

A B S T R A C T

I propose to attempt an analysis of the presentation of the devil in Calderón's El mágico prodigioso, Las cadenas del demonio and El José de las mujeres and Tirso's El condenado por desconfiado.

This study finds justification in the fact that although a great deal has been written about Calderón, his works are of such a 'prolific' nature that they are always inviting new discussions. Moreover, as Parker asserts, in spite of all that has been written about Calderón, "his art has not yet been fully understood or appreciated." More specifically, the proposed theme of this paper - The dramatic and theological uses of the devil in four siglo de oro plays - is yet largely unexplored, a surprising fact indeed given the devil's frequent appearances and unmistakable importance in Calderón's and Tirso's dramas.