Latin Culture Through Disney Pixar's Coco

Introduction:

- Coco released on November 22, 2017 and grossed over \$807 million worldwide becoming the 16th highest- grossing animated film during the time of its release.
- The depiction of el Día De Los Muertos in Coco is the idea deceased loved ones may only return, if their picture is placed on an altar made by those still alive. Eventually, they may disappear for good if they're forgotten by everyone.
- Día De Los Muertos is an annual celebration celebrating the belief of loved ones who have passed and return to visit their loved one's.

Research Question:

How close is Disney Pixar's Coco's depiction of the practice of the Day of the Dead since its release on November 2017 to real world practice in Latin culture?

Results:

- Disney Pixar's animators and story writers visited Mexico and conducted research. Due to their hard work the movie stays relatively close to the way people act and celebrate the Day of the Dead. There are some minor things which are slightly manipulated to give them a role in the movie, for example alegrijes.
- Alegrijes are colorful folk-art sculptures of creatures which started in the 1930's by Pedro Linares Alegrijes based on Coco are "spirit creatures that guide souls on their journey"

Conclusion:

In conclusion, Coco has a very accurate depiction of the practice of the Day of the Dead of real life. After conducting this research, I want to learn the different approaches animators and writers took when making the films The Book of Life compared to Coco. What made their success so different when they both revolve around the Day of the Dead?

Figure 1: Comparison of in Movie Día De Los Muertos altar to in Latin culture Día De Los Muertos Altar



Figure 2: Comparison of in Movie alebrijes and latin representation of alebrijes

Methods of Research:

- Film
- **Film Documentary**
- **Peer Reviewed Journal**
- Scholarly Book
- Informative talk video
- Movie Review

References:

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