



Pela Primeira Vez
Nesta Praça

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Artesia – July 30, 2007

Cavaleiro – Rui Salvador
Matador – Jose Luis Goncalves
Forcados – Artesia – Do Sul da California
Toiros – Candido Costa

A standing-room-only crowd filled the praca in Artesia on July 30. But rather than the artistic performance they hoped to see, they watched a mix of brave-but-difficult bulls and a small plaza that make for a dangerous bullfight. The bulls from Candido Costa had the ferociousness of bulls of old, charging from afar, cutting in on the *cavaleiro's* horse and turning quickly when they reached the capes of the *toreiros*. These were not bulls for today's preferred style of *torero*, but they definitely gave emotion and meaning to everything that took place in the ring.

In spite of his horsemanship and know-how, Rui Salvador, the *cavaleiro* from Portugal, had a difficult time. His horses were caught several times as the bulls charged aggressively in the small ring. Yet the *cavaleiro* managed to place some of the Velcro-tipped *rejones* and *banderillas* with style, and was awarded *vueltas* after each of his three bulls.

And if such bulls were difficult for the horseman, they were even more so for the brave *forcados* from Artesia - *Do Sul da California*. Since the bulls often charged the moment they caught sight of the *forcados*, the members of the Artesia team were forced to scurry to the fence and wait for the *banderilleros* to try to place the bull in the location necessary for a proper grab. In the end, they did just that, and we saw good *pegas* by Frank Goncalvez, David Correia, and Enrique Do-canto, while Paul Toledo and Manuel Coelho handled the tail with great style.

The matador, Jose Luis Goncalves, also found these bulls intimidating. With bulls like these, nothing is easy. Goncalves started off well with his first bull, but the artistic passes were few before the bull was turning quickly and putting the matador on the defensive. Rather than giving the appropriate *lidia* of *doblonos* and *pases por alto*, Goncalves attempted the more classical *derechazos* and *naturals*. But these bulls would spin on a dime and were virtually on top of the matador, so most of the *pases* became movements to get away. Maybe Goncalves was trying to please the crowd that wants to see low *pases*, but with these animals such *muletazos* simply won't work. The last bull of

Sell-out Crowd at Artesia



Horseman Rui Salvador. Very good *cavaleiro* and also a very good architect.



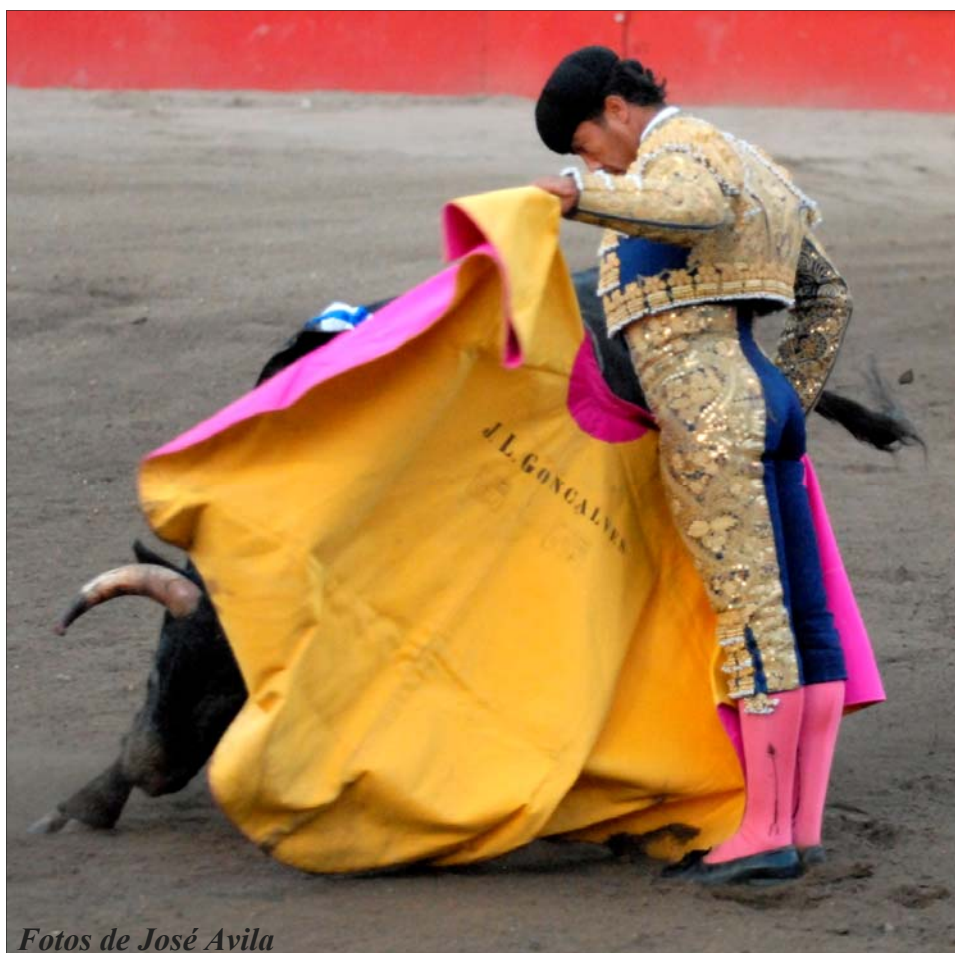
Matador José Luis Gonçalves - a beautiful *chicuelina*



José Luís - everything looks simple and artistic



Carregando la suerte



Fotos de José Avila

the evening was especially difficult and had the *banderilleros* dropping the sticks and running for their lives before finally placing the *banderillas* "a *media vuelta*," which is the best technique for such difficult bulls. For his efforts, Goncalves gave a salute to the crowd after simulat-

ing the kill with each animal.

CORRECTION: In the review of the corrida held in Gustine on July 16, "Serious Toiros for Serious Toreiros," the ganaderia was mistakenly given as Manuel Costa, when in fact the bulls were from the ganaderia of Manuel Sousa.