The Rare Book & Manuscript Library (RBML) is now the repository of the Serge Prokofiev Foundation Collections. Established in 1983 by Lina Prokofiev, the composer’s widow, the Foundation announced in fall 2013 that it had chosen RBML as the repository for the archival material under its control from Prokofiev’s 18 years in the West.

“Prokofiev’s American debut was in New York, and his opera The Love of Three Oranges had its third performance here,” said Simon Morison, president of the Prokofiev Foundation. “His wife Lina grew up in Brooklyn and Manhattan, and her uncle Charles Verlé taught at Columbia.”

The collection includes Prokofiev’s private and business papers from 1919 through May 1936, after which he returned to the Soviet Union with his family. Music manuscripts in the collection include sketches, drafts and full manuscripts for over 50 works principally composed during the years that Prokofiev spent in the United States, Germany, and Paris. They include the orchestral Scythian Suite; his operas The Gambler, Love for Three Oranges, and The Fiery Angel; the Concerto for Piano Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5; the ballet Le Pas d’Acier; and Symphony Nos. 1, 3, and 4.

The collection provides primary resource material for a major 20th-century composer, and also provides access to manuscripts previously only available in photocopy form. It is a principal resource outside of Russia for the study of Prokofiev, and his family, friends, correspondents, and concert life in the early 20th century. In addition, it contains the papers of Lina Prokofiev. It will soon be processed and available for researchers. RBML has also designated space specifically for the collection, complete with a bust of the composer and portraits of Serge and Lina. Concerts, lectures, and other programs are planned for fall 2014.
Bancroft Prize

The 2014 Bancroft Prizes in American History and Diplomacy have been awarded to Ira Katznelson for *Over the Memory of Sand Creek* (Liveright Publishing, 2013) and Ari Kelman for *A Misplaced Massacre: Struggling over the Memory of Sand Creek* (Liveright Publishing, 2013). The 2013 Bancroft Prizes were awarded to W. Jeffrey Bolster for *The Mortal Sea: Fishing the Atlantic in the Age of Sail* (Liveright Publishing, 2012) and John Fabian Witt for *Lincoln’s Code: The Laws of War in American History* (Liveright Publishing, 2012).

The Bancroft Prize was established at Columbia University in 1948 with a bequest from Frederic Bancroft, a preeminent historian, librarian, author, and Columbia University lecturer. It is considered one of the most distinguished academic awards in the field of history.

Provost John H. Coatsworth presents the awards at a ceremony each year in the Low Memorial Library.

New Columbia University Libraries Staff

Meredith Levin is the Research Collection and Services Librarian for Philosophy and Western European History and Literature at the Humanities and History Libraries. She was previously an Assistant Professor of History at Bard College.

Thai Jones is the Lehman Curator for American History at the Rare Book and Manuscript Library. He was previously an Assistant Professor of History at Bard College.

Bancroft Prize

The 2014 Edward M. Kennedy Prize for Drama Inspired by American History was awarded to Dominique Morisseau for her play *Detroit ‘67* at a ceremony hosted by Tony Kushner, who along with Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith set up the prize in conjunction with Columbia University Libraries.

Tony Bennett entertained the crowd with two songs, “The Best Is Yet to Come” and “Fly Me to the Moon,” from the American songbook. The event features a musical performance because of the late senator’s love for theater and singing.

Past recipients of the EMK Prize are Robert Schenkkan for *All the Way* and Dan O’Brien for *The Body of an American*.

Kennedy Prize for Drama

Robert Wolven, Associate University Librarian for Bibliographic Services and Collection Development, has been awarded the 2014 Melvil Dewey Medal. This annual award is sponsored by OCLC in recognition of achievement for “creative leadership of high order, particularly in those fields in which Melvil Dewey was actively interested: library management, library training, cataloging and classification, and the tools and techniques of librarianship.”

“The jury is pleased to honor Robert Wolven for his many accomplishments during a long and distinguished career,” said Winston Tabb, chair of the Dewey Medal jury. “His achievements, accurately described as ‘remarkable, influential and innovative’ by one nominator, demonstrate in an exemplary way the qualities the Dewey Medal was established to honor.”

