations in the City of Buenos Aires, a delegation from the Catholic University of Salta located in the province of Salta, north of Argentina visited the Embassy of Malaysia. The delegation was received and briefed by Counsellor Mr. Sanmugan Subramaniam on Malaysia politic, economic and development, cultural and social aspects. After the briefing, the students enjoyed exchanging views and expressed their desire to visit Malaysia.



ASEAN BAZAAR



The Asean Bazaar (Buenos Aires Celebra el Sudeste Asiatico) was held on November 27th, at the Plaza Intendente Seeberg in the City of Buenos Aires. The event was organized by the ASEAN Embassies accredited in Buenos Aires i.e. Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines and Indonesia in collaboration with the City of Buenos Aires. There were many different activities

taken place on that day such as, fashion shows, quiz games, musical performances, dances, food demonstrations, and a raffle for a flight ticket to any ASEAN country.

The Ambassador of Vietnam as Chair of ASEAN together with representatives of the city of Buenos Aires delivered the welcoming remarks.



Other than booth by the Embassies, Turkish Airlines, Mercosur-ASEAN Chamber of Commerce, and several local restaurants with Asian menus were also there.

The event was a success with people enjoying the activities held on that day. Estimated 5000 people attended the event from 11 am to 6 pm.



Malaysian booth amongst other was selling Karipap, Nasi Lemak, Spring Role and Rojak Pasembur. Malaysian Embassy staff performed Rasa Sayang and Chan Mali Chan dances during the event.



LOCAL MAIN ATTRACTIONS

EL ATENEO GRAND SPLENDID

The most spectacular bookstore, possibly in all of Latin America, is the El Ateneo Grand Splendid (Av. Santa Fe 1860, Recoleta), a converted opera house and movie theatre, which retains a number of original architectural features (see above photo). The Guardian newspaper rates it in its top 10 independent bookshops worldwide. It was constructed originally as a theatre in 1919 by Max



Glücksman, a phonographic and film pioneer. In 1926 Glücksman converted it into a sumptuous film house to show silent films accompanied by a live tango orchestra. In the early 1970s it briefly became a theatre once more, but was back as a film house by the time it was closed in 1991 during tough economic times. Saved from demolition by the Ilhsa Group which owned the El Ateneo bookstore

chain, it reopened in 2000. Its cafe, formerly the theatre's main stage, is a great place for a quick bite and a read. With a bit of luck you might catch the live pianist who entertains on afternoons.

URBAN ART IN BUENOS AIRES

Buenos Aires is renowned for its vibrant street art culture, with both Fodor's and the Huffington Post listing it as one of the top cities in the world to see urban art. Street art is highly valued and more socially acceptable than in many other cities, and laws are relatively relaxed, with artists

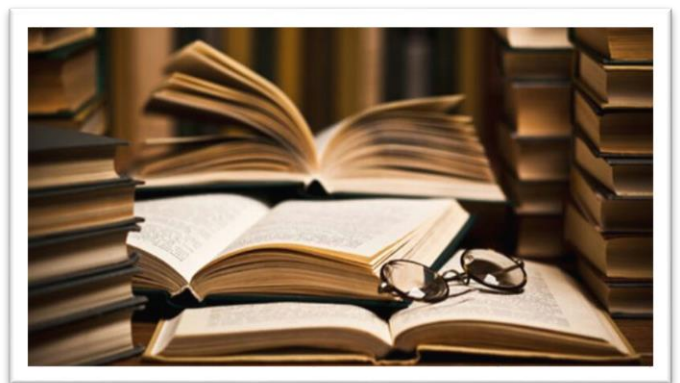


usually only needing the permission of the property owner or residents' association to create their work. This has attracted big name street artists from far and wide, as well as helping local artists make a name for themselves.

Buenos Aires boasts the longest mural in the world (pictured above) painted by a single artist, *El Regreso de Quinquela*. The 2,000 sq metre masterpiece, the work of artist Alfredo 'El Pelado' Segatori, can be found on the streets Lavadero and San Antonio, in the neighbourhood of Barracas, just next door to La Boca. It is a homage to the revered local painter, Benito Quinquela Martín (1890-1977), famous for his depictions of La Boca, and depicts the rigours of daily life for the locals of this colourful port-side neighbourhood.

ARGENTINA'S CULTURAL SCENE

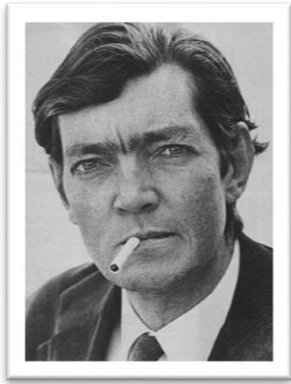
The culture of Argentina is as varied as the country's geography and is composed of a mix of ethnic groups. Modern Argentine culture has been largely influenced by Italian, Spanish and other European immigration, although there are lesser elements of Amerindian and African influences, particularly in the fields of music and art. Buenos Aires, its cultural capital, is largely characterized by both the



prevalence of people of European descent, and of conscious imitation of European styles in architecture. Museums, cinemas, and galleries are abundant in all the large urban centers, as well as traditional establishments such as literary bars, or bars offering live music of a variety of genres.

Among the country's most prominent authors, we can find two writers who are extensively read and admired not only in their country of origin, but also in all Spanish-speaking countries.

JULIO CORTÁZAR

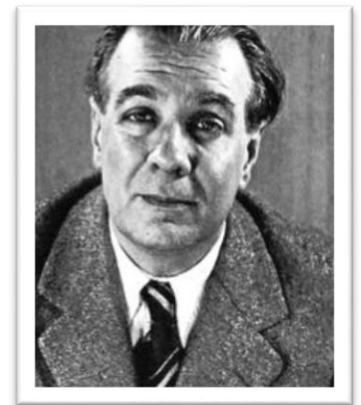


One of the great masters of the fantastic short story. Many of Cortázar's stories follow the logic of hallucinations and obsessions. Central themes in his work are the quest for identity, the hidden reality behind the everyday lives of common people, and the existential angst. The author's debt to the French Symbolism and Surrealists has been demonstrated in a number of studies.

Recommended reading: *End of the Game and Other Stories*, translated into English by Paul Blackburn.

JORGE LUIS BORGES

Argentine author Jorge Luis Borges exerted a strong influence on the direction of literary fiction through his genre-bending metafiction, essays, and poetry. Borges was a founder, and principal practitioner, of postmodernist literature, a movement in which literature distances itself from life situations in favor of reflection on the creative process and critical self-examination. Widely read and profoundly erudite, Borges was a polymath who could discourse on the great literature of Europe and America and who assisted his translators as they brought his work into different languages. He was influenced by the work of such fantasists as Edgar Allan Poe and Franz Kafka, but his own fiction combines literary and extraliterary genres in order to create a dynamic, electric genre.



Recommended reading: *The Aleph and Other Stories*, translated into English by Andrew Hurley.

MATE: THE ARGENTINE NATIONAL DRINK

A bit of an acquired taste for the uninitiated, mate drinking is as much about the collective experience as it is about the taste. The caffeine-rich bitter herbal drink is drunk through metal straw ('bombilla') from a hollow calabash gourd and is usually shared around with friends, colleagues or family.



Mate has a long history in Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Southern Brazil and Bolivia. It is not uncommon to see people walking the streets with mate in hand in those countries — some even with a thermos of hot water in the other hand to refill the drink as it gets low. It is custom to add water to yerba mate around 15-20 times, until it loses its flavour. Drinking mate is often a group experience; it is a symbol of hospitality and friendship.

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