Gabriela Mora Collection of Elena Garro, 1974-2005: Finding Aid

Summary Information

Call number: C0994
Repository: Princeton University. Library. Dept. of Rare Books and Special Collections
Manuscripts Division
One Washington Road Princeton, New Jersey 08544 USA
Size: 0.63 linear feet
2 boxes
Language(s) of Material: Spanish or Castilian
English
Abstract: The collection includes correspondence to and from Mexican author Elena Garro and Chilean American critic and scholar Gabriela Mora, a handwritten testament by Elena Garro and photographs of Gabriela Mora, Elena Garro, and Elena Garro's daughter, Helena Paz Garro. Also includes audio recorded interviews of Elena Garro conducted by Gabriela Mora in 1974 and 1979.
Location: This collection is stored onsite at Firestone Library.
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Biography/History

Elena Garro was born in Puebla, Mexico in 1916. She studied at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) where she was enrolled in the College of Philosophy and Letters. She married the Mexican writer Octavio Paz in 1937. Paz and Garro had one child, a daughter Helena Laura Paz Garro, born in 1939. According to Garro's memoirs, Octavio Paz initiated divorce proceedings with her in 1959, though it was not until some years later that the Mexican government acknowledged the divorce as legal.

In the early 1950s, Elena Garro lived in Bern, Switzerland, where she recuperated from a serious illness and wrote her novel Los recuerdos de porvenir (Recollection of Things to Come). In the late 1950s and throughout the 1960s, she oscillated between Paris, Mexico, New York, and back to Paris, remaining there for 23 years before returning to Mexico in the early 1990s. Elena Garro and Helena Paz Garro lived in Cuernavaca until Garro's death in 1998.

Gabriela Mora is a feminist literary critic and author. She is Professor II Emerita at the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Rutgers University. She specializes in nineteenth and twentieth century Spanish American literature, modernism, and female writers. Her books include El cuento modernista: Gutiérrez Nájera, Darío, Lugones, and Díaz Rodríguez y Clemente Palma. She lives in New York.

Description

The collection consists of correspondence (1974-1980) to and from Elena Garro and Gabriela Mora, a handwritten testament by Elena Garro, and photographs. Additionally, includes eight audiocassette taped interviews and readings of Elena Garro conducted by Gabriela Mora in New York, New York in 1974 and Spain in 1979.

Arrangement


Series 1: Correspondence, bulk 1974-19801974-1986
Series 2: Photographs, 1974-1979
Series 3: Various Documents, 1974-2005
Series 4: Audio Recordings, 1974-1979

Access and Use

Access

This collection is open for research.
Restrictions on Use and Copyright Information

No photocopies may be provided to researchers of any of the materials for a period of time not to exceed five years from the date of purchase by Princeton University. Gabriela Mora retains her right to publish the Garro-Mora correspondence in accordance with prevailing copyright law. If Mora publishes the letters within five years, the restriction on photoduplication will be suspended. The audiocassette tapes are restricted until December 2016, Elena Garro’s centennial.

For preservation reasons, physical access to original audio and visual media in a variety of magnetic and optic formats is restricted. The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections does not have playback equipment and facilities, and all original media, especially in obsolete formats, must be digitally remastered or converted in accordance with prevailing preservation standards in order to be safely accessed. Subject to curatorial approval, patrons may request duplicates of such original media, but will be responsible for both the cost of digital conversion and the cost of the duplicate, payable in advance. Public Services staff handles all such requests. Depending on the nature of the media, this process can take 4-6 weeks or longer.

Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition
Purchase, 2005 (AM 2005-134).
Gift, 2015 (AM 2016-10).

Appraisal
Nothing was removed from the collection during the 2012 and 2015 processing.

Processing and Other Information

Preferred Citation
Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Gabriela Mora Collection of Elena Garro, Box and Folder Number; Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Princeton University Library.

Processing Information
This collection was processed by Elvia Arroyo-Ramirez in September 2015. Original folder inventory by Nicholas Williams '15 in 2012. Finding aid re-written by Elvia Arroyo-Ramirez in September 2015.

