

Anton Arrufat -- writer and playwright -- dies at 87



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Anton Arrufat

Havana, May 21 (RHC) The renowned Cuban poet, storyteller, and playwright Anton Arrufat, National Literature Award winner (2000), died at the age of 87, the Ministry of Culture reported on Sunday.

He was born in the eastern city of Santiago de Cuba, on August 14, 1935, and his family moved to the capital in 1947, when he was 11 years old. He graduated Philology from the University of Havana.

Since a very young age, he was interested in literature and theater. His play "El Caso se Investiga," which premiered in 1957, became a milestone, uniting the European avant-garde with the vernacular heritage for the first time on the national stage.

During that period, he published reviews, plays, stories, and poems in the Ciclon magazine. In 1962 his first book, "En Claro," where his adolescent poems are collected, was published.

Arrufat worked at the Lunes de Revolución publication. He also founded and directed the prestigious magazine Casa de las Americas for five years. Together with a group of intellectuals, he was the founder of the Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba (UNEAC).

His plays have been translated into Polish, English, and French and have been staged in the United States, Venezuela, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Poland. He has published in Europe magazines, L'Arc, Les Lettres, Quimera, Siempre, Ever Green, and in almost all Cuban magazines. For his play "Los Siete contra Tebas" (1968), he was awarded the Theater Award granted by the Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba (UNEAC). (Source: Prensa Latina).

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