

8-9-1966

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (bernheimer)

Henri Temianka

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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, Martin Bernheimer, August 9, 1966, newspaper, chamber music, recreation and entertainment, culture, camaraderie, virtuosity in musical performance, concert tour, music critics, discontent, London, England, Tel Aviv, Israel, hotel, Bangkok, Thailand, David Ben-Gurion, celebration

(Copy sent to Mrs G.Waingrow
415 N.Carmelina Avenue,
Los Angeles)

9 August 1966

Mr Martin Bernheimer,
Music Editor,
Los Angeles Times,
Times Mirror Square,
Los Angeles,
California,
U. S. A.

Dear Martin,

Your letter of July 7 reached me here in New Zealand, where I am in the midst of a concert tour, conducting and playing. All is fair and square; you asked me to write with candour and I did; and you made it clear that you reserved the right to reject the piece and you did.

Two months have passed since I sent you the piece. During that time I have viewed the world from the top of St. Peter's, St. Pauls, the Tel Aviv Hilton, the shores of Galilee, and the pagodas of Bangkok. I have discussed the state of it with Ben Gurion, been blessed by the Pope, and cheered the Queen of England on her birthday. During all this time I gave little thought to the frustrating experiences I occasionally have in Los Angeles, but upon receipt of your letter I re-read my article. I found little in it to corroborate your severe judgment. In fact, your epithets struck me as being harsher than anything I have said in my article. I would want to delete some of the statements made on the last page of my article, but undoubtedly you had formed your judgment long before reaching that point.

It may well be that the article betrays anger. After all, during the six years that I have devoted my major energies and efforts to provide Los Angeles with a Chamber Symphony that was previously non-existent, the critics on the most influential local newspaper have devoted their efforts to undermining and ridiculing this achievement. One of your first acts, when you arrived upon the scene, was to give long overdue recognition of the significance of a Chamber Symphony per se. The shock was all the greater when Arland's destructive article appeared last March.

I hold you in high regard both personally and professionally. I would have admired you extravagantly had you and your editors

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allowed me to air the grievances which so many of my performing colleagues share with me. The very act of publication would have been the best way to disprove my thesis that the artist has no redress.

I would be perfectly willing to tone down the article in consultation with you, so long as the basic argument is not destroyed. It would be easy to document it further; you had asked me to keep it short.

I shall look forward to seeing you upon my return to California at the end of August.

Yours cordially,

(Henri Temianka)