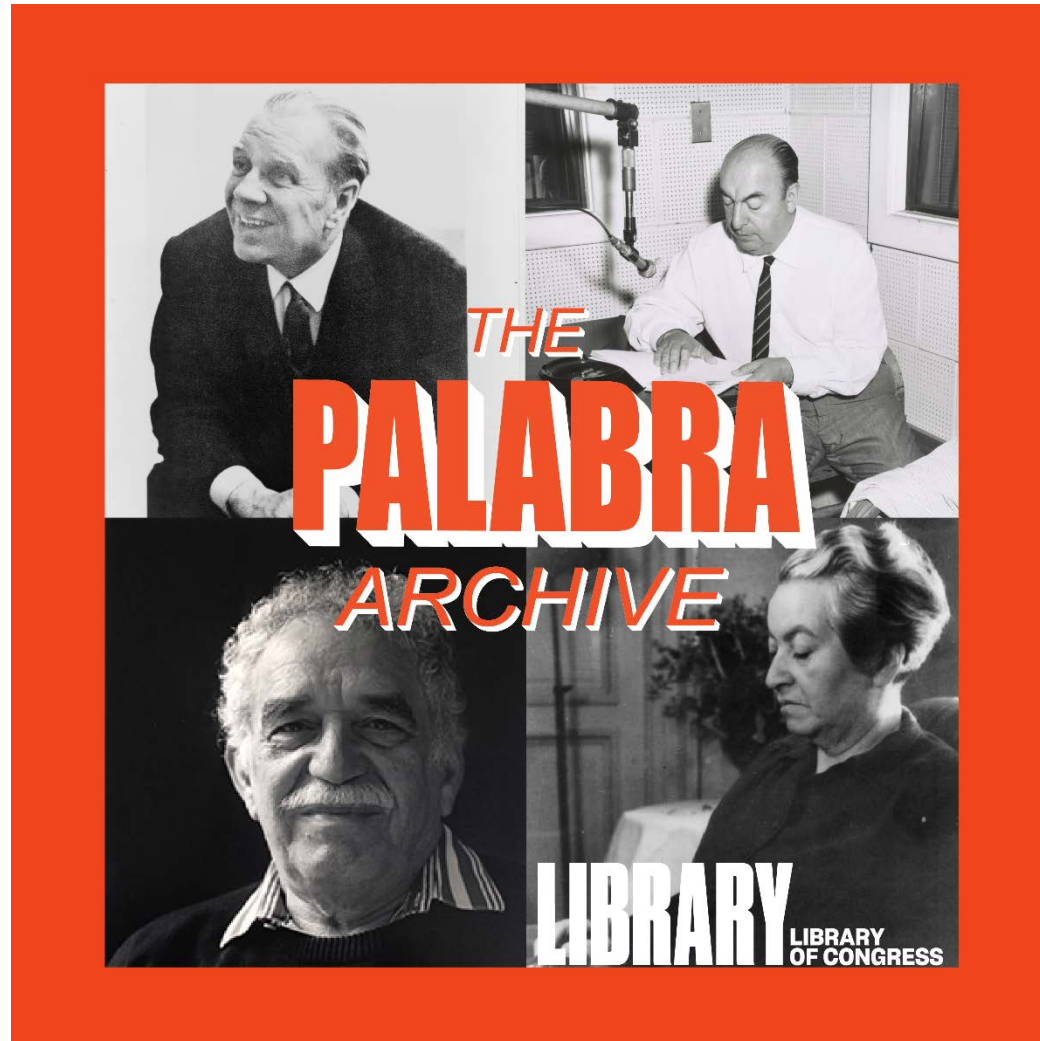




# A Brief History of the PALABRA Archive

(The Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape)



The Hispanic Reading Room

- Hispanic Division is founded in 1939
- Literary readings at the Library of Congress begin to be recorded and archived (Archive of Recorded Poetry and Literature is born)
- In 1943, the first session for the PALABRA Archive is recorded.



