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SEYMOUR - FOR YOUR INFORMATION - BUD

March 19, 1998

Avery Danziger &
Kaco Gastelum

And the good news is

For your information and review, I have copied a message from Dr. Miguel Angel Corzo to me this morning and my message to him yesterday. Corzo heads the internationally famous Getty Conservation Institute!

MESSAGE

[11]21Message - 6/7 is last

Date: Thu Mar 19 08:50:34 1998

From: MCorzo/zgetty.edu Miguel Angel Corzo

Subject: Mortality-Immortality - Plutarco Pozas -Repl

To: as708@lanl.org

Cc: 1024743424@CompuServe.COM, RSebastian@getty.edu

** High Priority **

Dear Mr. Goldstone,

Thank you so much for your nice note about Plutarco Pozas. I will be at the conference, of course, and I look forward to meeting with you and Mr. Gastelum. I have asked Mario Bravo, our communications consultant, to get in touch with you as well regarding this monument. He may have some ideas to share as well.

I look forward to seeing you Wednesday or Thursday.

Sincerely,

Miguel Angel Corzo

MESSAGE

March 18, 1998

Miguel Angel Corzo

Getty Conservation Institute

Dear Dr. Corzo,

Mr. Plutarco 'Kaco' Gastelum from Nilitla, Mexico will be attending the Mortality-Immortality conference next week with me and I would like you to meet him at some time Wednesday or Thursday if at all possible. We shall be at the Center to register Wednesday by 9 a.m. Mr. Gastelum is the owner of a rapidly-decaying monument in the Mexican rain forest. West of

Tampico. Edward James, an English poet designed the monument and had it built between 1962 and 1984. His chief builder and head of a 150 person work force was Plutarco Gastelum, father of Kaco. A group of us will prepare a conservation plan for his monument, 'Las Pozas', later this year with funds from a sympathetic Philadelphia, Pennsylvania family foundation. Our work is being funded so we don't seek Getty funds.

Since the conference discussions revolve around mortality or immortality of 20th Century art works, Mr. Gastelum has a great interest in the conference discussions. The monument covers several acres and consists of three dozen unique and beautiful structures in sizes up to a three-story building with many parts colored by brilliant pigments. Edward James died in 1984 and left the property to Plutarco who died and left it to his son 'Kaco'. Go to the website www.junglegossip.com and you may see it.

Las Pozas has no official recognition as a monument. Las Pozas is in the town of Xilitla, but it is not even a designated town monument, even though everyone in town knows about it. Las Pozas is in the state of San Luis Potosi, but it is not a state-recognized monument. Unfortunately, the Mexican government has also overlooked the value of the monument. The current March edition of ARTNews has a favorable article about the site and it has been written about many times before, including in the Smithsonian magazine and in a publication from the Mexico City museum. Our goal at the Getty Center is to introduce Las Pozas to some attendees, particularly those from Mexico, to start the recognition process for Las Pozas and thus open doors to Mr. Gastelum for getting expert advice and recommendations for its repairs and ultimate conservation. I look forward to your response and appreciate your assistance in helping save Las Pozas.

Sincerely,

Bud Goldstone
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