Among the achievements specifically noted by the Dewey jury and the colleagues who wrote in support of this award were Mr. Wolven’s leadership as co-chair of the American Library Association (ALA) Digital Content and Libraries Working Group, which is seeking to make e-books more accessible to public library users; his leadership in advancing technical services as a member of the Library of Congress’s Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control and of the OCLC Record Use Policy Council; his role as a Program Steering Committee Chair of HathiTrust in developing the programs and policies that will enable HathiTrust to achieve its ambitious goal of making millions of digitized books freely accessible; and his innovative approaches to the collection and archiving of web resources and to deep collaboration, as exemplified in Columbia and Cornell University’s 2CUL partnership.

Bob Wolven

Robert Wolven’s current office is in the space of Melvil Dewey’s former classroom in Butler Library.

Letter from Jim Neal

This academic year has seen significant and historic activity at the Columbia Libraries.

In this newsletter I invite you to learn of our long and distinguished list of new acquisitions, new staff in the Libraries and Information Services, the current exhibitions both here at Columbia and at museums in the city, and many other items of note.

Thank you for continuing to give to the Columbia Libraries. Because of your commitment to the excellence of our organization we are able to provide outstanding services, resources, and spaces to students while constantly improving in all areas.

Jim Neal

Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian

New Columbia University Libraries Staff

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Bob’s current office is in the space of Melvil Dewey’s former classroom in Butler Library.
Columbia Libraries Celebrate Acquisition of Al Jaffee Archive

In March the Columbia Libraries hosted a panel with cartoonist Al Jaffee to celebrate the acquisition of his archive by the Rare Book & Manuscript Library (RBML). Also in attendance were Sam Viviano, art director at Mad magazine, and cartoonist Peter Kuper.

RBML acquired Al Jaffee’s archives in 2013. Jaffee is best known for his long affiliation with Mad magazine.

Jaffee’s career at Mad has spanned 58 years and counting; during this time he created the features “Snappy Answers to Stupid Questions” and, most notably, the “Snappy Answers to Stupid Questions” and, most notably, the fold-in, which debuted in 1964.

“I feel privileged and honored to have my work added to Columbia University’s collections,” said Jaffee about the archives he and his wife, Joyce, donated. “Columbia is a jewel in the crown of New York City; keeping my work here is my way of giving something back to the city in appreciation for all that was given to me.”

This acquisition is one of the latest developments in Columbia University Libraries/Information Services (CUL/IS)’s support for research, teaching, and learning with comics and graphic novels. Since its beginning in 2005, a growing circulating collection of such graphic novels at CUL/IS has inspired scholarly inquiry, as well as academic writing and coursework. The donation of the Claremont archives by Chris and Beth Claremont in 2011 marked the beginning of CUL/IS’s push to acquire such special collections.

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— Mark Phillipson, Interim Director, GSAS Teaching Center

— Alex Gil, Digital Scholarship Coordinator, Columbia University Libraries

Exhibitions

The European Home Front in WWI: Posters from the Frankenhuis Collection

Columbia University Libraries/Information Services (CUL/IS)’s Rare Book & Manuscript Library (RBML) is pleased to announce the exhibition, The European Home Front in WWI: Posters from the Frankenhuis Collection.

The items on display are from the RBML’s collection of Maurice Frankenhuis (1893–1969), a Dutch businessman and collector of historical memorabilia. He began to acquire posters, coins, and medals during WWI, then sold the coins and medals to support his family while in hiding from the Nazis during WWII. His family was discovered in 1944 and spent the remainder of the war in concentration camps. The poster collection was ransacked by Germans while in storage in an Amsterdam warehouse, and the remaining posters were brought back to New York by Frankenhuis in 1948. The collection of the surviving posters was given to the RBML by his grandsons in 1975. In this period of history, posters were an important and effective means of mass communication and persuasion. During WWI, posters such as those in this exhibition promulgated news and regulations, built morale, encouraged enlistment and other war work, and solicited contributions of goods and services.

