



# ArchivesSpace

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## Manuel Ramos Otero Papers10846190

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English

DACS

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

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## Table of Contents

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Summary Information .....	3
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Summary .....	5
Arrangement .....	6
Administrative Information .....	6
Related Materials .....	9
Controlled Access Headings .....	9
Collection Inventory .....	9
Series I: Manuscripts and Publishing .....	9
Subseries I.1: Manuscripts .....	10
Subseries I.2: Página en blanco y staccato .....	13
Subseries I.3: El libro de la muerte .....	14
Subseries I.4: Invitación a polvo .....	14
Subseries I.5: Manuscripts and recordings by various authors .....	14
Subseries I.6: Publications and clippings .....	18
Series II: Correspondence and Personal Materials .....	20
Subseries II.1: Correspondence .....	21
Subseries II.2: Official documentation and personal effects .....	22
Subseries II.3: Printed material .....	23
Series III: Photographs .....	25
Series IV: Academic Work .....	26
Subseries IV.1: Coursework .....	26
Subseries IV.2: Teaching and scholarship .....	29
Series V: Theatre and Performances .....	32
Subseries V.1: Fuegos fúnebres .....	33
Subseries V.2: Other theatrical performances and poetry readings .....	33
Series VI: Posthumous .....	34
Subseries VI.1: Funerals, Tributes, Homages, Obituaries and Dedications .....	35
Subseries VI.2: Posthumous Publications and Performances .....	37
Subseries VI.3: Carmen "Cambury" Beatriz Ramos Otero correspondence .....	38
Subseries VI.4: Publications by Otero's literary circle .....	38

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Ramos Otero, Manuel
<b>Title:</b>	Manuel Ramos Otero Papers
<b>ID:</b>	10846190
<b>ID:</b>	MS#1725
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	circa 1920s-2007
<b>Date [bulk]:</b>	1967-1992
<b>Physical Description:</b>	18 linear feet 16 record cartons; 1 document box; and 1 flat box
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English , Spanish .
<b>Abstract:</b>	Manuel Ramos Otero (1948-1990) is considered the first openly gay writer from Puerto Rico. He resided in New York City for much of his adult life. In 1990, he returned to his hometown of Manatí, Puerto Rico, where he died of complications from HIV/AIDS. The collection includes personal and professional correspondence, manuscripts, notebooks and notes, reviews, photographs, and newspaper clippings. These materials range in date from Otero's infancy to his death, 1948-1990. There is also a small section of the collection that contains material related to Otero posthumously, which dates from 1990 to 2007.

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Manuel Ramos Otero Papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

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Jesús Manuel "Chu" Ramos Otero was born in Manatí, Puerto Rico in 1948. In 1968, he moved to New York City to pursue his career as a writer. He is now considered one of the first openly out homosexual writers of the Puerto Rican diaspora.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

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Otero's writing is often considered controversial because of its unabashedly political, feminist and homoerotic subject matter. He wrote primarily semi-autobiographical pieces that dealt with themes of exile and rejection. The feeling of being exiled was twofold for Otero, who felt exiled from Puerto Rico for having left to the United States, and rejected in the United States because his writing did not deal with issues of race and class status that had become expected of Latino writers. The practice of writing for Otero thus became closely linked to his sex life because both writing and sexual acts were victimized by migration. As a result, much of Otero's writing deconstructs traditional gender categories in order to imagine a more liberated narrative form that might then translate to everyday life.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

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Otero studied Spanish literature at New York University, where he received a Master of Arts degree (MA) in 1979. He went on to teach Caribbean literature at Lehman College, York College, and LaGuardia Community College while pursuing a Ph.D. in Spanish literature at the City University of New York (CUNY).

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

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In September of 1971, Otero founded Aspasganza, a theatrical workshop in the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Four years later, in 1975, Otero founded the publishing group El libro

viaje, which was devoted to getting as many Puerto Rican authors published as American. During this decade, Otero traveled and collaborated creatively with his live-in partner, John Anthes, who died circa 1979. After Anthes' death, Otero began a relationship with the Puerto Rican painter Angel Rodríguez-Díaz. While little is known of John Anthes, Otero dedicated two of his works, "Ritos cancelados" and "Ceremonia de bienes y raices," to him after his death. Much of Otero's semi-autobiographical writing highlights his relationship with Anthes. Throughout his life, Otero harnessed close friendships with other influential Puerto Rican authors, and often collaborated with them. These people include Rosario Ferré, Ana Lydia Vega, and Magalí García Ramis.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

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In 1990, Otero returned to Puerto Rico to live out his final days. He died on October 7th of that year of complications from HIV/AIDS. His posthumously-published work, *Invitación a polvo*, which Otero defined as "completely untranslatable," directly addresses topics around the AIDS crisis.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

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In 1998, the Guadalajara International Book Fair published *Tálamos y tumbas prosa y verso de Manuel Ramos Otero*, which includes numerous short stories and the book of poetry, *El libro de la muerte*. In 1999, and again in 2002, the Pergones Theatre company in the Bronx adapted Otero's short story, "El locura de la locura" to stage the play "El bolero fue mi ruina." It was then adapted to an off-Broadway show in 2002 and staged by the Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Summary

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The collection contains the papers of Manuel Ramos Otero and reflects to his careers as an author, student, and professor. The collection primarily consists of Otero's published and unpublished writing. These materials range in date from 1967-1989, and include numerous manuscripts which document his writing and editing process. The collection also includes

Otero's notebooks, essays, and articles annotated by Otero as a student. There is a series of personal correspondence between Otero and his family in Puerto Rico while Otero lived in the United States. Finally, there are also smaller series of photographs, correspondence, official documents, theatrical work, and posthumous publications and tributes.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged in 6 series. All series are arranged in chronological order, except the materials in Series I, which is arranged in alphabetical order by the title of the manuscript, and Series VI.4, which is arranged in alphabetical order by the author's last name.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

### Revision Description

Links to digitized audio added. CLB 2022-02-24

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is located on-site.

### **Restrictions on Access**

Student records and medical records in this collection are restricted for 75 years from their respective dates of creation.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

The Rare Book and Manuscript Library purchased the collection from Felipe Eduardo Sanchez Ortiz in 2014.

### **Appraisal**

Clippings from widely available English language newspapers such as the New York Times were discarded. Routine financial documents, such as Otero's tax returns, retirement paperwork, bank statements, and welfare packets were also discarded. Finally, excess copies of the same pamphlets have been discarded. This is particularly true for Series VI, in which many duplicate funeral invitations and tributes to Otero were discarded.

### **Custodial History**

During the period from Otero's death to the purchase of his papers by the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Otero's papers were acquired by his sister, Carmen "Cambury" Beatriz Ramos Otero. Cambury's phone and medical bills, books, newspaper clippings, receipts and drawings that had nothing to do with Manuel Ramos Otero directly were mixed with the collection during this time period. These materials were discarded during processing.

### **Custodial History**

The collection also passed through Juan Gelpí and Vanessa Droz, who were Otero's close friends and creative collaborators. Gelpí annotated much of the collection and imposed an organizational scheme, which was later dismantled when the collection passed through different people. He also inserted various articles and transcripts that had no immediate connection to Ramos Otero.

### **Processing Information**

Collection-level record describing unprocessed material made public in summer 2018 as part of the Hidden Collections initiative.

### **Processing Information**

Preliminary collection inventory created by Renee Pappous in September 2015. Restrictions were placed on medical and student records during collection re-boxing by Celeste Brewer in October 2016. Loose materials were placed in folders, and oversize materials were moved to flat boxes. Assessment performed September 14, 2018 by Celeste Brewer as part of

Hidden Collections. Financial, medical, and student records identified by Renee Pappous were moved into a separate box.

### **Processing Information**

This collection was processed by Lindsey Cienfuegos. Finding aid written by Lindsey Cienfuegos and Celeste Brewer in July-August 2019.

### **Processing Information**

The Otero Papers arrived at the Rare Book and Manuscript Library in 2014. The collection was contaminated with mold, and was cleaned by Polygon in Fall 2014. Materials stored in transfiles were rehoused in record cartons in October 2016.

### **Processing Information**

The arrangement scheme for the collection was imposed during processing in the absence of a clear original order. Existing folders were in poor condition, and many materials were loose. All folders were replaced during processing. Objects, published books and journals, and audiovisual materials were also physically separated from the papers in the collection and stored together for preservation reasons.

