

Langston Hughes Papers
JWJ MSS 26
Box 66, folder 1270

Series I. Personal Correspondence

García Lorca, Francisco / 1950-51

from LH only

December 11, 1950

Mr. Francisco Garcia Lorca,
448 Riverside Drive,
New York, New York.

Dear Francisco Garcia Lorca,

Under separate cover I am sending you a translation of 15 poems from the ROMANCERO GITANO by Federico Garcia Lorca which I did many years ago when I was in Madrid as a newspaper correspondent. Andres Iduarte and I took the trip from Paris to Spain together at that time and, a few years ago, when my publishers, Alfred A. Knopf, thought they might like to publish my translations of the ROMANCERO with Covarrubias decorations, Andres was kind enough to give me your address to see if you would wish to permit it. But about then I went away to California, meanwhile book production costs soared, and Knopf gave up the idea of doing any poetry at all that season. Since then I have done nothing more about.

But a few days ago a letter came from Robert H. Glauber, The Beloit Poetry Journal, Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin, who saw my translations when he was an editor in the Knopf office and remembered them. He writes me as follows:

"Recently, Beloit College has undertaken to sponsor (in the mildest financial way) a new poetry magazine. Dr. Walsh and I both felt that it would be a great coup and honor if we would be able to devote an entire issue to your translations of the Lorca Poems. I know that this is asking a great deal. But I also know your reputation for generosity for such matters. Unfortunately, we do not have the funds to pay you for them but I am certain that, under the circumstances, it would be possible either to provide you with as many copies of the issue as you might need or to bind ~~them~~ and present them to you as chapbooks. If there is another arrangement of this type that you would prefer we will, of course, be happy to go along with you. (PARAGRAPH) I wish it were possible for us to make a more concrete offer. But it is not. I can only hope for your understanding and generosity. Enclosed is the first issue of the magazine to give you some sort of idea of what we have in mind. I shall be most anxious to have your reactions."

As translator I would be happy to see this done but, of course, would not dream of granting such a permission without the agreement of yourself or whomever controls the rights and permissions to your distinguished brother's work. (Perhaps the rights are already granted, I suspect, at this late date). In any case, I would appreciate your reactions and whatever information you might be so kind as to give me. I may be reached at the above address, or by phone after 2 P.M. at Sa. 2-1988.

With kindest regards to you,

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

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New York, New York.

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With kindest regards to you,

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

May 6, 1951

Mr. Francisco Garcia Lorca,
448 Riverside Drive,
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. Lorca,

David Ignatow, Associate Editor of the Beloit Poetry Journal, has written asking me to come to to see you regarding the translations they wish to publish. This I would be happy to do any late afternoon or evening at your convenience and, since he gave me your phone number, I shall call you soon so that we might set a time, if you would be so kind as to see me. I am sorry I could not contact as soon as I received his letter, but I have been out of town lately a great deal for spring lectures, but now the season is over.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes