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Aragonese Treasures Uncovered: The Mystery of Baltasar Funes y Villalpando

Baltasar Funes y Villalpando was one of Aragon's literary and political figures from the latter part of the seventeenth century. The Biblioteca Nacional in Madrid contains several manuscripts attributed to the author and there are a few references to the author in modern scholarship. These references, though, are based on an unstable foundation – that done by nineteenth century bibliographers (Latassa, for example). Through multiple archival trips in both Madrid and Zaragoza, we can now positively identify the origins of this playwright whose biography has remained shaded in mystery. This presentation will serve as a re-introduction to Funes's work, *El golfo de las sirenas* (a *refundición* of Calderón's play with the same name) and *El vencedor de si mismo* (a *refundición* of Funes's original *refundición*). I will then attempt to "fill" the lacunae and correct errors of extant bibliographic information concerning the author based on archival research conducted in Madrid and Zaragoza. This material will begin to help us understand the important role the Funes Villalpando family played in the latter part of the seventeenth century in Aragon. I look forward to presenting my bibliographic findings about the author and his family as I continue to prepare a scholarly edition of his work.