

1984

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (abenson)

Andrew Benson

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Henri Temianka Correspondence; (abenson)

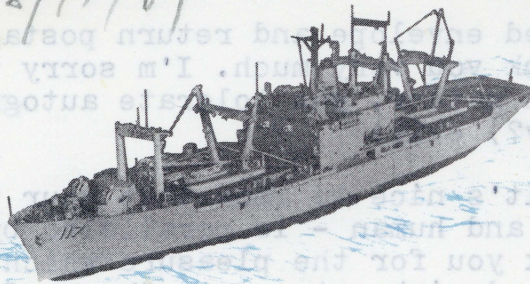
Description

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, Andrew Benson, 1984, military, chamber music, recreation and entertainment, culture, camaraderie, virtuosity in musical performance, recordings, soloist, Alberto Ginastera, reading, Philadelphia, PA, education, piano, cello, military, Beirut, Lebanon

Amw. 8/11/84



USS El Paso LKA-117

720 West Little Creek Road #202
Norfolk, Virginia 23505

Dear Maestro Temianka,

Greetings from Norfolk! I hope that these few lines find you well, in good spirits, and enjoying a pleasant summer. I've long admired your artistry via your splendid recordings as soloist (on Orion) and conductor - mainly the fine Ginastera disc. I recently had occasion to read your wonderful little book Facing the Music, and I wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed it, and to thank you for it. Your first-hand look at the concert world is most illuminating, and extremely funny in a gentle, slightly dry manner. Through it all shines the heart of a true artist and lover of music, and in that sense, it is really an inspiring book. My only complaint is that it is far too short! I read it at a single sitting, and I could have taken a great deal more. That was supposedly your first volume; I wonder whether there have been any successors in the past decade? One can tell that you have a number of books in you!

A few words about myself: I am thirty-two years old, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania in my native Philadelphia, and Cambridge University in England. I have studied piano and theory, and have worked in the classical music field. In 1978 I served as Public Relations Director of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra; later I represented the Orchestra's Music Director Arthur Winograd, whom you probably know better as the founding 'cellist of the Juilliard String Quartet. In 1981 I was commissioned an officer in the Navy, and I presently serve aboard the USS EL PASO, an amphibious cargo ship based in Norfolk. Recent cruises have taken me to the North Atlantic, and to the coast of Beirut, Lebanon, the latter for six months!

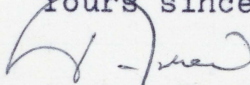
Perhaps you are presently retired from solo playing; hopefully you still conduct, and I hope to have the privilege of seeing you at some point in the not-so-distant future. Meanwhile, would you please forgive me for asking a favor? I would like very much to have your signature for my album. If you could possibly send me an autographed photo, I would be very grateful, but otherwise, would you please kindly sign the small card which I have enclosed? For your convenience I have also provided

(over)

a self-addressed envelope and return postage. For your kindness I thank you very much. I'm sorry to bother you; from what I can gather, you tolerate autograph collectors as a (necessary?) evil!

In any event, it's nice to know that your playing - so warmhearted and human - is paralleled by your writing; I want to thank you for the pleasure which both have given me. With all good wishes to you and your family,

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Benson

Dear Mr. Benson, LTJG USNR

720 West Little Creek Road #202
Norfolk, Virginia 23502

Greetings from Norfolk! I hope that these few lines find you well, in good spirits, and enjoying a pleasant summer. I've long admired your artistic vis your splendid recordings as a soloist (on Orion) and conductor - mainly the fine Ginsters disc. I recently had occasion to read your wonderful little book Facing the Music, and wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed it, and to thank you for it. Your first-hand look at the concert world is most illuminating, and extremely funny in a gentle, slightly dry manner. Through it all shines the heart of a true artist and lover of music, and in that sense, it is really an inspiring book. My only complaint is that it is far too short! I read it at a single sitting, and I could have taken a great deal more. That was supposedly your first volume; I wonder whether there have been any successors in the past decade? One can tell that you have a number of books in you!

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