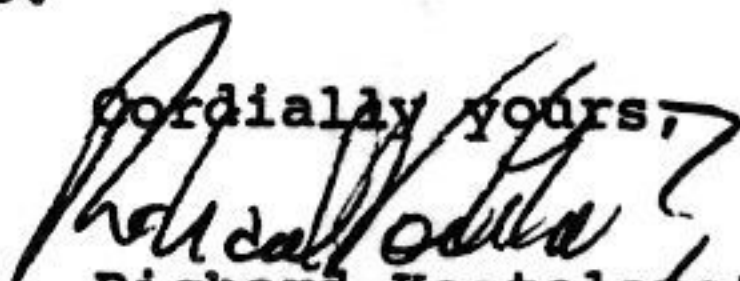


Dear Prof. Ferrater-Mora, 1 March, 1980

I should have invited you to my lecture at Haverford on Gertrude Stein earlier this week, for I'll be moderating this program (with, as the other participants, Josef Brodsky and Raymond Federman) and need all the introduction to your work you can give me. Though I heard you lecture at Brown twenty years ago, thanks to Juan Lopez-Morillas, I read only English easily. Thanks.

Cordially yours,



Richard Kostelanetz

141 Wooster St, New York, N.Y. 10012
P.S. We will record in New York City,
250 West 57th St, a mile from ~~Grand~~
~~Central~~ Penn Station, perhaps in March,
~~probably~~ *probably* in April, in the afternoon.

er-Mora, 1 March
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trude Stein
moderating
artici-

Richard Kostelanetz

141 Wooster Street

New York, New York 10012

Dear *Richard Kostelanetz*

29 Feb 1980

The U.S. International Communication Agency, formerly known as USIA, has contracted me to coordinate a series of Voice of America "Forum" radio programs devoted to AMERICAN WRITING TODAY. This will consist of some 45 half-hour programs. Roughly 40 will be devoted to individual interviews, and five or so to symposia about general topics. Some participants will talk about themselves; yet others will address a particular topic. In the wake of the radio broadcasts, the VOA will publish a paperback of 3,000-word essays on the same topics as the interviews, including transcripts of the symposia. You are invited to participate in this series to discuss

Literature in America
Literature in Languages Other than English (in a symposium) - your own work + that of other ex-pats from Spain.
VOA anticipates recording the interviews from this September through next April, to be taped at a mutually convenient time and place. Since the VOA interviewer is not a professional literary gent but a member of its permanent staff, please prepare, well in advance of your taping, either a "talking points" summary or guideline questions that would best prompt you to introduce your subject. VOA aims not for a formal question-and-answer (news conference) session but a conversational style that would interest, roughly, foreign university-level listeners, whose first language is probably not English and who may have only scant or spotty information about contemporary American literature. Thus, be explicit. Pay more attention than usual to identifying names and giving backgrounds, as well as keeping your language accessible.)

~~The second thing you must do, perhaps immediately after the interview, is prepare a 3,000-word essay based on material presented in the program, and send it to me at the above address. These will go into the book AMERICAN WRITING TODAY. Your ultimate deadline for this is 1 May, 1980, and anyone not delivering by that date will probably not be in the book. (The honoraria are \$100 for the interview and \$300 for the essay, to be paid in Treasury checks, upon acceptance by the VOA.)~~

These interviews will be broadcast around the world in English and sometimes in translation over Voice of America, and tapes will be made available to USICA posts abroad for radio placement in English-speaking countries. The books will be distributed abroad only, free of charge, through USICA posts and libraries, mostly to foreign intellectuals, scholars and writers, as well as to local libraries and universities. The expectations are that AMERICAN WRITING TODAY will remain in print at least fifteen years and that its primary audience will be students in university American Studies programs.

Since the interviews will begin in September and the book should be published by the end of 1980, I would appreciate your responding immediately to my address (above). If you cannot join us, please let me know as well, as we shall need time to select a substitute. As I am often on tour and do not have a receptionist, may I suggest that letters are generally more efficient than telephone calls. Once I have confirmation of your participation, you will receive an official letter from VOA Forum editors, arranging details of your interviews, as well as a sample recent Forum publication (comparable to the book we shall be making). Thanks in advance for your prompt response and, I hope, for your participation.

While the VOA edition of the book can be distributed only outside the U.S., AMERICAN WRITING TODAY can be offered to U.S. publishers for distribution here. When this is placed, all funds advanced to me will be apportioned by the following principle developed for other anthologies of mine: two-thirds to the contributors, divided on a per-page basis. (Thus, if the advance is \$15,000 and the book has 400 pages, that would allot \$250 for each ten-page essay.) It would be more equitable, I know, if I observed this ratio in dividing subsequent royalties; but please consider that this is scarcely feasible. I am, like yourself, a writer and not a dividend-paying stock company. Checks for this last windfall will come from me, upon American publication. Since the purpose of AMERICAN WRITING TODAY is to introduce the very best native work, as a whole and in part, not just to foreigners but to Americans as well, it would be good to have you aboard.

Cordially yours,

Richard Kostelanetz