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Mr. Francisco Aguilera
2817 Eighteenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20009

November 26, 1969

Dear Pancho:

I have a favor to ask of you, and I hope very much that you will be able to grant it.

You may recall that when Doris Dana and the various people from the Johns Hopkins Press discussed publication of her translations of Gabriela Mistral's poetry, it was decided that there would be an introductory essay of between 20 and 25 printed pages discussing the poetry, with special reference to the poems which will be included in the volume. At the request of Doris and the Press, I asked Stephen Spender if he could undertake this chore, but he declined, claiming that he did not really know enough about the poetry to make meaningful statements. We have all enthusiastically agreed that you are the one person in the world who should write the essay, both because of your long personal association with Gabriela, and even more so because you possibly know her works better than any living person. The favor I am asking is for you to accept this invitation to write such a piece.

If you can do so, I would like to suggest that perhaps we could set a deadline of about the end of February 1970, by which time I believe Doris will have completed her various translations and notes to them. I am also prepared to recommend that you be given a lump sum honorarium of \$500 when you have submitted to me an appropriate final manuscript, in return for which you would convey to the Library of Congress your author's rights. I believe that we already have in the Hispanic Foundation some portions of the translations, but when Doris furnishes them to the Press we shall see that you get copies. I would expect that Doris herself could let you or me know which poems she is including in her selection, and you may wish to talk with her on the phone concerning her criteria and the various stages in which she views the development of Gabriela's poetic works.

Needless to say, we all hope very much that you will be able to accept this invitation to contribute to what we all expect to be

[Carta] 1969 Nov. 26, Washington, D.C., [EE.UU.] [a] Mr. Francisco Aguilera, Washington, D.C., [EE.UU.] [manuscrito] Howard F. Cline.

AUTORÍA

Autor secundario:Dana, Doris, 1920-2006

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