The collection contains approximately 4,800 posters. Roughly 3,500 of those were made for use in Germany and Austria and areas they occupied. The remainder of the collection is from all over the world, including 300 each from the United States, the British Empire, and France, over a hundred from the Netherlands, and small numbers from Italy, Switzerland, and Belgium. Languages include Arabic, Belarusian, Czech, Dutch, English, Flemish, French, German, Hindi, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Slovenian, Spanish, Tamil, Turkish, Ukrainian, and Yiddish.

The exhibition runs until September 12, 2014.

Studio@Butler

Opened in September 2013, the Studio@Butler, located in 208b Butler Library, is a flexible space dedicated to advancing pedagogy and scholarship through collaboration and hands-on activities. To learn more, visit studio.cul.columbia.edu.

“Digital technology in teaching is most powerful when it is engaged and appraised collectively. Studio@Butler situates this work in the heart of one of the world’s great academic libraries, fostering organic connections between teaching, research, collections, data, and the tools that can activate them in new ways.”

— Mark Phillipson, Interim Director, GSAS Teaching Center

“In the Studio@Butler, we host a range of scholarly group activities: the hackathon, the meet-up, the researchathon, the course lab, the open lab, the workshop. All these genres share with each other a focus on innovation in the use of digital technology for research, publication and pedagogical practices. The Studio@Butler has become the de facto space at Columbia for the most advanced forms of digital humanities practice on campus.”

— Alex Gil, Digital Scholarship Coordinator, Columbia University Libraries

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The exhibition runs until September 12, 2014.
Exhibitions (continued)

 Publisher as Provocateur: Samuel Roth in Context

The Rare Book & Manuscript Library (RBML) earlier this year hosted a major exhibition focusing on the career of 20th-century avant-garde publisher Samuel Roth. The exhibition, opened in January with a lecture by Robert Spoo: “James Joyce v. Samuel Roth: How an Author without Copyrights Sued a Publisher without Courtesy.”

One highlight of the exhibition includes materials related to the complicated publication of James Joyce’s *Ulysses* in Europe and the United States, and the repercussions of Roth’s court cases for later publishers such as the Grove Press and Lyle Stuart. The broader context that the exhibition provides for Roth’s career includes the longer history of publication of sexually explicit material such as *Fanny Hill*, the publication of political exposés, and the use of subscription models and mail orders to avoid censorship.

The exhibition includes materials from the Samuel Roth papers held by the RBML as well as other holdings, including the archives of Random House, Lyle Stuart, Barney Rosset, and the Vanguard Press.

Palaces for the People: Guastavino and America’s Great Public Spaces

In conjunction with the Museum of the City of New York (MCNY), Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library is pleased to announce the exhibition, *Palaces for the People: Guastavino and America’s Great Public Spaces* at MCNY, on display through September 7, 2014. The exhibition will showcase materials and drawings from Avery’s archives, along with a replica of a Guastavino vault, contemporary photographs by Michael Freeman, and a video installation that enables viewers to “visit” Guastavino spaces in the gallery.

According to MCNY’s description, “Throughout the five boroughs are more than 200 long-overlooked marvels of engineering and architectural beauty—the interlocking tile vaults built by Spanish immigrants Rafael Guastavino, Sr. (1842–1908), and his son, Rafael Jr. (1872–1950). The system of structural tile vaults developed by the Guastavinos—lightweight, fireproof, low-maintenance, and capable of supporting significant loads—was used by leading architects of the day, including McKim, Mead & White and Carrère & Hastings. Ellis Island’s Registry Room, Carnegie Hall, the Bronx Zoo’s Elephant House, and Grand Central Terminal all contain Guastavino vaults.”

*Palaces for the People* was organized by MIT’s John Ochsendorf for exhibition at Boston Public Library and the National Building Museum in Washington. Co-curator Janet Parks (Curator of Drawings & Archives at Avery Library) has selected works from the Guastavino Fireproof Construction Company Archives to include some 20 key Guastavino spaces in the five boroughs.

Exhibitions (continued)

Frank Lloyd Wright and the City: Density vs. Dispersal

Columbia University’s Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library is co-presented an exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), *Frank Lloyd Wright and the City: Density vs. Dispersal.*

According to MoMA’s description, “Through an initial selection of drawings, films, and large-scale architectural models, the exhibition examines the tension in Wright’s thinking about the growing American city in the 1920s and 1930s, when he worked simultaneously on radical new forms for the skyscraper and on a comprehensive plan for the urbanization of the American landscape titled ‘Broadacre City.’ Visitors encounter the spectacular 12-foot-by-12-foot model of this plan, which merges one of the earliest schemes for a highway byway with an expansive, agrarian domain.”