Pablo Neruda recording  
for the PALABRA Archive  
in 1966



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## A Brief History of the PALABRA Archive

(The Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape)



Juan Ramón Jiménez



Gabriela Mistral

- Juan Ramón Jiménez is Recorded in 1947
- Gabriela Mistral records in 1950 and advises the LOC to also record writers in their native countries.

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# Cradle Song

(by Gabriela Mistral, translated by  
Langston Hughes)

The sea cradles  
its millions of stars divine.  
Listening to the seas in love,  
I cradle the one who is mine.

The errant wind in the night  
cradles the wheat.  
Listening to the winds in love,  
I cradle my sweet.

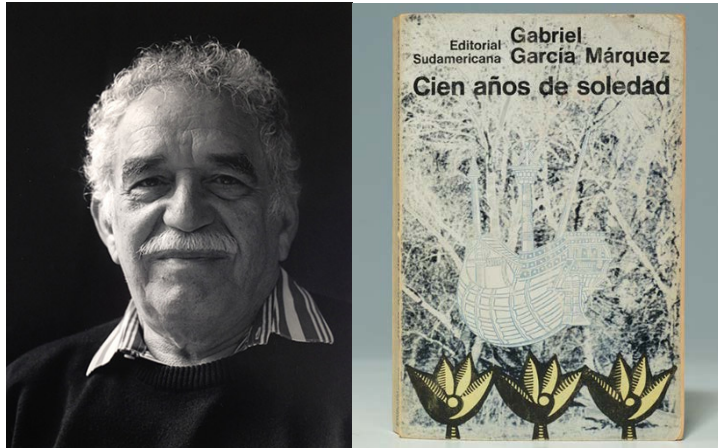
God Our Father cradles  
His thousands of worlds without sound.  
Feeling His hand in the darkness,  
I cradle the babe that I have found.



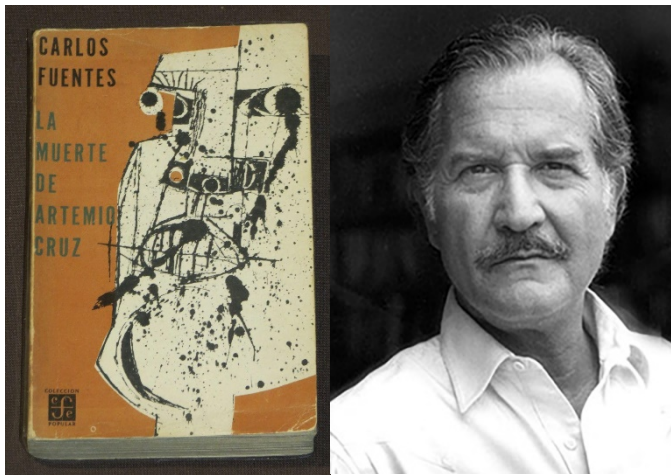
Francisco Aguilera,  
first curator  
of the Archive

- 162 recordings are captured in Latin America between 1958 and 1961 by F. Aguilera.

## A Brief History...

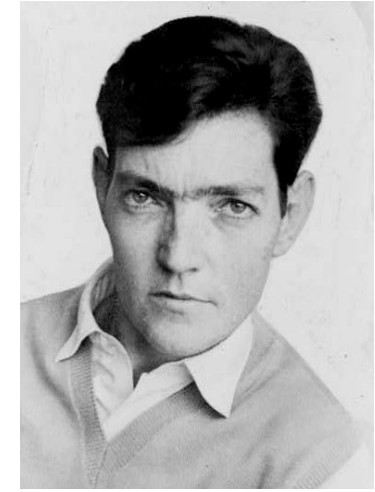
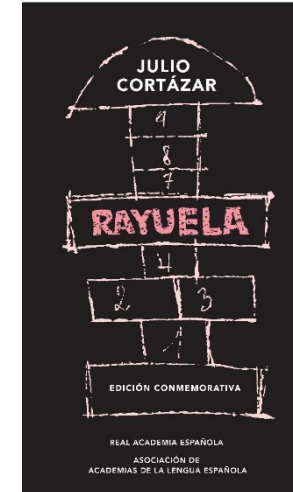


