

# Acevedo Díaz, según la Enciclopedia Británica

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Writer and politician, considered Uruguay's first novelist.

Acevedo Díaz attended the University of Montevideo, where he first became active in politics. He took part in the Revolución Blanca (1870–72) and the Revolución Tricolor (1885), supporting the cause of the Blancos, a nationalist, rurally oriented political party. Often depicted as the founder of *gauchismo*, a literary movement that emphasized the role of the gaucho in Spanish American history and often romanticized his personality, Acevedo Díaz did most of his writing while in exile in Argentina. The traditionalist sensibilities put forth in his novels reflect his mistrust and resentment of the incomprehension and arrogance of his urban contemporaries in Argentina. His first novel, *Brenda*, was published in 1886. His best-known works include a trilogy of historical novels concerned with the Uruguayan wars for independence (from about 1808 to the late 1820s): *Ismael* (1888), *Nativa* (1890), and *Grito de gloria* (1893; “The Battle Cry of Glory”). *Soledad* (1894; “Solitude”), his masterpiece, had a continuing influence on gaucho novelists in Uruguay and Argentina.

His son, also named Eduardo Acevedo Díaz, was an Argentine novelist.

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