New Acquisitions

David Paterson

The papers of former New York Governor David A. Paterson. The collection includes material created or maintained during his time as Governor of New York and Lieutenant Governor, covering the period 2007–2011.

Included in Governor Paterson’s papers are materials surrounding his historic efforts to reform immigration law, repeal the draconian Rockefeller Drug Laws, legalize same sex marriage, and pursue social justice.

“I have lived in New York my entire life and my love for this state is unparalleled,” said Paterson. “As a long-time student of New York history, I hope this collection assists understanding of significant events and policy achievements accomplished by my Administration. I’m very proud of my time in office and all that we were able to achieve. I am extremely pleased that these materials will be available to the interested public. The fact that my papers were acquired by the University where I earned my undergraduate degree and worked as an adjunct professor provides a symmetry for which I am grateful. I am particularly enthusiastic and appreciative that the University is committed to an oral history project of my administration and the adverse economic time in which it occurred.”

The collection includes correspondence, speeches, budget submissions, press releases, and program files. It includes the full record of the historic appointment of a Lieutenant Governor and gubernatorial responses to the infamous Senate Coup in 2009. Also included are thousands of digital and print photographs taken by Paterson’s official staff photographer Judy Sanders, which visually document the day-to-day governmental and political activities of the Governor.

Paterson was sworn in as the 55th Governor of New York on March 17, 2008, becoming the first African-American governor in New York State’s history and the second legally blind governor of any state in America.
New Acquisitions (continued)

Funding Exchange

The Funding Exchange (FEX), a national membership organization of regionally based community foundations dedicated to building a permanent institutional and financial base to support progressive social change through fundraising for local, national, and international grant-making programs, has come to RBML.

“Over the last 35 years, the Funding Exchange has seeded and nurtured every important movement for social justice that has come to life in this country,” said Casey Cook, Chair of FEX. “Evidence of this rich history and lessons learned will be available at Columbia for future generations of activists and social justice philanthropists, and will perpetuate the Funding Exchange’s legacy and impact for years to come.”

The FEX archives complement extensive holdings in the RBML related to organized charity, philanthropy, and social work. Other notable collections in this area include the archives of the Community Service Society, the Union Settlement Association, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the New York Chamber of Commerce, and the National Child Labor Committee.

The Funding Exchange Records include more than 400 boxes of materials, or roughly 600 linear feet.

Kitchen Sink Press

The Kitchen Sink Press (KSP) archive, publisher of underground comics between 1969 and 1999 under comics artist, historian, and publisher Denis Kitchen, has arrived in RBML.

KSP published many of the most important names in comics history, which are represented in the archive’s files, including Harvey Kurtzman and Will Eisner, two key figures of 20th century comic art. Kurtzman (1924–1993) was the founding editor and creator of Mad magazine and later founded the satire publications Humbug, Humbug!, and Help!, and co-created Little Annie Fanny for Play- boy. Eisner (1917–2005) is recognized internationally in the field of sequential art, a term he coined, and created The Spirit in the 1940s and 1950s. In part through his work with KSP, he became the acknowledged pioneer of the graphic novel, his collection of stories A Contract with God is widely credited with establishing the form as a unique and viable literary form. The archive, which contains over 200 linear feet of material, embodies three decades of innovation and transformation in the field of comic art and visual storytelling and includes a roster of the most important names in the industry. Correspondence, publishing and editorial files, mechanicals, original art and mock-ups, business files, and more comprise the meticulously preserved collection.

Granary Books

The archive of Granary Books, one of the country’s most significant art book publishers operating today, has arrived in RBML.

