

1-14-1939

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (barbirolli)

John Barbirolli

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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

Henri Temianka, John Barbirolli, January 14, 1939, culture, camaraderie, injury, orchestra, refugees, New York, NY, virtuosity in musical performance

JOHN BARBIROLI.

January 14th, 1939

My dear Temianka:

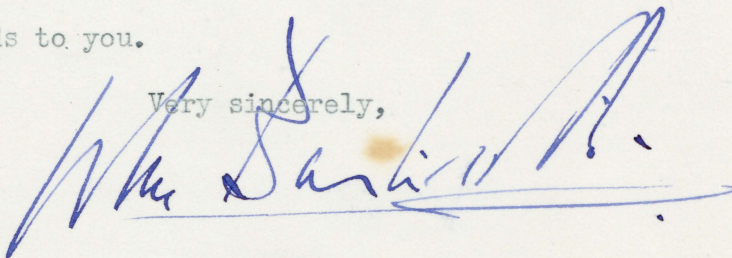
I am sorry not to have been able to write you more promptly, but shortly after my arrival here, I had considerable trouble with an infected tooth, and it turned out to be quite a prolonged siege.

To begin with, I have not been able to discover any vacancies for a Concertmaster in any of the big orchestras. Not only do these posts seem to be more than filled, but due to the great influx of refugees the past year or two, there are innumerable fine musicians on hand, especially in New York, who are willing to accept any position whatsoever. There is still another difficulty for an artist trying to establish himself in this country. The unions here are exceptionally strong, and in order to join them, one must reside in a city six months before applying for membership; and during this six-month period one cannot get any engagements. So you can see it is not easy for the foreign musician to establish himself over here.

I have summed up the situation as best I can for you, so that you might be familiar with the conditions. Of course, should I hear of any opening, I would be only too glad to let you know.

My kindest regards to you.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "John Barbirolli". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.