

# The Rockefeller Foundation

111 WEST 50th STREET, NEW YORK 20

THE HUMANITIES

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February 15, 1961

Dear Sergio:

This is to acknowledge with thanks your letter of January 17 which I have just seen on returning from a few weeks in Mexico and Guatemala.

I look forward, of course, to talking with you while you are in New York during March for your medical check up. You mention that until the Foundation grant had been made your plans were to postpone your New York travel until later in the year. Although you did not say so specifically, I got the impression that had you waited until then you might have had sufficient funds to stop over in Mexico on your return to Chile. If the reason for your not stopping over in Mexico is financial rather than lack of time I hope you and Rector Stitchkin understand that the \$10,000 grant of the Foundation was allocated approximately as follows: \$7,500 for fellowships, and \$2,500 for salaries, staff travel and other expenses of the Taller. This being the case, should you, Alegria and Rector Stitchkin agree, there is no reason why the University of Concepcion could not provide from the above-mentioned \$2,500 a supplement to your transportation costs of coming to New York for medical purposes, which would permit you to return via Mexico and spend perhaps a week there. For my part I would encourage such a decision, not only so that you could meet and talk with those who operate the Centro Mexicano de Escritores but also to meet and talk with two or three Mexican playwrights and directors and in general see what is going on in the Mexican theater.

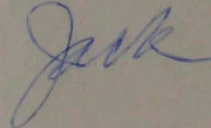
If this stop over in Mexico proves possible you might write Miss Margaret Shedd (Centro Mexicano de Escritores, Rio Volga 3, Mexico 5) telling her the time of your visit and asking for suggestions as to the way you can become most familiar with the Centro's operations. I would suggest you write also to Ramon Xirau who is the most active literary member of the Centro's staff and certainly the one there with the most intimate personal connections with Mexican literary and intellectual circles. I am sure you will find Xirau a frank, understanding and perceptive individual. You might also write Hector Mendoza (Castilla #28, Mexico 13) who is in the midst of organizing a new and fairly promising theatrical group. For a more commercial and at the same time official version of theatrical activities you might also want to write Xavier Rojas (Jefe del Depto. Cultural, Instituto Nacional de la Juventud Mexicana, Panuco Num. 10, Col. Cuauhtemoc, Mexico).

December 15, 1961

Please let me know your plans in regard to Mexico and the specific dates of your trip to the United States, as I want to be sure to be in New York and not off in the hinterland for one of the brief trips I will probably make before leaving for Chile in May.

Again best wishes and congratulations on what you have accomplished,

Sincerely yours,



John P. Harrison  
Assistant Director

Sr. Sergio Vodanovic  
Las Achiras 3061, Depto. 21  
Santiago, Chile

JPH:MSK