

1967

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (marnold)

Malcolm Arnold

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Description

This collection contains material pertaining to the life, career, and activities of Henri Temianka, violin virtuoso, conductor, music teacher, and author. Materials include correspondence, concert programs and flyers, music scores, photographs, and books.

Keywords

Malcolm Arnold, Henri Temianka, Padstow, England, recreation and entertainment, culture, camaraderie, chamber music, Virtuosity in musical performance, musical recording, soloist, clarinet, instrument, Musical meter and rhythm, movement, humour, music critics, concerto, Anton Webern, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, audience, George Frideric Handel, conductor

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Malcolm Arnold
Primrose Cottage
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Padstow, Cornwall
England

Dear Mr. Arnold:

I am happy to report that the premiere of your clarinet concerto was a great success. Our local critics are known to have a mixture of bile and vinegar coursing through their veins, and a hermetically sealed vacuum behind the frontal lobes. But even the leading local critic, in a surprisingly positive statement, concedes that your concerto was the hit of the evening, in the presence of such formidable competitors as Handel, Webern and Mozart. In fact, the finale was repeated in response to the audience's clamor.

Someone in the audience "bootlegged" a taping of it. This kind of procedure is frowned upon by the Musicians' Union, and I would be severely penalized if anyone were to suspect me of having tacitly consented. At the same time, I know how much it would mean to you to hear this performance, with all its merits and inevitable flaws. I am therefore having a full track monaural tape dubbed for you, which I shall air mail you hopefully within the next week.

Needless to say, I am counting on you to use it only in strictest privacy, and to keep my name out of that particular aspect of the matter.

Your kind letter, with its commentary on the form of the concerto, and your general philosophy, was most helpful to me and the large audience. I hope that the not-to-distant future may bring an opportunity for me to conduct or play in England, so that I may have the great pleasure of meeting you personally.

Yours most cordially,

HENRI TEMIANKA