Gabriel García Márquez and cover of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (1965)

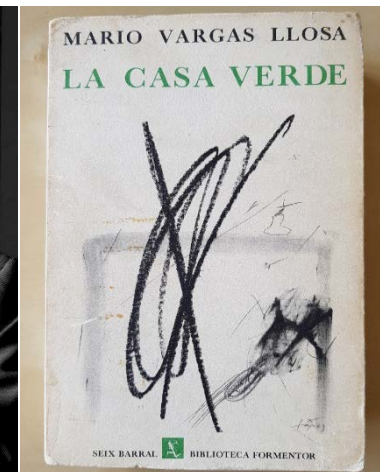
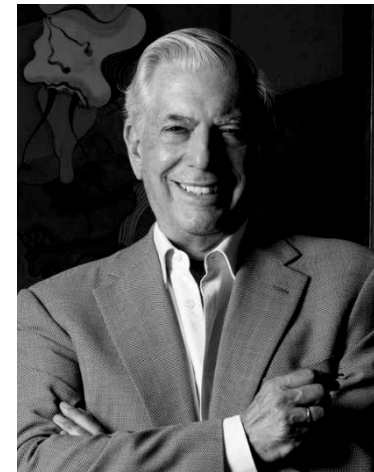


Carlos Fuentes and cover of *The Death of Artemio Cruz* (1962)

Latin American  
'Boom' writers  
record in the  
1970s



Julio Cortázar and cover of *Hopscotch* (1963)



Mario Vargas Llosa and cover of *The Green House* (1966)

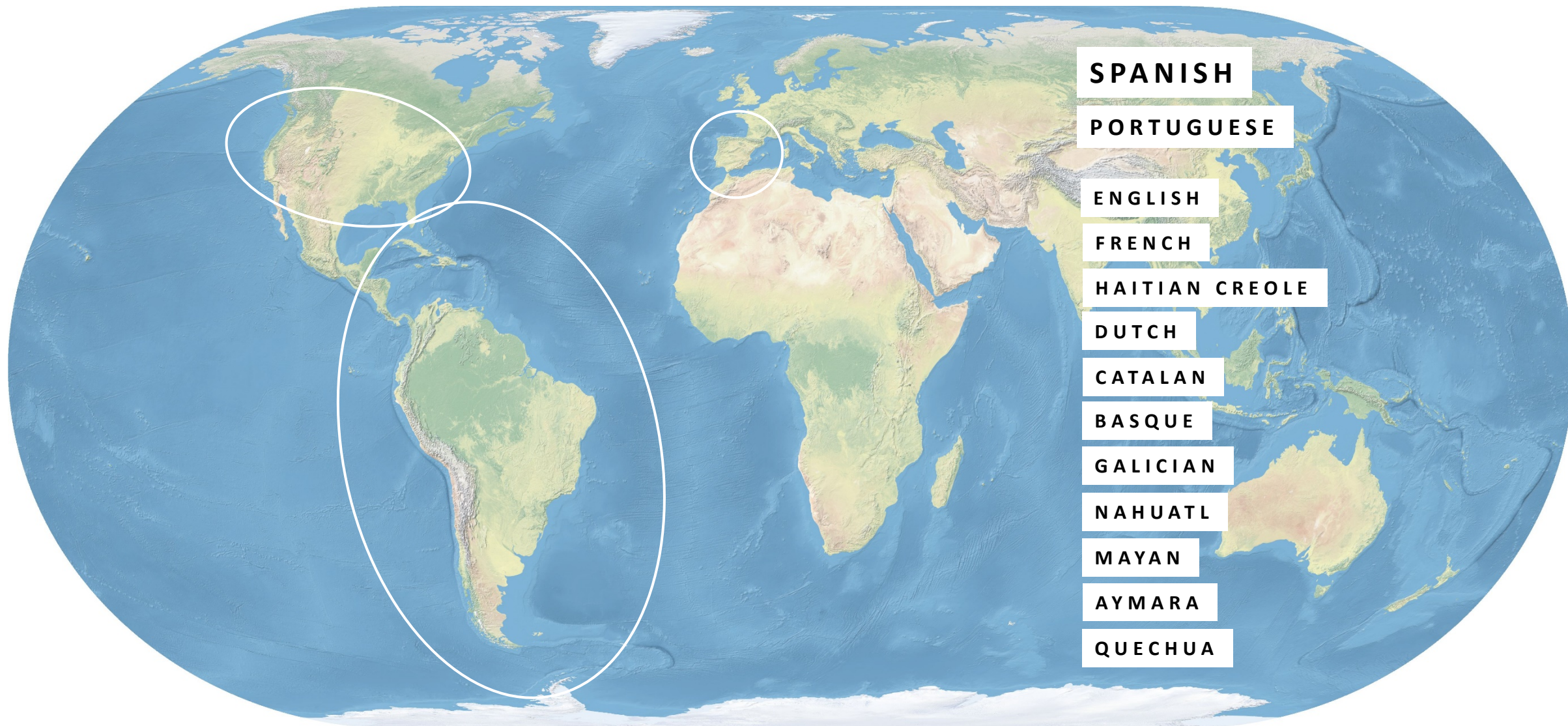
## A Brief History...



