

1986

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (blum)

David Blum

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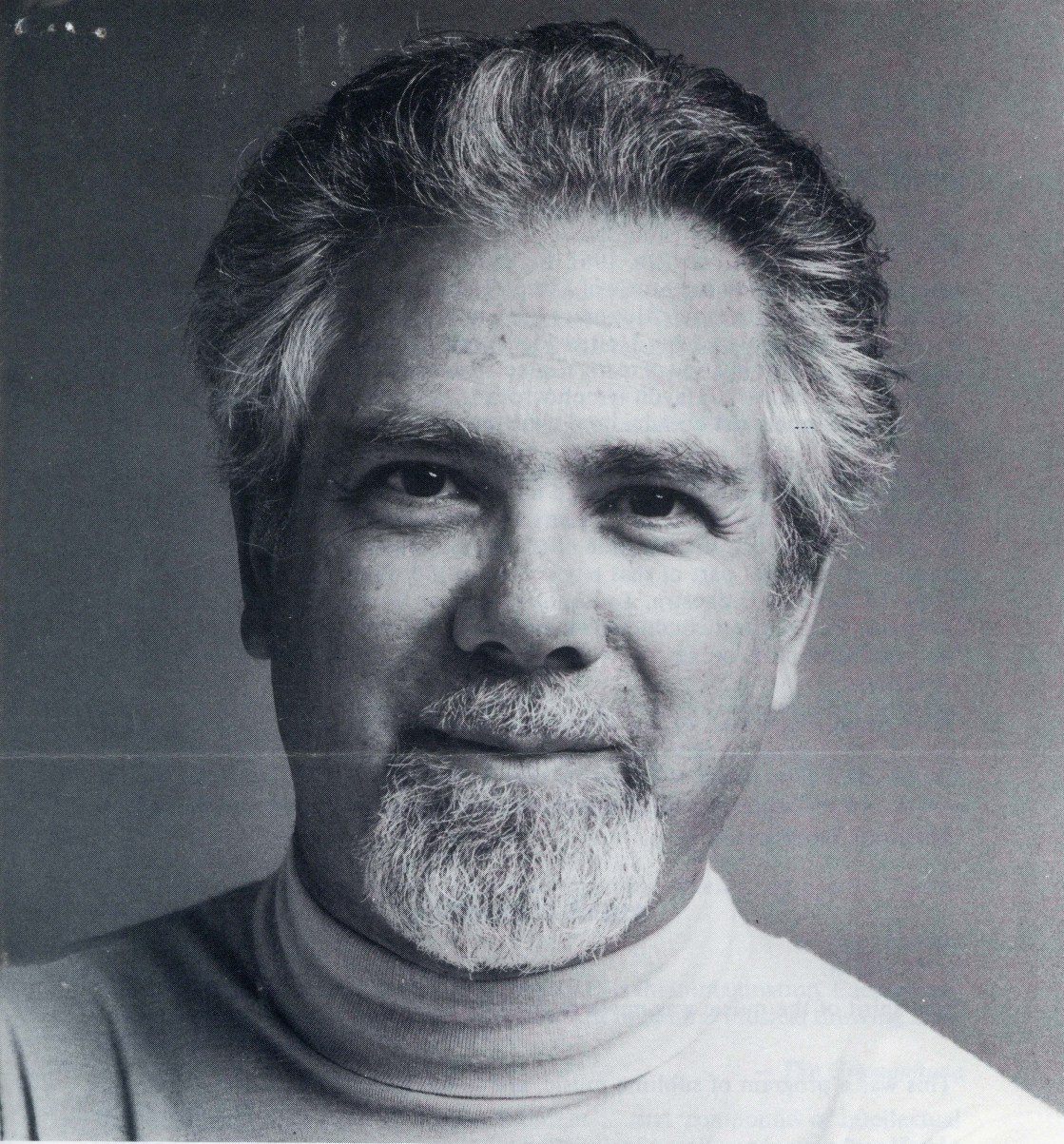
Henri Temianka Correspondence; (blum)

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, David, Blum, camaraderie, virtuosity, in, musical, performance, recreation, and, entertainment, culture, chamber, music



DAVID BLUM

CONDUCTOR

"The devotion, idealism and musical taste with which David Blum prepares and performs these masterpieces communicates itself to audiences everywhere."