### **Processing Information**

The collection's complicated provenance and lack of original order meant that it was not always possible to determine whether materials were originally owned and used by Manuel Ramos Otero, or added to the collection after his death by his family members or friends. Some items were retained in the collection despite their unclear provenance in order to document--or to avoid erasing--these individuals' secondary uses of the collection.

### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

### **Accruals**

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact [rbml@columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@columbia.edu) for more information.

### **Conditions Governing Access**

Unique time-based media items have been reformatted and are available onsite via links in the container list. Commercial materials are not routinely digitized.



[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Related Materials

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### Related Materials

[Rosario Ferré Papers](#) at the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University. Otero and Ferré collaborated creatively with one another throughout their writing careers, and each wrote biographical essays about the other for various anthologies about Puerto Rican authors.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Puerto Rican poetry
- Videotapes
- Manuscripts (documents)
- Personal correspondence
- Puerto Rican literature -- 20th century
- Puerto Ricans -- New York (State) -- New York
- Gay men's writings, American
- Gay men -- Poetry
- Audiotapes
- Ramos Otero, Manuel

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## Collection Inventory

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### Series I: Manuscripts and Publishing, circa 1960-2002, undated

#### Scope and Contents

Series I: Manuscripts and Publishing consists primarily of material related to articles and books written by Manuel Ramos Otero, dating from the early 1970s through 1990. This series contains material from Otero's published and unpublished written works, and highlights the many stages of his writing process. The series contains books, notebooks, manuscripts, publications, translations and unpublished poetry and short stories by Otero. A majority of the manuscripts in this collection are Otero's short stories and are annotated by Otero. These manuscripts are organized alphabetically. Very few of them are dated. Many

of the manuscripts were originally published in Cupey or El Mundo. Manuscripts for theatrical pieces are located in Series V.

### Scope and Contents

The series includes extensive materials related to three of Otero's published works: *Página en blanco y staccato* (1987); *El libro de la muerte* (1985); and *Invitación a polvo* (1991), each of which comprises its own subseries. The collection does not include Otero's notes on his only published novel, *La novelabingo*. However, the collection does contain manuscripts of all of Otero's published works, including *La novelabingo*.

### Scope and Contents

The series also includes manuscripts of poems and essays written by prominent Puerto Rican literary figures, which can be found in Subseries I.5: Manuscripts by various authors. Some of the authors include Ana Lydia Vargas, Juan Gelpí, Rosario Ferré, Magalí García Ramis, Nicholasa Mohr, and Edgardo Rodríguez Juliá. While some of these manuscripts were sent to Otero during his lifetime, others appear to have been inserted into the collection after his death. The subseries also includes several audio recordings and one videocassette of these authors reading their works.

### Scope and Contents

Finally, this series contains clippings and full issues of newspapers, literary journals, and other publications that reproduce or reference the works of Otero and his literary circle.

## Subseries I.1: Manuscripts, 1972-1990, undated

Title/Description	Instances	
"67 después de Christian", undated	box 1	folder 1
"Alrededor del mundo con la señorita Mambresi", undated	box 1	folder 2
"An Urban Landscape" anthology, undated	box 1	folder 3
"An Urban Landscape" anthology, 1988-1989	box 1	folder 4
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
With correspondence and application for project funding.		
"Bola de fuegos", undated	box 1	folder 5
"Ceremonia de bienes y raíces", undated	box 1	folder 6
Concierto de metal para un recuerdo y otras orgías de soledad, undated	box 1	folder 7
Essay, "Después de la explosión", 1972	box 1	folder 8
"Dust in Love", undated	box 1	folder 9
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
With original publication.		
"El ángel de Nueva York", 1990	box 1	folder 10

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"El cuento de la mujer del mar" Typed Ms., 28 January 1977 box 17

**Scope and Contents**

Manuel Otero's only short novel. This copy was sent to Professor Miguel Arisa as one of only a few sent to close friends before it was published.

**Scope and Contents**

(2019.2020.M071)

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"El cuento de la mujer del mar", undated	box 1	folder 11-12
"El cuento de la mujer del mar" English translation: "The Story of the Woman in the Sea", undated	box 1	folder 13
"Enfermedades incuribles" first chapter: "La fea Otero", undated	box 1	folder 14
"Enfermedades incuribles", undated	box 1	folder 15
"En la orilla amarilla de la muerte", 1977	box 1	folder 16
"Funeral", undated	box 1	folder 17
"Happy Birthday", undated	box 1	folder 18
"Hollywood Memorabilia", undated	box 1	folder 19
Anthology with other authors, including "Hollywood Memorabilia", undated	box 1	folder 20
"Hollywood Memorabilia" in English, with translation by Gregory Kolovakos, undated	box 1	folder 21
Summary for novella called La esfinge y el infierno, undated	box 1	folder 22
"La casa clausurada", undated	box 1	folder 23
"La heredera", undated	box 1	folder 24
"La hora de ángel", undated	box 1	folder 25
Manuscript and original publication of "La Luna Ultrajada", 1982	box 1	folder 26
"Las mariposas de alambre" , 1976	box 1	folder 27
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Ultimately included in Cuentos de buena tinta.		
"Las nubes azules en los ojos de la abeja reina", undated	box 1	folder 28
"La piel de Paul", 1975	box 1	folder 29

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**Scope and Contents**

with original publication of the piece in En Rojo

"La última plena que bailó Luberza", undated	box 1	folder 30
"Loca de la locura" with original publication; also published in English and translated by Amy Prince, 1980	box 1	folder 31
"Noches de asma", undated	box 1	folder 32
Novelabingo, 1975	box 1	folder 33
Novelabingo, undated	box 1	folder 34
First and second version of "Melancholia oceana," with a handwritten note by Juan Gelpí, undated	box 1	folder 35
Short story collection, Orgasmos prohibidos, undated	box 2	folder 1
"Peregrinación por un eclipse", undated	box 2	folder 2
"Regreso al mar de las sirenas...", undated	box 2	folder 3
Short story collection Ritos cancelados, undated	box 2	folder 4
"Romance de Clara Gardenia Otero", undated	box 2	folder 5
"Sacrificio en Venezia" with original publication from Sin Nombre, 1972	box 2	folder 6
Tales From an Urban Landscape, 1976	box 2	folder 7-8
"Tren que no pasa por la vía" with different title: "Miércoles de cenizas", undated	box 2	folder 9
"Vida ejemplar del esclavo y el señor" and photocopies of original publication, undated	box 2	folder 10
"Viernes santo", undated	box 2	folder 11
"Western Union" with original publication from Tlaloc, 1975	box 2	folder 12
Untitled poem, undated	box 2	folder 13
Various short stories, undated	box 2	folder 14
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
"Christian 67," "El carnaval de la despedida melancólica," "El secreto," "El hombre que se fue..." and others.		
Various short stories, including "Cuento de la mujer del mar," "El tren que no pasa por la vía," and others, undated	box 2	folder 15
Various poems, including "Las frutas luminosas" and "Los 8 poemas sicilianos", 1976	box 2	folder 16
Various poems, undated	box 2	folder 17

Various short stories, undated	box 2	folder 18
Various writings, undated	box 2	folder 19
Manuscripts of Otero's famous works, such as <i>Página en blanco y staccato</i> , "La Otra isla de Puerto Rico" and others, undated	box 2	folder 20
Various handwritten drafts to short stories, poems and essays, undated	box 2	folder 21
Various notes for short stories and poems, undated	box 2	folder 22
Various poems, undated	box 2	folder 23
Book with pictures, drawings, and writings, with another unidentified person's writing, 1977	box 2	folder 24
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes quite a bit on "El Cuento de la mujer del mar"		
Writings given to Asela Rodríguez de Laguna by Otero, undated	box 2	folder 25
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Including one copy of <i>El libro de la muerte</i> .		
Notebook containing Otero's draft of biography of Rosario Ferré (with newspaper clippings), undated	box 2	folder 26
Various short stories with edits, undated	box 2	folder 27
Translation of <i>Voyage of Discovery</i> by Otero, 1986, 1990	box 2	folder 28

### Subseries I.2: *Página en blanco y staccato*, 1987, undated

Title/Description	Instances	
Unedited poems, with many notes from Juan Gelpí; some of the poems were published in <i>Página en blanco y staccato</i> , undated	box 3	folder 1
Poems published under different titles in <i>Página en blanco y staccato</i> , according to Vanessa Droz and Juan Gelpí; English translation of <i>Página en blanco</i> by Joe Chadwick, undated	box 3	folder 2
<i>Página en blanco y staccato</i> manuscript, undated	box 3	folder 3
Clippings about <i>Página en blanco y staccato</i> , 1987	box 3	folder 4
Press release for <i>Página en blanco y staccato</i> and original invoices for Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero, 1987	box 3	folder 5
Ramos Otero, Manuel. <i>Página en blanco y staccato</i> . Madrid: Editorial Playor, 1987	box 15	

**Scope and Contents**

Inscribed by Otero to his sister, Amelia.