Encoding
This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit 2015-09-14T12:02:0400

Descriptive Rules Used
Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard.
• Garro, Elena.
• Mora, Gabriela.
• Paz Garro, Helena, 1948-2014
• Authors, Mexican -- 20th century -- Correspondence.
• Authors, Latin American--20th century--Correspondence.
• Women authors, Mexican -- 20th century -- Correspondence.
• Women authors, Mexican -- 20th century -- Manuscripts.
• Latin American literature -- 20th century.
• Audiocassettes -- 20th century.
• Correspondence -- 20th century.
• Interviews -- 20th century.
• Photographs -- 20th century.
• Reporters and reporting.
• Latin American literature
### Series 1: Correspondence, bulk 1974-1980, 1974-1986

Arrangement: Chronologically.

Description: Includes handwritten letters, mostly from Elena Garro to Gabriela Mora. One folder exists of Gabriela Mora letters to Elena Garro.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elena Garro to Gabriela Mora, 1974</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Garro to Gabriela Mora, 1975</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Garro to Gabriela Mora, 1976</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Garro to Gabriela Mora, 1977</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Garro to Gabriela Mora, 1978</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Garro to Gabriela Mora, 1979</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Garro to Gabriela Mora, 1980</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Envelopes, 1976-1987</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabriela Mora to Elena Garro, 1974-1980</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Series 2: Photographs, 1974-1979

Description: Includes two sets of candid photographs of Elena Garro, Elena Garro's friend, Helena Paz, and Gabriela Mora taken in 1974 at Gabriela Mora's home in New York City and in Spain in 1979.

Arrangement: Chronologically.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gabriela Mora's Home in New York City, 1974</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madrid, 1979</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Series 3: Various Documents, 1974-2005

Description: Includes receipts and cancelled checks sent by Mora to Garro; an introduction and notes to Garro's and Mora's correspondence written by Mora; a one page handwritten testament written and signed by Garro, Helena Paz Garro, and Harold Frechtbaum (Gabriela Mora's husband) dated May 29, 1974; and a printed page of two emails sent from and to Eladio Cortes and Gabriela Mora, dated February 11, 2005.

Arrangement: Single file arrangement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series 4: Audio Recordings, 1974-1979

Description: Includes eight audiocassette tapes containing unpublished interviews and readings of Elena Garro, conducted by Gabriela Mora done in New York City in 1974 and in Spain in 1979.

Arrangement: Chronologically.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Box</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elena Garro 13 abril 1974 en N.Y., 1974</td>
<td>L-000002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Elena Garro 13 abril 1974 Borges, Camus, Fuentes, Bianco, Debray..., 1974</td>
<td>L-000002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elena Garro 16 junio 1979 / 19 junio 1979, 1979</td>
<td>L-000002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elena Garro 19 junio 1979 (No. 2), 1979</td>
<td>L-000002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elena Garro 20 junio 1979 / 21 junio 1979, 1979</td>
<td>L-000002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape</td>
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<tr>
<td>Description: Side A written description on tape: miercoles 20 junio 1979 Garro Base de Recuerdo A. Side B written description on tape: jueves 21 junio 1979 Hist pasaporte Echeverria Cuento Garro B.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Elena Garro 20 junio 1979 / 21 junio 1979 / 22 junio 1979, 1979

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape

Description: Side A written description on tape: mierc. Garro junio 20/79
5). El niño perdido 6). La Dame, la turquesa 7). Sobre obras perdidas 8). Por
que escribo. Side B written description on tape: jueves Garro junio 21/79 1).
[illegible] 5). sábado 22 junio entrevista.

Elena Garro 22 junio 1979 / 24 junio 1979 / 25 junio 1979, 1979

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape

Description: Side A written description on tape: Garro junio 24/79 A:
Recuerdos del porve[illegible] Cuentos El Resto El mentiroso 4 moscas
El niño perdido Eunice. Side B written description on tape: Entrevista
Domingo 25/junio Yo: [illegible] Sigue entrevista Turquesa Cono de Tinieblas
composición de niña cara B entrevista 22/julio 79

Elena Garro 25 junio 1979, 1979

Physical Characteristics: 1 audiocassette tape

Description: Side A written description on tape: Domingo 25 junio 1979
Confid. matrimonio Garro. Side B written description on tape: Garro junio
24/79 confid[illegible] matrimonio nada?