— Pablo Casals

David Blum has had a distinguished career as a conductor on both sides of the Atlantic. Born in Los Angeles in 1935, he studied conducting with Richard Lert, and composition with George Tremblay and with Bernard Wagenaar at the Juilliard School. He began his conducting career at the age of 17 when, with the support of such eminent musicians as Bruno Walter and Gregor Piatigorsky, he formed the Young Artists' Chamber Orchestra, composed of gifted young instrumentalists from Southern California. In 1961 he founded the Esterhazy Orchestra, an ensemble dedicated to the music of Joseph Haydn and of the 18th century, Pablo Casals being the orchestra's Honorary President. In its annual New York concert series and on its tours of the United States and Canada, this ensemble brought audiences their first hearing of many neglected masterpieces. Blum's recordings for Vanguard Records of 10 Haydn symphonies and of works by Mozart and Telemann have won international acclaim.

Taking up residence in Switzerland in 1969 on the recommendation of Ernest Ansermet, David Blum was appointed music director of the Lausanne Symphony Orchestra, a position he held for 10 years. In 1977 he was asked to form the Geneva Symphony Orchestra, an ensemble of 60 players, which, under his direction, has become an essential part of that city's musical life. Blum has recorded with the English Chamber Orchestra, Lausanne Chamber Orchestra, and Berlin Radio Orchestra; he has guest-conducted extensively in Europe, England and Israel, and has conducted the orchestra of the American String Teachers' Association workshop.

David Blum is also well known as a writer on musical subjects. His books, which have been translated into many languages, include *Casals and the Art of Interpretation* (University of California Press), *Paul Tortelier* (William Heinemann), and *The Art of Quartet Playing: the Guarneri Quartet in Conversation with David Blum* (Alfred A. Knopf).

PRESS COMMENTS

CONCERTS:

"The spirit of the music was never in doubt."

— *Harold C. Schonberg, New York Times*

"This was a program of sublime music, and it was beautifully done."

— *The New Yorker*

"Blum, an expert conductor, is master of every gradation of the tonal palette. He is dedicated to every angle of his art."

— *Christian Science Monitor*

"A conductor of outstanding gifts, endowed with musicality, an awakened sense of sound, and an instinct for finding the "right" expressive feeling in a composition."

— *Neue Presse, Frankfurt*

Photo: Clive Bursnell

“So full of romantic freshness, so nobly Schubertian was the rendering that the music stirred us as if it were being heard for the first time.”

— *Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich*

“He showed both sense and sensibility in his interpretations of Bach and Mozart.”

— *London Daily Telegraph*

“Magical sonorities were evoked in the *Good Friday Spell* from *Parsifal* ... bold dynamic contrasts in the Third *Leonora* Overture. Under Blum’s direction the musicians gave the best of themselves, and the result was extraordinary.”

— *La Tribune de Genève, Geneva*

“The orchestra again showed the remarkable level it can attain when conducted by David Blum, truly a musician of the first order, who has clear and intelligent conceptions of the works he undertakes and the technical means to bring those conceptions to realization.”

— *24 Heures, Lausanne*

RECORDINGS:

“The orchestra plays with utmost clarity and polish and seems to share with the conductor an elation and joy in making music.”

— *Musical America*

“Blum gives us fascinating and even thrilling performances.”

— *Records and Recordings*

“This is an astonishing record ... I cannot remember when I last heard a Haydn record to match this one.”

— *High Fidelity*

“The most striking feature of these performances is their imagination. Each phrase breathes and the dynamic nuances are the result of natural musical thinking ... an unerring sense of style.”

— *The Gramophone*

“A remarkably high level of accomplishment .. that compound of intellectual toughness, elegance and wit which is the hallmark of a really understanding Haydn performance.”

— *The Observer*

“He conducts with freshness, spontaneity and exactly right perceptions, combining fine precision with sumptuous beauty of tone.”

— *Wiener Zeitung, Vienna*

“These performances are, in technique and musicianship, of sterling quality.”

— *Salzburger Nachrichten, Salzburg*

BOOKS:

Casals and the Art of Interpretation

“The principles set forth here provide an invaluable fund of information of vital interest to all who are concerned with the art of interpretation ... In writing this book David Blum has earned not only my respect but my heartfelt gratitude.”

— *Shinichi Suzuki*

“An amazing piece of work ... of exceptional value to any musician. This book is a treasure.”

— *American String Teacher*

The Art of Quartet Playing: the Guarneri Quartet in Conversation with David Blum

“Having read this work with great interest, I understand the worldwide success it has obviously had. It is written by an expert, above all for quartet players, as it contains a wealth of fact and experience.”

— *Herbert von Karajan*

“Sparklingly alive ... the book owes much to the musical insight and imagination of David Blum, himself a musician of stature.”

— *Henri Temianka, Los Angeles Sunday Times*

“This is arguably the best book on the subject and one of the most important books on music issued in recent years.”

— *Publishers' Weekly*

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