- 2006 – born digital recording begins
- 2013-2017 – Digitization of analog recordings
- 2015 – Recordings are made available online
- 2020 – New brand
- Today the Hispanic Division continues recording authors



# Languages Covered





# Highlighting Indigenous Languages

AUDIO RECORDING

## Maya Tsel'tal playwright Isabel Juárez Espinosa reading from her work

Maya Tsel'tal playwright Isabel Juárez Espinosa reading from her work

00:00

### About this Item

#### Title

Maya Tsel'tal playwright Isabel Juárez Espinosa reading from her work

#### Summary

Ms. Juárez describes her experience as a Maya Tsel'tal playwright and reads an excerpt from her work.

#### Contributor Names

Juárez Espinosa, Isabel, 1958-

Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape (Library of Congress)

#### Created / Published

2019.

#### Contents

#### Part of

The Palabra Arch

Archive of Hispan

Library of Congres

#### Format

Audio Recording

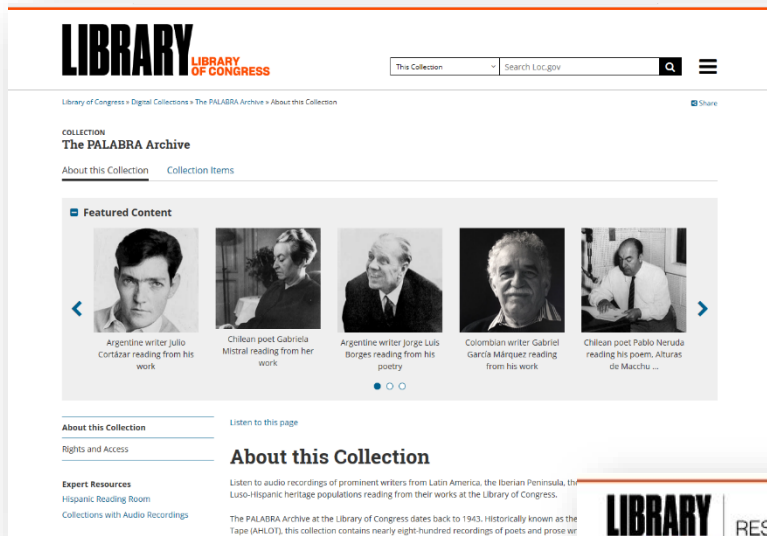
#### Contributors

Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape (Library of



Maya writers Manuel Bolom Pale, Isabel Juárez Espinosa, and Juan Álvarez

# Accessing the PALABRA Archive



- The PALABRA Archive Online Feature contains a portion of the archive available for online streaming.