**Subseries I.3: El libro de la muerte, 1982-1985, undated**

Title/Description	Instances	
Manuscripts of El libro de la muerte, undated	box 3	folder 6
El libro de la muerte-change of title, undated	box 3	folder 7
El libro de la muerte, undated <u>Physical Description</u> : 3 folders	box 3	folder 8-10
Manuscripts of poems published in El libro de la muerte, undated	box 3	folder 11
Manuscript of El libro de la muerte, with inscription from Otero to Asela Rodriguez de Laguna and Elpidio, and related letter, 1982-1983	box 3	folder 12
Clippings and pamphlets about El libro de la muerte, 1985	box 3	folder 13
"Fuegos fúnebres", undated	box 3	folder 14-15
"Fuegos fúnebres" with note from Juan Gelpí, undated	box 3	folder 16
Ramos Otero, Manuel. El libro de la muerte. San Juan: Waterfront Press, 1985	box 15	

**Scope and Contents**

Inscribed to Otero's sister Amelia.

**Subseries I.4: Invitación a polvo, 1991-1994, undated**

Title/Description	Instances	
Invitación a polvo manuscript, undated	box 3	folder 17-18
Ramos Otero, Manuel. Invitación al polvo. Madrid: Editorial Plaza Mayor, 1991	box 15	
Correspondence with Otero's sister, Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero, about Invitación a polvo, 1991-1994	box 3	folder 19
Articles and clippings about Invitación a polvo, 1992-1993	box 3	folder 20

**Subseries I.5: Manuscripts and recordings by various authors, 1978-1994, undated**

Title/Description	Instances	
"Tres amores," with inscription by Jose Antonio Avila Hardoin, 1968	box 3	folder 21
Interview with the members of the photography group En Foco, including Adál (Adál Alberto Maldonado) and Geno Rodriguez, 1974 May 2	box 12	item 17

Physical Description: 1 open reel audiotapes

Digital Object: [Interview with the members of the photography group En Foco, including Adál \(Adál Alberto Maldonado\) and Geno Rodriguez, 1974 May 2](#)

### Scope and Contents

The Institute of Contemporary Hispanic Art invited 12 photographers to photograph in New York and in Puerto Rico for an exhibit called "Dos Mundos" (Two Worlds of the Puerto Rican). The show focused on Puerto Rican life on the island and in the barrios of New York. It opened at the New York Cultural Center, and then traveled to Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and San Juan, P.R.

### Scope and Contents

The recording starts with an interview with Adál Maldonado, one of the photographers whose work was included in the group show. He discusses documentary vs. art photography; Jorge Luis Borges as an inspiration; "espiritismo" as Puerto Rican surrealism; discussion of the theme of the "Dos Mundos" ("Two Worlds") exhibition.

### Scope and Contents

Another photographer (not identified) and the show's organizer (possibly, Geno Rodriguez) are interviewed about their creative process, composition, personal identity, the Americanization of the island, the state of the arts in Puerto Rico, and the (controversial) arrangements for the show's exhibition in Puerto Rico.

### Scope and Contents

The interviewer initially speaks mostly in Spanish with some English but switches to English; the subject's answers are mostly in English with some Spanish.

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Interview with Argentinian novelist Manuel Puig, circa 1974

box 12

item 18-19

Physical Description: 2 open reel audiotapes

Digital Object: [Interview with Argentinian novelist Manuel Puig, circa 1974](#)

### Scope and Contents

Part 1: Beginning of interview. Writing movies in the form of novels; three novels with cinematography; The Buenos Aires Affair, a detective novel; popular literary genres; first chapter was the hardest to write (he wrote up to 5 versions); female characters;

novels vs. short story; insomnia in chapter 11; why write; Hollywood.

**Scope and Contents**

Part 2: The novel vs. journalism; novel writing for a wider audience, a more popular genre; Julio Cortazar; sexual repression is a tool of capitalism; language usage ("cursileria"); class distinction in the Americas; "Boquitas Pintadas"; cinema and moviemaking; book covers; life in New York; life in Puerto Rico; women's movement in Argentina; sexual liberation; Max Stirner; Wilhelm Reich. End of interview.

**Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements**

Part 2 is on item 17; part 1 is on item 18.

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"Puerto Ricans in the US: The Adopted Citizen" by Nicholasa Mohr, with various articles about her, 1978	box 3	folder 22
Poetry from Micheal Redmond to Otero, 1983	box 3	folder 23

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**Scope and Contents**

Mailed to Otero.

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"Historia y ficcion; mito y utopia en el mundo caribeño" by Egardo Rodriguez Julia and "Para narrar el tiempo escondido: Historia y ficcion en la narrativa puertorriquena contemporanea" by Magalí García Ramis, 1987	box 3	folder 24
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**Scope and Contents**

Both included in an anthology.

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Arcadio Díaz-Quiñones lecture at Lehman College, 1988 April 21	box 12	item 10
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Physical Description: 1 videocassettes (VHS)

Physical Description: VHS tape labeled "Rodríguez Juliá." This is not a lecture by or about Rodriguez Julia, although Otero notes that Rodriguez Julia will be the guest speaker at the following week's lecture.

Digital Object: [Arcadio Díaz-Quiñones lecture at Lehman College, 1988 April 21](#)

**Scope and Contents**

Lecture series of the Department of Puerto Rican Studies at Lehman College. Guest lecturer: Arcadio Díaz-Quiñones, speaking on the national discourse



in the Hispanic Caribbean, Antonio Pedreira, and Ramiro Guerra Sánchez.

Author interviews by Otero for unpublished anthology, 1988 June	box 12	item 5-9
<u>Physical Description:</u> 5 audiocassettes		
<u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">Author interviews by Otero for unpublished anthology, 1988 June</a>		
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Interviews of Magali García Ramis, Ana Lydia Vega, Olga Nolla, and Edgardo Sanabria Santaliz.		
Various poems not written by Otero, 1994	box 3	folder 25
Sleeping Beauty by Rosario Ferré, undated	box 3	folder 26
"Cloud Cover Caribbean" by Ana Lydia Vega, undated	box 3	folder 27
Essay about Otero written by Juan Gelpí, undated	box 3	folder 28
Various writings about Otero, by Juan Gelpí, undated	box 3	folder 29
"Tres nocturnos de Nueva York de Clara Lair," with note to Otero, undated	box 3	folder 30
Poems dedicated to Otero, undated	box 3	folder 31
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
With illegible note by Juan Gelpí.		
Poem, "El abanico de aspas," with an epigraph by Otero, also inscribed to Otero by author, undated	box 3	folder 32
Various manuscripts to be included in an anthology, undated	box 3	folder 33-34
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
The Untelling; "The Exemplary Life of the Slave and Master"; "Macaroons" by Olga Nolla; "The Gullible's Cookbook" by Carmen Lugo Filippi; "Milagros, Mercurio Street"; "Coconut Kisses" by Olga Nolla; and others. Also "Sanabria"; "The Glass Box" translated by Rosario Ferre with handwritten note by her to Otero; "Macaroons" by Olga Nolla.		
Untitled anthology, incorporating Novelabingo (about halfway through), undated	box 3	folder 35
Poem by an unidentified author, undated	box 4	folder 1
Poetry workshop, undated	box 12	item 16
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 open reel audiotapes		
<u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">Poetry workshop, undated</a>		

**Scope and Contents**

Poets recite verses and receive feedback from the larger group. The discussion goes from specific uses of language to larger questions about the inspiration of poetry, the poet's inner voice and the use of poetry in society. Poetry readings are in English and Spanish; all discussion is in Spanish.

