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Immediate Release : Work of Rafael Alberti is Subject of Book by Salvador Fajardo

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dec. 19, 1985

BLOOMINGTON, ILL.--The work of Spanish poet Rafael Alberti is the subject of a book written by Dr. Salvador J. Fajardo of the Illinois Wesleyan University faculty.

The 170-page volume, Multiple Spaces: The Poetry of Rafael Alberti, was published by Tamesis, London, England, recently and is expected to become available in the United States in January.

"This is the first book in English to deal with his entire output of lyrical poems. It is an analytical work aimed at college teachers and students of Spanish poetry and other literature," said Fajardo, who has been on the IWU faculty since 1978 and holds the rank of associate professor of Spanish.

Fajardo's book doesn't deal with the political poetry or plays of the 83-year-old Alberti, who has also been a political activist with leftist leanings.

Alberti, one of a group of poets who came to prominence in the late 1920s and early 1930s, was originally a painter but left painting early for poetry and play writing. He was a friend of the great Spanish artist, Pablo Picasso, and one collection of his poetry deals with that relationship.

"I've emphasized Alberti's transformation from painting of colors in space into poetry. I found that influence to be one of the most interesting things about him and his poetry," Fajardo said.

Fajardo has done extensive writing on Spanish literature, specializing in contemporary lyric poets and Miguel de Cervantes, the author of the 17th century masterpiece, Don Quixote.

Fajardo's books, Claude Simon and Luis Cernuda, were published in 1975 and 1977 and he was co-editor of a 1983 book of essays, At Home and Beyond: New Essays on Spanish Poets of the Twenties, with John Wilcox of the University of Illinois.

A native of Spain, Fajardo moved to Canada when he was eight years old. He received

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his baccalaureate degree from College Stanislas in Canada, holds a master's degree from the University of Montreal and received his doctorate in romance languages from the University of Chicago.

He also has taught at the University of Florida, the University of South Carolina, Brescia College in Canada and Nathaniel Hawthorne College in New Hampshire.

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