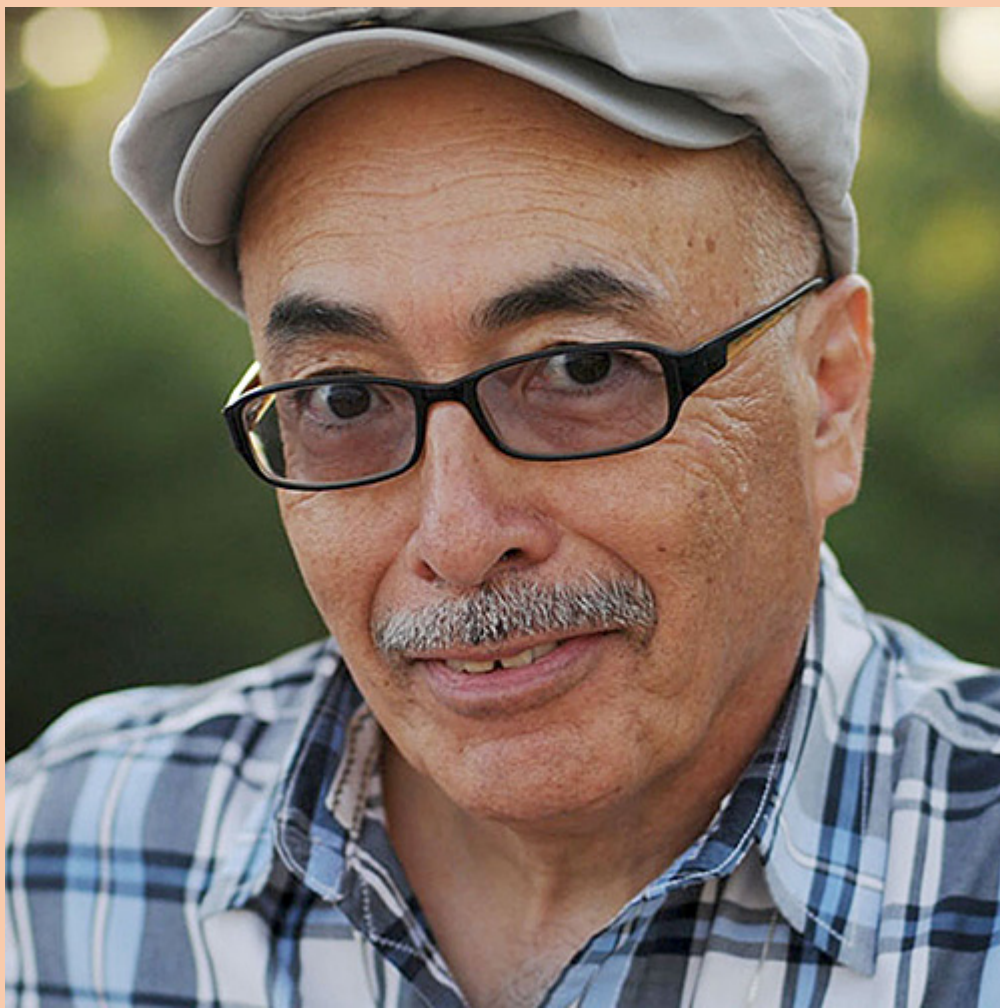
- The PALABRA Archive Research Guide provides reference to the complete archive.

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## The PALABRA Archive in the Classroom







Former U.S. Poet Laureate Juan Felipe Herrera

**Join us  
next week!**

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## Contact us!

Catalina Gómez [cgom@loc.gov](mailto:cgom@loc.gov)

Hispanic Division [hispref@loc.gov](mailto:hispref@loc.gov)

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**Thank you!**

**Questions? Post them in the chat  
box!**