**Subseries I.6: Publications and clippings, circa 1960-2002, undated**

Title/Description	Instances	
Folder belonging to Otero's mother, Carmen Ana Otero, of Otero's early publications, circa 1960	box 4	folder 2
Clippings about Concierto de metal para un recuerdo, 1967-1972	box 4	folder 3
Original publication of "Después de Christian" in literary magazine, Revista del Cafe, 1970 July	box 4	folder 4
Pamphlets of Otero's essay, "Después de la explosión", 1972	box 4	folder 5
Penélope o el otro del mundo. Edited by L.Z. Barreto. 1:2, 1972 November-1973 January	box 16	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes an article about Otero.		
Articles about Otero and other Puerto Rican authors, 1973	box 4	folder 6
"Le piel de paul" publication in newspapers, 1975	box 4	folder 7
Ramos Otero, Manuel. La novelabingo. New York: El libro viaje, 1976	box 15	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Published in an edition of 1000. Three copies are included in this collection: one is inscribed to Otero's sister Amelia, and another is inscribed to Asela Rodríguez de Laguna.		
Copies of "Tren que no pasa por la vía," published in Sin Nombre, 1976	box 4	folder 8
Interviews of Otero, 1976-1981, 1990	box 4	folder 9
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
1976-1981 interviews published in En rojo.		
Vortice: Literatura, arte y crítica. 2:2-3 . Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Stanford University. Alarcón, Francisco X., José Ballón Aguirre, Bernard Baycroft, et al., eds., 1979 Spring	box 16	

Articles and clippings with reviews of "El cuento de la mujer del mar"; and clipping of open letter written by Otero that was published the same year, 1980-1982	box 4	folder 10
Publications about Otero, 1980-1983	box 4	folder 11
Otero's poetry, published in Reintegro, 1981	box 4	folder 12
Zoraida Santiago "Tiene que ser la luna" LP record, 1983	box 12	item 11
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Commercially produced LP record. Includes a recording of a poem by Otero set to music.		
Introduction to Adal photography exhibit by Otero, 1983	box 4	folder 13
Clippings, 1983-1988, 1990, 1992	box 4	folder 14
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
"La fea Otero"; "Nobelezca de sangre"; Various clippings about or written by authors Otero knew personally: Magalí Ramis, Ana Maria Delgado, etc.; review of Novelabingo.		
Articles about "Reunión de los espejos", 1984	box 4	folder 15
Clippings about Otero, 1985-1990	box 4	folder 16-17
Book reviews and biographical information about Otero, 1987, undated	box 4	folder 18-19
Letters to publisher about Otero's translation fee, 1988	box 4	folder 20
Cupey. Edited by Olga Nolla. 5: 1-2., 1988	box 16	
The Portable Lower East Side. Special issue, Latin Americans in NYC. Edited by Kurt Hollander. 5:1-2, 1988	box 16	
The Portable Lower East Side. Edited by Kurt Hollander. 6: 1, 1989	box 16	
Publishing contracts for "Cuentos de buena tinta" and "La novelabingo", 1990	box 4	folder 21
Interview of Otero conducted by Manuel Puig, published in El Nuevo Dia, 1990	box 4	folder 22
Canto libre, 1990 July 14-15	box 12	item 12
<u>Physical Description</u> : 7 audiocassettes	box 12	item 1-4
<u>Digital Object</u> : <a href="#">Canto libre, 1990 July 14-15</a>	box 12	item 13-14
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Otero is a guest on Andrés Jiménez's WPUC radio program Canto libre; Otero reads from his works. There seem to be about 4 distinct parts. The 7 audiocassettes (10 audio files) represent many		

dubs/edits of the content, and while there are near duplicates, there are no exact duplicates.

Clippings about Cuentos de buena tinta, 1992	box 4	folder 23
Dialogo, with direct reference to Otero on page 15, 2002	box 4	folder 24
Interview of Claudio Rodriguez, possibly conducted by Otero, undated	box 4	folder 25
SIDAhora. Edited by Nilda Pimentel. No. 8, undated	box 16	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes work by Otero.		
Written work by Otero and photographs from art exhibit by Rodríguez-Díaz, undated	box 4	folder 26
Book covers, undated	box 4	folder 27
Postcards of Puerto Rico and poster for poetry reading, undated	box 4	folder 28
<u>Custodial History:</u>		
<b>Custodial History</b>		
Found with Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero's belongings.		

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series II: Correspondence and Personal Materials, circa 1969-1990, undated

### Scope and Contents

Series II: Correspondence and personal materials primarily consists of letters and postcards from Otero's family, friends, and colleagues. It also contains official documentation such as government-issued identification cards, medical and financial records, and religious certificates. A few of Otero's personal belongings are located in this series as well. The series spans Otero's lifetime, 1948-1990.

### Scope and Contents

The correspondence within this series dates from 1969-1990. Some of these letters include information about Otero's writing process and the difficulties of publishing his works. Much of the correspondence deals with the financial issues that Otero faced upon arriving to the United States, from 1969 through approximately 1978.

### Scope and Contents

There is an extensive amount of letters written by Otero to his mother, Carmen Ana Otero, which date from 1969 to 1984. They discuss Otero's work and his relationship with John Anthes. There are also letters and postcards from John Anthes to Otero's mother. These letters--including the letters from Anthes to Carmen Ana Otero--were originally folded tightly and stored in a red treasure chest-shaped box. They were removed for preservation and ease of access. Many of the letters from Otero's adulthood document the financial remittances Otero sent to his family in Puerto Rico throughout the 1980s.

**Scope and Contents**

Subseries II.3 consists of Otero's personal collection of literary magazines, newspapers, and clippings. The subseries also contains two books annotated by Otero. These materials do not include any of Otero's works or articles about Otero.

**Subseries II.1: Correspondence, 1969-1990, undated**

Title/Description	Instances	
Notebooks, undated	box 4	folder 29
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
with phone numbers, notes for short stories, to-do lists, etc.		
Letters to Amelia Cortés and Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero, 1969-1983	box 4	folder 30
Otero's letters to his mother, Carmen Ana Otero, 1969	box 4	folder 31-32
Otero's letters to his mother, Carmen Ana Otero, 1970-1979, 1983-1984, 1986	box 5	folder 1-7
Letters from John Anthes to Otero's mother, Carmen Ana Otero, 1970-1973	box 5	folder 8
Red metal treasure chest-shaped box, undated	box 14	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Previously used to store Otero's correspondence with his mother, Carmen Ana Otero. Those letters are now located in Box 4, Folders 31-32, and Box 5, Folders 1-8.		
Letters to Otero's father, Jesús Ramos, and sister, Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero, 1975-1977	box 5	folder 9
Otero's letters to his parents, 1975-1988	box 5	folder 10
Letters to Amelia Cortés and Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero, 1973, 1981-1990	box 5	folder 11-12
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes one letter from John Anthes to Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero.		
Postcards from friends and colleagues, 1978-1990	box 5	folder 13
Article on Otero by Asela Rodríguez de Laguna, with letters from Otero responding to de Laguna, 1979-1980	box 4	folder 14
Letters from Otero to colleagues about his works, 1983, 1985	box 5	folder 15
Letter from Otero to student, 1988	box 5	folder 16

Letters that Otero received in the last weeks of his life, 1990	box 5	folder 17
Note to Otero from "T. Pynchon", undated	box 5	folder 18
Letters and inscription from unidentified correspondents, undated	box 5	folder 19

## Subseries II.2: Official documentation and personal effects, 1948-1990

Title/Description	Instances	
Birth certificates and demographic registry report, 1948, 1984	box 5	folder 20
Baptism certificate and First Communion scrapbook, 1949, 1956	box 5	folder 21
Military paperwork, father's death certificate, etc., 1965-1977	box 5	folder 22
Passports and identification, 1966-1988	box 5	folder 23
Letters regarding Otero's financial support, 1977-1978	box 5	folder 24
Angel Rodríguez-Díaz materials, 1980, 1983, undated	box 4	folder 25

### Scope and Contents

Unidentified drawing, probably by Angel Rodriguez; notecard from Vanessa Droz explaining the contents of the box; a list of rules explaining Il Premio Noega, Angel Rodriguez Diaz's first drawing salon at the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture.