Founded in 1981 as a distributor, Granary Books began publishing under the direction of Steve Clay in 1988. They produced, promote, document, and publish from the 1940s through the 1980s. He was also art director and vice president at the art publisher Harry N. Abrams where he oversaw art direction of HW Janson’s The History of Art (1962), among many other works. He taught calligraphy at Cooper Union from 1946 to 1968 and taught book design at New York University from 1948 through the 1970s. He also served as Director of Book Design at the Radcliffe Course in Publishing Procedures, Harvard Summer School.

The collection contains over 2,000 items, including book jackets with related artwork, comps, and mechanicals, documentation of his cover designs for Mercury Publications, letterhead and logo designs, and a large collection of book jackets by George Saller (1897–1967), an inspiration and later teacher and mentor of Grushkin’s.

Also included are design documentation and ephemera for many significant books of the time, including The Second Sex by Simone de Beauvoir (Knopf, 1953); From Cave Painting to Comic Strip by Lanceot Hogben (Chanticleer, 1949); Surprised by Joy by C.S. Lewis (Harcourt Brace, 1955); and How is New York by E.B. White (Harper, 1949).

El Diario

The photo archive of El Diario-La Prensa, the nation’s oldest continuously publishing Spanish-language newspaper is available for research. The collection, which dates from the 1960s and includes over 5,000 photographs, documents the lives of New York City’s Latino population, their struggles, and their contributions to the city and its culture.

“This is a unique and very important resource. It is a vivid chronicle of the social, political and cultural life of the diverse Latino population of New York that will be available not only to our faculty and students, but also to scholars from all over the world,” said James G. Neal, vice president for information services and university librarian. “Photographs have a very important place in how scholars do their research.”

This acquisition supports an ongoing initiative with Columbia’s Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race to collect papers and records of Latino artists and activists in New York. Last year’s acquisition of the collection of Puerto Rican poet Jack Agieros marked the beginning of this initiative.

The collection includes photos of entertainers, politicians, community events, parades, protests, and sporting events. Mayor David Dinkins at the 1990 Puerto Rican Day parade, children at a Three Kings Day celebration in East Harlem, Fernando Ferrer campaigning for Bronx borough president in 1986, and Tito Puente playing the timbales on Sesame Street with Elmo, among many others.

Judith Crist

The papers of film critic and former Columbia faculty member, Judith Crist, are available for research. Crist is considered one of America’s most widely read film critics. Throughout her career, she wrote reviews for The New York Herald Tribune, New York Magazine, TV Guide, Saturday Review, Gourmet, and Ladies’ Home Journal. In 1963, she became the first regular movie critic for the Today Show. She passed away at 90 on August 7, 2012.

Born Judith Klein in the Bronx in 1922, she received her BA from Hunter College in 1941, and a Master of Science from Columbia’s Graduate School of Journalism in 1945. In addition to her work as a film critic and reporter, she taught journalism courses at Columbia and was a longtime member of the Executive Committee of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism Alumni Association. She also served three terms as President of the Alumni Association during the 1960s.

The papers constitute 135 linear feet of material, covering her entire career as a writer, critic, editor, and teacher. The collection is the gift of her son, Steven Crist.

“This important collection adds to the RBML’s film criticism strengths considerably. It joins the collections of other former Columbia faculty members such as Andrew Sarris and Cecile Starr,” said Jennifer B. Lee, RBML Performing Arts Curator.
New Acquisitions (continued)

Joshua Rubenstein

The Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research (CHRDR) is pleased to announce the acquisition of papers of Amnesty International activist Joshua Rubenstein (CC ’71).

His papers document his decades of leadership in AIUSA, his work in developing the organization’s membership and staff throughout its history, and his role in organizing and leading the Northeast Regional Office, including development and event planning.

Rubenstein was deeply engaged in AIUSA’s major programmatic initiatives such as the Campaign to Abolish the Death Penalty and the Campaign Against Torture. He worked extensively on issues related to Israel, helping to reorganize the Israeli Amnesty Section in 1985 and also conveyed AIUSA’s concerns to American Jewish organizations. As a specialist on Russian and Soviet history and politics, he became a strong advocate on the behalf of prisoners of conscience in the Soviet Union. He also worked to establish and mentor an AIUSA Soviet Coordination Group in the Boston area.

“This accession fills our collecting objective of acquiring personal papers of human rights advocates that align closely with the organizational archives in the CHRDR collections,” said Pamela Graham, Director of the CHRDR.

