

MISTRAL, GABRIELA (LUCILA GODOY ALCAYAGA) (1889–1957)

“At this moment, by an undeserved stroke of fortune, I am the direct voice of the poets of my race and the indirect voice for the noble Spanish and Portuguese tongues.”

“The world, it is deserted.
All flesh is sad you see.
But I, the one who hugs you,
I am not alone!”

Gabriela Mistral. “I Am Not Alone” poem.

Renowned throughout the world for her literary accomplishments, Mistral came from a family of teachers. The educator and university professor, good will ambassador of the Chilean government, poet extraordinaire, diplomat and mystic, Gabriela Mistral received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1954, the first Latin American woman to be so honored. Her impact on Latin American and American literature has been monumental, and her work continues to inspire.