Carmen Ana Otero's eulogy, written by Otero, circa 1987	box 5	folder 26
Obituary for Carmen Ana Otero, written by Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero, 1987	box 5	folder 27
Personal notebook with doctor's phone numbers and appointments, circa 1990	box 5	folder 28
Otero's last will and testament, 1990	box 5	folder 29
Otero's childhood medical records, circa 1970	box 5	folder 30

### Conditions Governing Access: Conditions Governing Access

Restricted until 2045

Doctor's letter for Otero's emergency room visit, 1977	box 5	folder 31
<h3>Conditions Governing Access: Conditions Governing Access</h3> <p>Restricted until 2057</p>		

Otero's prescriptions and physician's orders, 1990	box 5	folder 32
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Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2065

Dental records and health memo asking for at-home care, 1990	box 5	folder 33
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
Restricted until 2065		
Black leather bag containing Otero's wallet, undated	box 14	
Leather portfolio belonging to Otero, undated	box 14	
Unidentified film, undated	box 12	item 15
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 film reels		
Recorded music, undated	box 12	item 20
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 open reel audiotapes		

**Subseries II.3: Printed material, 1960-1990, undated**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Whitman, Walt. Leaves of Grass. New York: Rinehart Editions, 1948	box 15	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Annotated by Otero.		
Clippings from Otero's adolescence, 1963-1967	box 6	folder 1
Poema del Cid. Metered version and prologue by Francisco López Estrada. Madrid: Editorial Castalia, 1974	box 15	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Annotated by Otero.		
Guajana. Edited by Vicente Rodríguez Nietzsche, José Manuel Torres Santiago, and Andrés Castro Ríos, No. 1, 1974	box 16	
El cuento: revista de imaginación. Edited by Edmundo Valades. 11:69, 1975 April-June	box 16	
Palestra. Edited by Angel Luis Torres. No 2-3, 1975 April-December	box 16	
El cuento: revista de imaginación. Edited by Edmundo Valades. 11:71, 1976 January-March	box 16	
Clippings about Puerto Rican cinema, 1978	box 6	folder 2
News clippings and literary magazines, 1979-1987	box 6	folder 3

Droz, Vanessa. La cicatriz a medias. Río Piedras: Impresos Metropolitanos, 1982	box 16	
Reintegro newspapers, 1983	box 6	folder 4
Asomante. Edited by Palmira Cabrera de Ibarra. 31:1-2, 1983	box 16	
Vega, José Luis. Reunión de espejos. Harrisonburg: Editorial Cultural, 1983	box 16	
Otero Joy, Sarah C (Saci). Vivía la alondra en silencio. Santo Domingo: Editora Taller, C, 1984	box 15	
Ramírez Córdova, Antonio. Si la violeta cayese de tus manos. San Juan: Ediciones Mairena, 1984	box 16	
Sanabria Santaliz, Edgardo. El día que el hombre pisó la luna. Río Piedras: Editorial Antillana, 1984	box 15	
Asomante. Edited by Palmira Cabrera de Ibarra. 33:1-2, 1985	box 16	
Burgos, Fernando. La novela moderna hispanoamericana. Madrid: Discurso Rigenes, 1985	box 15	
Booklets of poetry and art exhibits, circa 1985	box 6	folder 5
La claridad newspapers, 1985-1987	box 6	folder 6
En Rojo newspapers, 1985-1987	box 6	folder 7
Various newspapers about literary figures from Puerto Rico, 1985-1990	box 6	folder 8-9
Photocopied book with underlines, Tiburón, 1986	box 6	folder 10
<u>Custodial History:</u> <b>Custodial History</b>		
Sent to Otero in 1986		
Asomante. Edited by Palmira Cabrera de Ibarra. 34:1, 1986	box 16	
de Burgos, Julia. Yo misma fui mi ruta. Río Piedras: Ediciones Huracán, 1986	box 16	
Literary magazine, Between C & D, 1986-1987 Fall-Winter	box 6	folder 11
<u>Custodial History:</u> <b>Custodial History</b>		
Found with Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero's belongings.		
En una sola torre. Santo Domingo: Talleres de Editora Corripio, C., 1987	box 15	
Coll, Edna. Instantes en el tiempo: Mis memorias. Hato Rey: Esmaco Printers Corp., 1988	box 15	



Annotated photocopy of Susan Sontag, "AIDS and Its Metaphors", 1988	box 6	folder 12
Dialogo newspapers, 1988-1990	box 6	folder 13
Balcón. Edited by Antonio Zaya. No. 3, 1989	box 16	
Newsletter from the PEN Club, Puerto Rico, 1989	box 6	folder 14
Centro de estudios puertorriqueños. Edited by Blanca Vázquez. 2:6, 1989 Summer	box 16	
Bamboo Ridge: The Hawaii Writers' Quarterly. Edited by Eric Chock and Darrell H.Y. Lum. 41, 1989 Winter	box 15	
Cupey. Edited by Olga Nolla. 7: 1-2, 1990	box 16	
Mairena. Edited by Manuel de la Puebla. No. 30, 1990	box 16	
Press release for Manny Suarez's nonfiction book, "Requiem on Cerro Maravilla", undated	box 6	folder 15
<u>Custodial History:</u> <b>Custodial History</b>		
Found with Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero's belongings.		
Prayer booklets, prayer cards, undated	box 6	folder 16

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

### Series III: Photographs, 1925-1990

#### Scope and Contents

Series III: Photographs consists of loose photographs that range in dates from Otero's infancy to his death. There are some photographs of Otero's family members circa 1920, which are located at the beginning of the series. The series also includes photographs of Otero with his two long-term romantic partners, the graphic designer John Anthes and the Puerto Rican painter Angel Rodríguez-Díaz.

Title/Description	Instances	
Photographs of Otero's family, 1925-circa 1980s	box 6	folder 17-18
Photographs of Otero as a child, 1948-1960	box 6	folder 19
Photographs of Manuel Ramos Otero and Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero at first communion, 1956	box 6	folder 20
Various photographs from adulthood, 1968-1990	box 6	folder 21-22
Photographs of Otero and John Anthes, circa 1970s	box 6	folder 23
Photographs of Otero in New York City, 1971-1979	box 7	folder 1
Slides and photographs of Otero on vacation with Angelo Cerro, 1978	box 7	folder 2

Oversized photographs of Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero and Carmen Ana Otero, circa 1980	box 13	folder 1
Oversized photographs of Otero, circa 1984	box 13	folder 2
Various photographs, mostly of celebrities, undated	box 7	folder 3

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series IV: Academic Work, 1964-1990, undated

### Scope and Contents

Series IV: Academic Work contains material related to Manuel Ramos Otero's coursework, teaching and scholarship, dating from 1964-1990.

### Scope and Contents

The coursework in this series consists primarily of syllabi, annotated essays and notes from Otero's time as a graduate student in the Spanish departments at New York University and the City University of New York. The series also contains a small amount of coursework from Otero's time studying sociology and political science as an undergraduate at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR), Río Piedras.

### Scope and Contents

The majority of Subseries IV.2: Teaching and Scholarship comprises photocopied essays that Otero utilized while teaching at Rutgers University, LaGuardia Community College, Lehman College, Hunter College and York College. Within this subseries, there are also syllabi, exams that Otero administered, and lectures.

