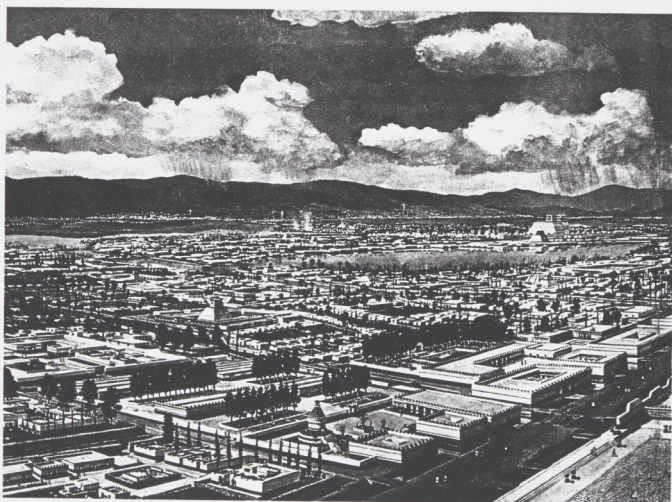


Stuart Gentling Scott Gentling



Views of Tenochtitlan
May 17 - July 13, 1991

FORT WORTH GALLERY

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The One Reed Year

"During the morning we arrived at a broad causeway . . . And when we saw so many cities and villages built in the water and other great towns on dry land and that straight and level causeway going towards [Tenochtitlan], we were amazed and said it was like the enchantments they tell of in the legend of Amadis on account of the great towers and [temples] and buildings rising from the water and all built of masonry. And some of our soldiers even asked whether the things we saw were not a dream . . . I do not know how to describe it, seeing things as we did that had never been heard of or seen before, not even dreamed about . . . Of all these wonders that I then beheld, today all is overthrown and lost, nothing left standing."

Thus lamented the great chronicler Bernal Diaz del Castillo as he recounted that fateful day in November, 1519, when he and a small army of Spaniards and Tlaxcallans under the command of Hernan Cortez first glimpsed the splendid Mexica Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan. By ironic coincidence, 1519 was a portentous year in the Aztec calendar round that not only honored the birth of the great god Quetzalcoatl but also marked the year of his predicted return to Mexico to reclaim his historical right to rule over the land. For the Aztec people it was the year "Ce Acatl", the One Reed Year.

For artists Stuart and Scott Gentling a persistent conviction has grown over their thirty years of close study of this subject that it might just be possible (based on what is known and on what is being discovered almost daily) to capture with their art some idea of what it felt like to look upon these vanished marvels.

El Aire and Eduardo Matos Moctezuma are pleased to invite you to a small gathering of scholars and art lovers to enjoy a slide lecture by Stuart Gentling. His twin brother Scott will also be in attendance. Their remarkable paintings, drawings and models will amaze you with an unprecedented look at Tenochtitlan and the Aztec world.

Their work, when completed, will be published by the University of Texas Press in a two-volume set to be titled THE ONE REED YEAR.