Manuel Ramos Otero

The collection of Manuel Ramos Otero, one of Puerto Rico’s most important authors of the 20th century, is critical to the development of writing in Puerto Rico and represents a new critique of colonialism that explicitly linked it to racism, sexism and homophobia, forever changing Puerto Rican culture.

Ramos Otero was among a group of writers in 1970s Puerto Rican literature that developed a new critical perspective on the history of colonialism and the effects of colonialism on the culture and society of Puerto Rico.

Many of his works focused on self-reflexive gay protagonists at the edge of New York’s gay subcultures in the 1970s and 1980s. Ramos Otero’s work contains rich descriptions of these worlds, including the Greenwich Village/Chelsea waterfront areas. Among his key works are: El Libro de la Muerte (1988), Invitación al Polvo (1991), and La NovelaBingo (1976).

Taiwan University Presses

The C.V. Starr East Asian Library has received a significant donation of books by the National Central Library of China (NCL), Taiwan, in cooperation with the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation. The donation was formally presented on March 28 by Dr. Charlin Chang, Director of Education Division, for the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation.

The donation includes over 500 volumes of recently published titles selected from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to begin development of the Humanities Commons: Open Repository Exchange, or Humanities CORE. Humanities CORE will connect a library-quality repository for sharing, discovering, retrieving, and archiving digital work with Humanities Commons, a platform for scholarly societies and related groups across the humanities.

Recent Grants

We are pleased to announce that numerous programs and departments within the Libraries have received major grant awards in the past year.

- The libraries at Columbia University and Cornell University are pleased to announce an 18-month, $150,000 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to conduct a project intended to expand significantly the preservation coverage of e-journals and to implement strategies that will sustain the initiative beyond the duration of the project.
- The project, a joint undertaking of the partnership between the libraries of Columbia and Cornell known as 2CUL, will identify priority content from the perspective of the research library community and make significant progress towards increasing the number of e-journals archived by major preservation programs. Both Columbia and Cornell hold the preservation of, and continuity of access to, knowledge and culture as a core aspect of their mission, and they bring to the work a wealth of experience and substantial resources.

- The Center for Human Rights Documentation and Research (CHRDR) is pleased to announce the acquisition of papers of Amnesty International activist Joshua Rubenstein (CC ’71).

- The donation was coordinated by South Coast Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in New York. Jim Cheng, Director of the Starr Library, received the donation on behalf of Columbia University Libraries.

- “Through the exhibition in the conference and the donation to Columbia, the high quality scholarly publications of Chinese studies in Taiwan will be better known and used by American researchers and students”, said Dr. Charlin Chang. “The collaborative relations between Taiwan academic institutions and the U.S., particularly Columbia, will be further strengthened.”

- “Columbia faculty and students will benefit greatly from this donation,” said Jim Cheng. “Columbia has successfully cooperated with TECO and other Taiwan academic partners in several international outreach projects in 2013, including in Taiwan Documentary Film Festival and Symposium and the Lecture on Taiwan’s Digital Resources and the Study of Chinese Religious Culture, co-hosted by NLC and Columbia. We look forward to more cooperative projects in the future.”

- Recently, the Libraries have received major grants to support processing and cataloging of the Makino Manoru Collection on the History of East Asian Film, which contains over 80,000 items chronicling the history of Japanese and East Asian film from the earliest moving pictures in Japan from the 1870s through 2006.

- The grant will enable the Starr Library to recruit a Japanese cataloger and an archivist to perform original cataloging and archival of rare books, early film magazines, internal film studio documents, film programs, and ephemera, a significant portion of which are unavailable in the U.S. or Japan. Online finding aids that include Japanese characters will be published to help scholars around the world access materials independently.

- The donation contains rich descriptions of the city and beyond. It includes two novels and an anthology of primary works of Puerto Rican writers translated into English, manuscripts of nearly all of his published work, a diary related to one of his best known stories, photos, audio and video recordings, and clippings about his work or of interest to him.

- Among his key works are: El Libro de la Muerte (1988), Invitación al Polvo (1991), and La NovelaBingo (1976).