



Alicia Armstrong de Vicuña

Lived:

Unknown - Unknown

Worked as:

director

Worked In:

Chile

by Eliana Jara Donoso

Few professional references and little biographical data exist for this film director. We know only that, supported by her husband who was a wealthy businessman, Alicia Armstrong de Vicuña founded Alistrong Film Company in order to direct *El lecho nupcial/The Nuptial Bed* (1926), an adaptation of Charles Meré's melodrama that had been serialized in local newspapers, a widely popular practice at the time. A vigorous promotional campaign in the *Diario El Mercurio de Santiago* activated during the week preceding the premiere announced it as "a film of great technical accomplishment, worthy of international exhibition, and having a first class work in dramatic and art direction" (1926, n.p.). However, the *Diario La Nación* review found the film a disappointment: "The adaptation suffers from many defects, and there wasn't a photogenic selection of the actors. Photography is poor; except for some scenes in the snow that have a lot of light and great relief, the rest is of an exasperating poverty and opacity. The make-up is pathetic. A movie made by inexpert hands...In summary, a good intention failed due to the shortcomings of its film direction" (n.p.). To our knowledge, Alicia Armstrong de Vicuña did not make another motion picture.

Bibliography

"El Lecho Nupcial." *Diario El Mercurio de Santiago* (23 December 1926): n.p.

"El Lecho Nupcial." *Diario La Nación* (24 December 1926): n.p.

Filmography

B. Filmography: Non-Extant Film Titles:

1. Alicia Armstrong de Vicuña as Director

El lecho nupcial/The Nuptial Bed, 1926.

Citation

Donoso, Eliana Jara. "Alicia Armstrong de Vicuña." In Jane Gaines, Radha Vatsal, and Monica Dall'Asta, eds. *Women Film Pioneers Project*. New York, NY: Columbia University Libraries, 2013. <<https://wfpp-test.cul.columbia.edu/pioneer/ccp-alicia-armstrong-de-vicuna/>>