

## From the Angel to Androgyne: Fantasies and desires in César Aira's *El bautismo* (By Gilberto D. Vásquez Rodríguez)

The androgynous profile of any angel appears in various theosophies and aesthetic doctrines. This characteristic has been seen and studied as a promise of final ontological recomposition of all the existing beings. But, from this perspective, the angelical being is driven and driver of the space of desires and wishes; in literature, that being can be the mean to express a kind of rhetoric of desire, a sublimation of the divine in the ambiguous beauty. This work develops this idea, having as an object of study the novel *El bautismo* (1991), by César Aira. In this piece of literature the androgynous promise is articulated from the heterogeneities of the discourses about the angelical, not precisely with the intention of prescribe a legality or contralegality (which can be translated as the demoniac), but by offering an androgynous vision that questions and brings the impossible image from the discordance of the temporality of desire and the elimination of any essence.

Keywords: androgynous, *El bautizo*, César Aira, angels in literature, desire in literature.