

ABSTRACT

A Critical Analysis of the Short
Stories of Salvador Garmendia

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This thesis offers a critical analysis of the short stories of the contemporary Venezuelan author, Salvador Garmendia.

The thesis presents the view that Garmendia's main interest in these short stories is to present his thematic concerns, which are essentially existentialist in nature.

The analysis is effected by means of an identification of the various existentialist themes presented in the stories and examining the specific generic elements of the short story used by Garmendia in exploring and presenting these themes. These elements have been noted as setting, characterization and narrative techniques, which include his use of language.

The analysis leads one to the conclusion that Garmendia's short stories effectively present his general concerns and techniques, which are common to other Latin American writers of the contemporary period but which place Garmendia among the vanguard of modern Venezuelan writers.