



ANN WATKINS, Inc.

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4 November 1947

Dear Miss Mistral:

I have just had a pleasant hour's talk with Rolfe Humphries, during which time we discussed the possibilities of his becoming your translator. He is, as you may know, a poet in his own right, and Scribner's are his publishers. He also did a translation of Lorca in 1940. Mr. Humphries will give me his decision by the 15th of December.

While we are waiting for his decision, and a translation of three or four of your poems, I would like to ask you to give some thought as to the contents of the proposed volume. I have copies of *ANTOLOGIA*, *TEHURA* and the pamphlet which was published in Havana in 1938 at the time that city paid homage to you. I have no example of your prose and I do not know what other volumes by you may have been published. I should suppose that you would want included perhaps 100 of your best poems, long and short, and a few translations of your prose as well. But who would make these selections? Would you, or would you expect the translator to assume this responsibility? I believe this task would be best performed by you.

Mr. Maule of Random House told me yesterday that his associates had come to the reluctant conclusion that they should abandon further thought about publishing an anthology of yours. You know, of course, of the difficulties of publishing under the circumstances of today's excessive costs. I do not intend to be deterred by Random House's decision; in fact, I am indeed optimistic about finding a major publisher for your poetry. A half dozen houses come immediately to mind, but I shall approach none of them until we have Mr. Humphries' decision and your advice on the contents of the work.

Sincerely yours,

Armitage Watkins
Armitage Watkins

Miss Gabriela Mistral
729 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, Calif.

[Carta] 1947 Nov. 4, [New York, EE.UU.] [a] Gabriela Mistral,
Santa Barbara, California [manuscrito] Armitage Watkins.

AUTORÍA

Watkins, Armitage, 1906-

FORMATO

Manuscrito

DATOS DE PUBLICACIÓN

[Carta] 1947 Nov. 4, [New York, EE.UU.] [a] Gabriela Mistral, Santa Barbara, California [manuscrito]
Armitage Watkins. 1 h. ; 27 cm.

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