

MAYAN DESIGN IS ODD

Mexican Artist Employs Aboriginal Symbols in Theater

Three thousand designs collected by Francisco Cornejo, the young Mexican artist engaged by the decorating contractor, Richard Sobleraj, to do the color and design for the interior, have been incorporated into the decorative scheme of the new Mayan (pronounced My' Ann) Theater next to the Belasco. The Mayan dedication will be on the 15th inst., with Elsie Janis in "Oh, Kay."

Of particular interest in connection with Mr. Cornejo's work is the use of the various aboriginal designs in the downstairs foyer, notably the column of feathered serpents found in the ruins of Chichen Itza. The feathered serpent is one of the principal divinities, to the Mayans known as Cuculcan, to the Aztecs as Quetzalcoatl.

The walls of the Mayan main foyer are elaborately carved in stone and wood with a blending of Mayan, Zapotec and Peruvian art. The colorful ceiling with more than 200 different Aztec symbols is representative of the Aztec month with its twenty days, and the Aztec towns.

Cornejo plans to incorporate a number of the principal Mayan designs and descriptions of their significance into a brochure after the opening of the theater. He will also sketch the history of the Mayan race and its successors.