## Subseries IV.1: Coursework, 1964-1990, undated

Title/Description	Instances	
Coursework from Otero's youth, circa 1950s-1960s	box 7	folder 4
University of Puerto Rico coursework and diplomas, 1964-1970	box 7	folder 5
Pin with prize ribbon, 1965	box 14	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Inside a bag labeled "Primer Premio Círculo Cultural Hispanico, UPR 1965. Cuento: 'Lecho para angeles'"		
New York University graduate student information and schedules, 1977, 1979	box 7	folder 6
Final essays from courses, 1970-1989, undated	box 7	folder 7-13
Notebook with notes for "Revolución en la Literatura" course, 1973	box 7	folder 14
Annotated photocopies of Ricardo Piglia's work, 1973, 1980	box 7	folder 15-16

Notes and poems from Portuguese class, 1976	box 7	folder 17
Syllabus for "Poeta en Nueva York", 1977	box 7	folder 18
Reading list for class taught by Dionisio Canas, 1984	box 7	folder 19
Syllabus and notes for class, "Trends in Hispanic Literary Theory", 1985	box 7	folder 20
Syllabus from Borges class, 1985	box 7	folder 21
Transcripts from City University of New York graduate school and university ID cards, 1985-1987, undated	box 7	folder 22
Syllabus and notes from class on Methods of Research, 1986	box 7	folder 23
Notes on "La celestina" and J. C. Andrade, 1986	box 8	folder 1
Notes for class on "Poesia Baroca" and another unidentified course, 1986	box 8	folder 2
Notes for class on Luis Cernuda, 1986	box 8	folder 3
Notes for graduate seminar on Spanish American poetry taught by Enrique Pezzoni, 1987	box 8	folder 4
Syllabus and readings for course, "Spanish American Literature of the Colony: Manierismo, barroco, y neoclasicismo en la poesía colonial", 1987	box 8	folder 5
Syllabus and notes for class, "El postmodernismo", 1987	box 8	folder 6-7
Notes and final essay exam for class "El ensayo contemporaneo", 1987	box 8	folder 8
Syllabi and photocopies of readings from graduate courses, 1987	box 8	folder 9
Annotated photocopies of various articles about Jamie Gil de Biedma, circa 1988	box 8	folder 10
CUNY PhD Program in Spanish course descriptions and readings, 1988	box 8	folder 11
"El verbo buscando la persona: el monólogo dramático de Jaime Gil de Biedma", 1988	box 8	folder 12
<b>Scope and Contents</b> written for course on "Postmodernidad"		
"Aproximaciones a la "Respuesta de la poetisa a la muy ilustre Sor Filotea de la Cruz", 1988	box 8	folder 13
<b>Scope and Contents</b> written for class "Barroco colonial"		
"El viaje a través del espejo en dos poemas de Julia de Burgos," essay by Otero, 1989	box 8	folder 14

**Scope and Contents**

written for seminar on Latin American poetry,  
"Seminario sobre poesía latinoamericana"

Oral exam proposal, 1990	box 8	folder 15
"Towards a Caribbean Consciousness: Notes on Contemporary Literatures from the Hispanic Caribbean" essay, undated	box 8	folder 16
Coursework on Julio Cortázar, and "Film and the Supernatural" class syllabus, undated	box 8	folder 17
Coursework on poetry and philosophy, undated	box 8	folder 18
Annotated photocopies of works by contemporary Latin American writers, undated	box 8	folder 19
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Folder with clipping about Julia de Burgos; and annotated photocopies of Rubén Darío's "Obras completas", Jose Martí's "En los Estados Unidos," and other essays.		
Annotated photocopies of various essays by other authors, undated	box 8	folder 20
Annotated photocopies of essays and poetry by other authors, undated	box 8	folder 21
Annotated photocopies of essays for class on Structural Analysis, undated	box 8	folder 22
Annotated photocopies of "El conflicto Barroco" by Pilar Gomez Bedate and "The Beautiful Soul of Don Damian" by Juan Bosch, undated	box 8	folder 23
Annotated photocopy of Antonio García Berrio's essay, "Crítica formal y función crítica", undated	box 8	folder 24
Annotated photocopy of Marcelino de Cisneros's "El significado del pensamiento filosofico", undated	box 8	folder 25
Unannotated photocopy of Ramón Ferreira's book of poems, "Los malos olores de este mundo", undated	box 8	folder 26
Unannotated photocopy about Michelangelo, undated	box 8	folder 27
Annotated photocopy of René Marqués' essay, "En la popa hay un cuerpo reclinado", undated	box 8	folder 28
Annotated photocopy of Piglia, Cernuda, and Bolívar, undated	box 8	folder 29
Annotated photocopy of Plato's Symposium, undated	box 8	folder 30

**Scope and Contents**

"Simposio (Banquete) o de la erótica" and unannotated photocopy of Plato's Republic

Unannotated photocopies of poetry by Cesar Vallejo, Pablo Neruda, Ruben Dario, and others, undated	box 8	folder 31
Annotated photocopy of Hayden White's "Metahistory", undated	box 8	folder 32
Notes and essays for class on Don Quijote, undated	box 9	folder 1
Notes for class, "Historia de la lengua", undated	box 9	folder 2
Notes for Latin class, undated	box 9	folder 3
Notes and annotated bibliography for class on Literary Theory, undated	box 9	folder 4
Notes for Literatura Hispanica, undated	box 9	folder 5

**Scope and Contents**

With CUNY PhD Program in Spanish Faculty-Student Handbook.

Notebook with notes on various novels, undated	box 9	folder 6
Study notecards for exams, undated	box 9	folder 7
Annotated photocopies of articles for course on literary theory, undated	box 9	folder 8
Unannotated photocopy of "Escalio" by C. Soto Vélez, undated	box 9	folder 9
Spiral notebook with notes for a Portuguese class; various poems in Portuguese, undated	box 9	folder 10
Annotated photocopy of "All that is Solid Melts Into Air," a book by Marshall Berman, undated	box 9	folder 11

**Subseries IV.2: Teaching and scholarship, 1982-1990, undated**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Literary magazines and booklets, 1963-1987	box 9	folder 12-13
Student essays with grades, 1982	box 9	folder 14
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
Restricted until 2054		
Clipping of article with photograph of Otero giving a reading, 1982	box 9	folder 15
Packet on Puerto Rican Studies at CUNY, 1982-1983	box 9	folder 16

Newsletters from John Jay College and Lehman College, with pieces about Otero, 1982, 1987	box 9	folder 17
Letter from Otero to Asela Rodriguez, 1983	box 9	folder 18
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Regarding the Images and Identities Conference: telling her not to publish his work, and that the conference was a disaster.		
Exam for "Literature of the Caribbean," taught at La Guardia Community College, 1985	box 9	folder 19
Memo advertising Otero's classes, 1985	box 9	folder 20
Student literary journal, "Voces de América", 1985	box 9	folder 21
Syllabi for "Literatura Puertorriquena II" and "Urban Study: The Puerto Rican Community", 1986-1989	box 9	folder 22
<u>Custodial History:</u>		
<b>Custodial History</b>		
Found with Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero's belongings.		
Flyers for readings conducted while a writer in residence, 1986-1990	box 9	folder 23
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Reading that Otero did/moderated at Columbia University; newspaper article about Otero as a writer in residence; and a list of things Otero had to do while he was a writer in residence at Columbia, CUNY, Rutgers, Fordham, and Texas Union.		
Letters from department chairs welcoming Otero to Lehman College faculty, 1987	box 9	folder 24
Letters regarding a task force for changing Lehman College curriculum, 1987	box 9	folder 25
Lehman College Department of Puerto Rican Studies, 1987-1989	box 9	folder 26
"Notas al Calce" Hispanic literature talk show proposal, 1988	box 9	folder 27
Flyers for a talk by Juan Gelpí at Lehman College, 1988	box 9	folder 28
Information and application for CUNY's research award, 1988-1990	box 9	folder 29

**Biographical / Historical**

Otero won in 1990.

Lehman College Puerto Rican faculty initiative, 1988-1990	box 9	folder 30
Staff listing for Lehman College, 1989	box 9	folder 31
Notes and syllabus for Otero's class, "Literatura Puertorriqueña", 1989	box 9	folder 32
Program for the Hispanic Literatures Conference, held at the Holiday Inn of Indiana, 1989	box 10	folder 1

**Scope and Contents**

Otero did not participate in the conference, but it appears that he attended it.

Conference talks, 1989, undated	box 10	folder 2
Syllabi and essays from course taught at Lehman College, "Literature of the Caribbean", 1990	box 10	folder 3

**Scope and Contents**

Annotated photocopies of readings, along with an exam and associated materials that was administered to the class. Readings include Garcia Marquez's "The Solitude of Latin," in both English and Spanish; "Timehri" by Edward Brathwaite; "Our America" by Jose Marti, "Three Men by the River" by Rene Marquez, "The Caribbean as a Socio-Cultural Area," by Sidney Mintz (unannotated), and "Journeys" by Edward Brathwaite.

Annotated photocopies for a course taught at Lehman College, 1990	box 10	folder 4
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**Scope and Contents**

Readings primarily about female authors from Puerto Rico.

