

Evita (Maria Eva Duarte de Perón)



Passion or Profession: Political Leader

Period: 1919–1952

Evita progressed from the role of a small-time actress and radio star to that of Argentina's first lady, wife of socialist leader Juan Perón. As first lady, she greatly influenced Argentina's political affairs, appealing to the less privileged groups of Argentine society, which she labeled *los descamisados* (the shirtless ones), and campaigning for women's suffrage and the rights of the working class. She remains a controversial figure in Argentine history, being both beloved and despised.