Candidate curriculum vitae, referral, and feedback from interview for Lehman College presidential search, 1990	box 10	folder 5
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Conditions Governing Access:  
**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted until 2062

**Biographical / Historical**

Otero was a faculty representative on the presidential search committee.

Handwritten notepad of Otero's notes for presidential search at Lehman College, 1990	box 10	folder 6
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
Restricted until 2062		
Lehman College student protest flyers, 1990	box 10	folder 7
Manuscripts of poetry and other writing from Otero's students, undated	box 10	folder 8
<u>Custodial History:</u> <b>Custodial History</b>		
From La Guardia Community College		
Exams for Otero's class, "Pintura y teatro", undated	box 10	folder 9
Puerto Rican Studies Institute mailing list, undated	box 10	folder 10
Otero's curriculum vitae and resumes, undated	box 10	folder 11
Underlined essay photocopy: "Birth of a Nation: Puerto Rico in the Nineteenth Century" by Adalberto López, undated	box 10	folder 12
Unannotated photocopies about women writers from Puerto Rico and critical criminology, undated	box 10	folder 13
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
with a note from Olga [Nolla?].		
Essays and poetry by other academics, undated	box 10	folder 14
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
With notes from Gelpí that translate to, "This work was between Manuel's papers but it's not by Manuel" and "material from other people in the academic world."		

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series V: Theatre and Performances, 1975-1982, undated

### Scope and Contents

Series VI: Theatre and Performances contains manuscripts, flyers, and posters related to Manuel Ramos Otero's theatrical works from 1978-1990. The series consists primarily of material related to Otero's experimental performance, Fuegos fúnebres, which comprises subseries V.1. Fuegos fúnebres was



adapted from the first section of Otero's book of poetry, *El libro de la muerte*. Manuscripts for *Fuegos fúnebres* can be found in Series I.1. The material regarding *Fuegos fúnebres* in this series consists primarily of photographs and posters which directly reference the performance.

### Scope and Contents

Subseries V.2: Poetry Readings and Other Performances, mostly contains articles and flyers relating to Aspasganza, the New York-based theatrical workshop that Otero founded in September 1971. There are also various flyers and posters for poetry and book readings that Otero participated in. Many of these book readings are sponsored by the publishing group founded by Otero in 1975, *El libro viaje*. The subseries also includes various manuscripts and posters for less well-known performances which Otero either directed or wrote, such as *La araña*, *Historia del barrio*, and other untitled plays. Finally, there are a small number of audiovisual recordings of Otero and friends reading poetry.

### Subseries V.1: Fuegos fúnebres

Title/Description	Instances	
Published poem from "Fuegos funerales" in <i>El Mundo</i> newspaper and handwritten notes for performance, 1978, undated	box 10	folder 15
Flyers for performance, 1980	box 10	folder 16
Photocopies of performance, undated	box 10	folder 17
Photographs from performance, undated	box 10	folder 18

### Subseries V.2: Other theatrical performances and poetry readings

Title/Description	Instances	
Mixed Aspasganza-related material, circa 1975	box 10	folder 19
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
With a note from Gelpí listing the collection's contents.		
Postcards from <i>El libro viaje</i> , 1976	box 10	folder 20
Manuscript of theatrical production called "La araña", with drawings by Otero, 1977	box 10	folder 21
Typed draft of "La araña", 1977	box 10	folder 22
Puerto Rican Center for the Arts flyers, 1979	box 10	folder 23
Manuscript of "Yoruba", 1979	box 10	folder 24
Various flyers for poetry readings and panels, 1979-1982, undated	box 10	folder 25
Otero and friends reading poetry, undated	box 12	item 22
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 audiocassettes		
<u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">Otero and friends reading poetry, undated</a>		

**Scope and Contents**

With a note from Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero:  
 "Pasar el cassette a la cara #2 después de escuchar  
 Poema número 29 y ponerlo desde el principio de  
 #2." ("Turn the cassette to side # 2 after listening to  
 'Poem number 29 and play it from the beginning of  
 # 2.")

Typed manuscript of "Historia del barrio", undated	box 10	folder 26
Manuscript of "La muerte de la muñeca," with illegible notes by Gelpí, undated	box 10	folder 27
Manuscript of untitled play Otero performed with Vanessa Droz, undated	box 10	folder 28
Script of "The House of the Setting Suns", undated	box 10	folder 29

**Biographical / Historical**

Theatrical piece directed by Otero.

Untitled typed manuscripts of plays, undated	box 10	folder 30-31
Various plays written and/or directed by Otero, undated	box 10	folder 32

**Scope and Contents**

"Porque me dijeron que las mariposas," "We're Gonna Sue You Johnny," a booklet on Teatro Cleopatra en Puerto Rico, and "Anfora de oro y melocotones de fuegos."

2 posters from Angel Rodriguez Diaz's exhibit, inscribed to Cambury and Amelia, 1990	box 10	folder 33
Las mañías, Hyde Park, undated	box 12	item 23
<u>Physical Description:</u> 1 audiocassettes		
<u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">Las mañías, Hyde Park, undated</a>		

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

**Series VI: Posthumous, 1990-2007****Scope and Contents**

Series VI: Posthumous contains material created after Manuel Ramos Otero's death in Puerto Rico on October 7, 1990. This includes obituaries, invitations to funeral services, funeral programs, homages and dedications for Otero. These materials date from 1990-1993. The series also includes materials related to posthumous publications of Otero's works and those by others in his literary circle, in anthologies and literary journals.

**Scope and Contents**

The Pergones Theatre company in the Bronx adapted Otero's short story, "El locura de la locura" into the play "El bolero fue mi ruina," which the company staged in 1999 and 2002. Subseries VI.2 has materials related to the royalties from this play, along with flyers, reviews, and articles about the play.

**Scope and Contents**

Subseries VI.3 contains correspondence belonging to Otero's sister, Carmen "Cambury" Beatriz Ramos Otero. These letters and memos primarily have to do with royalty fees from Otero's books that were published posthumously.

**Scope and Contents**

Subseries VI.4 contains works published by writers in Otero's circle after 1990. These appear to have been added to the collection by Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero or another of the writers who had access to Otero's papers after his death.

**Subseries VI.1: Funerals, Tributes, Homages, Obituaries and Dedications**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Funeral program and poem, 1990	box 10	folder 34
Invitations to Otero's funeral, 1990	box 10	folder 35
List of close relatives to Otero, circa 1990	box 10	folder 36
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Presumably the people invited to his funeral; excerpt of poem.		
Eulogy for Otero, author unknown, circa 1990	box 10	folder 37
Obituaries and tributes, 1990	box 10	folder 38-41
Homages/homenajes published by Universidad de Puerto Rico Recinto de Rio Piedras, 1990	box 10	folder 42
En Rojo special issue about Otero, with clippings about Otero, 1990-1991	box 11	folder 1
Literary magazine, Revista Universidad de América, 1991	box 11	folder 2
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Homage to Otero on page 102		
Homages/homenajes sponsored by El Museo de Arte e Historica de San Juan, 1991	box 11	folder 3
Clippings and various articles paying tribute to Otero, 1991-1998	box 11	folder 4-6
Clippings and various articles discussing Otero, 1991-1999	box 11	folder 7
Invitation to a tribute for Puerto Rican authors, in which Otero was included, 1992	box 11	folder 8

Homages/homenajes, 1993	box 11	folder 9
Articles about work by Magali Garcia Ramis, particularly "La ciudad que me habita," which is dedicated to Otero, 1993	box 11	folder 10
"Gaiety Burlesque: Homosexual Desire in Puerto Rican Literature," essay by Rubén Ríos Avila, 1993	box 11	folder 11
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Manuscript mostly about Otero's El Libro de la muerte.		
La torre. Edited by Arturo Echaverría. 7: 27-28, 1993 July-December	box 16	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes an essay about Otero.		
Proposal for a thesis about Otero written by Juan Carlos Quiñones, 1993-1998	box 11	folder 12
Revista de estudios hispánicos. Edited by Juan Gelpí. No. 21, 1994	box 16	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes an essay about Otero.		
Clipping about Juan Gelpí's book, Literatura y paternalismo en Puerto Rico (which is partly dedicated to Otero), and others, 1994	box 11	folder 13
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
With a clipping of a chapter from the anthology Latin American Writers on Gay and Lesbian Themes, which includes a short biography of Otero.		
Clippings that quote Otero, and a poem dedicated to him that was published in Grito cultural, 1997-1999	box 11	folder 14
Clippings and various articles paying tribute to Otero, from Guadalajara Book Festival, 1998	box 11	folder 15
Mairena. Edited by Manuel de la Puebla. No. 45-46, 1998	box 16	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes an essay about Otero.		
Newspaper clippings highlighting Otero's work, 1999	box 11	folder 16
Program for Universidad de Puerto Rico en Carolina literature week dedicated to Otero, 2008	box 11	folder 17
Poster with poem dedicated to Otero, undated	box 11	folder 18

"Manuel Ramos Otero Entre Nosotros: Textos y testimonios", circa 1990                      box 12                      item 24

Physical Description: 1 videocassettes (VHS)

Digital Object: ["Manuel Ramos Otero Entre Nosotros: Textos y testimonios", circa 1990](#)

**Scope and Contents**

(Start-24:43): Otero reads from Libro de los muertos and Invitacion al polvo; (24:43-end): Memorial reading for Otero. Speakers include: Consuelo Arias, Arnaldo Cruz-Malavé, Giannina Braschi, Oscar Montero, Coqui Santaliz, Carmen Valle, Ed Vega, Alfredo Villanueva-Collado.

**Subseries VI.2: Posthumous Publications and Performances, 1991-2002, undated**

Title/Description	Instances	
Photocopies of various anthologies with biographies of Otero or poetry by Otero, 1991-1993	box 11	folder 19
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
These include Sida Ahora, The Portable Lower East Side, and High Risk; also a letter from Jorge		
Cupey. Edited by Olga Nolla. 8:1-2, 1991	box 16	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes work by Otero.		
Programs for and clippings about adapted plays, poetry readings and translations of Otero's works, 1992-1997	box 11	folder 20
Articles and clippings about works published after Otero's death, 1993	box 11	folder 21
Booklet of writers from Manatí, Puerto Rico; includes Otero's work, 1993	box 11	folder 22
<u>Custodial History:</u>		
<b>Custodial History</b>		
Property of Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero.		
Clipping and articles related to "El bolero fue mi ruina", 1997	box 11	folder 23
Ramos Otero, Manuel. Tálamos y tumbas: prosa y verso de Manuel Ramos Otero. Guadalajara: Universidad de Guadalajara, 1998	box 15	
Literary journal from Teatro Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1999	box 11	folder 24

**Scope and Contents**

Information on "El bolero fue mi ruina" on page 15

Flyers and articles sent to Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero related to "El bolero fue mi ruina", 1999	box 11	folder 25
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Staged by the Pergones Theatre in the Bronx in 1999		
Flyers and articles related to "El bolero fue mi ruina", 1999	box 11	folder 26
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Staged at repertorio Español		
Flyers and articles related to "El bolero fue mi ruina", 2002	box 11	folder 27
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Staged by the Pergones Theatre in the Bronx in 2002		
Flyers from Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, for Cuentos de buena tinta, undated	box 11	folder 28

**Subseries VI.3: Carmen "Cambury" Beatriz Ramos Otero correspondence, 1990-2002**

Title/Description	Instances	
Letters to Cambury about Otero, 1990-1997	box 11	folder 29
Letters from Angel Rodriguez-Diaz, 1991-1992	box 11	folder 30
Correspondence regarding publications and adaptations of Otero's work, and tributes to Otero, 1991-1998	box 11	folder 31
Letter allowing a television program to reproduce recordings once owned by Carmen Beatriz Ramos Otero, 2002	box 11	folder 32

**Subseries VI.4: Publications by Otero's literary circle, 1990-2004**

Title/Description	Instances	
"Novedades/New Titles" catalog from Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1991	box 11	folder 33
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Includes works by several writers in Otero's literary circle, though none by Otero himself.		
Acevedo, Rafael. Instrumentario. San Juan: Isla Negra Editores, 1996	box 15	
Arrillaga, Maria. Mañana Valentina. Santiago: Cuarto Propio/ Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña , 1995	box 15	

Burgos, Fernando and Esteban Echeverría. El matadero, ensayos estéticos y prosa varia. Hanover: Ediciones del norte , 1992	box 15
Nómada. Edited by Fernando Abruña Charneco, Juan Duchesne, Juan G. Gelpí, et al. Nos. 2, 3, and 4, 1995 October, 1997 June, 1999 May <u>Physical Description</u> : 3 Volumes	box 15
Las tribulaciones de Juliá. Edited by Juan Duchesne Winter. San Juan: Insisto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, 1992	box 15
New Voices in Latin American Literature/ nuevas voces en la literatura latinoamericana. Edited by Miguel Falquez-Certain. Jackson Heights: OLLANTAY Center for the Arts, 1993	box 15
antos Febres, Mayra. Anamu y manigua. Río Piedras: Editorial la Iguana Dorada, 1991	box 15
Filippi, Carmen Lugo. Narromaniando con Mirta o No me platiques más. San Juan: Isla Negra Editores , 1999	box 15
García Ramis, Magali. La ciudad que me habita. Río Piedras: Ediciones huracán, 1993	box 16
Gelpí, Juan. Literatura y paternalismo en Puerto Rico. San Juan: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1993	box 16
González, José Raúl. Barrunto. San Juan: Isla Negra editores, 2000	box 15
Hernández, Daniel del Valle. Fragmentos del otro lado del paraíso. Aguadilla: Editorial La Pica, 1992	box 16
Itinerario para emboscar: Laberintos. Aguadilla: Editorial la Pica, 1991	box 15
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Includes a "pretext to Manuel" (a published conversation the author begins with Otero).	
Low Rent: A Decade of Prose and Photographs from The Portable Lower East Side. New York: Grove Press, 1994	box 15
Marqués, René. Purificación en la calle del Cristo and Los soles truncos. Río Piedras: Editorial Cultural, 1993	box 16
Puerto Rican Jam: Essays on Culture and Politics. Edited by Frances Negrón-Muntaner and Ramón Grosfoguel. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1997	box 15
Cupey. Edited by Olga Nolla. 10:1-2, 1993	box 16
Cupey. Edited by Olga Nolla. 11:1-2, 1994	box 16
Noya, Elsa. Leer la patria: Estudios y reflexiones sobre escrituras puertorriqueñas. Córdoba: Alción Editora, 2004	box 15

Antología de autores manatíeños. Edited by Milagros Agosto Otero and Pedro Juan Ávila. Manatí: Talleres de imprenta San Rafael , 1993	box 15
Palés Matos, Luis. Tuntún de pasa y grifería. San Juan: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1993	box 16
L@s nuev@s caníbales: Antología de la más reciente poesía del caribe hispano. Edited by Alex Pausides, Pedro Antonio Valdez and Carlos R. Gomez Beras. Santo Domingo: Isla negra editores, 2003	box 15
Mairena. Edited by Manuel de la Puebla. No. 41, 1996	box 16
Arpas en vuelo: Veinte poetas puertorriqueños del siglo XX. Edited by Manuel de la Puebla. San Juan: Ediciones Mairena , 1999	box 15
Poesída. Edited by Carlos A. Rodríguez. Jackson Heights: OLLANTAY Center for the Arts, 1995	box 15
La nación con rostro: Antología de escritores. Edited by Jorge Rodríguez. San Juan: Gráfica Metropolitana, 1992	box 16
Rodríguez Orellana, Víctor. Tigonetos migomances estécimeas y demás... Cuadernos Este-Oeste, 2000	box 15
Santaliz, Coqui. El nacimiento de Laranih. San Juan: Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, 1991	box 15
Torres, Luis Llorens. Ante el paisaje. San Juan: Palmira Cabrera de Ibarra, 1990	box 15
Vázquez Medina, Angel L. Nacimiento Crecimiento y Maduración de un Pueblo (Manatí de 1611 a 1899). Río Piedras: Ediciones Diskrea, 1993	box 15
Vega, Ana Lydia. Falsas crónicas del sur. Río Piedras: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1991	box 16
Vega, Ana Lydia. Esperando a Lolo. San Juan: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1994	box 16
Vega, José Luis. Techo a dos aguas. Río Piedras: Editorial Plaza Mayor, 1998	box 15

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)