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Henri Temianka Correspondence; (bonvalot)

Cecil Bonvalot

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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, Cecil Bonvalot, August 19, 1987, camaraderie, virtuosity in musical performance, culture, violinist, violin, chamber music, Antonin Dvorak, Henryk Wieniawski, Dudley Moore, television, soloist, Vladimir Ashkenazy, recreation and entertainment, piano, pianist, Andre Previn, concerto, William Primrose, concert tour

Book + Dvorak type
sent 10/29/87

CECIL BONVALOT

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19th. Aug.q 1987

My dear Henri,

I returned home on Monday after nearly a month's stay in a rest-home for the old, aged and decrepit, to find your letter awaiting me. I may be old but not yet decrepit!

No, but seriously it was with great pleasure that I received it, although after what Sidney had written me. Do you remember the first of our meetings when you came to my house (2 Perceval Avenue in Belsize Oak, to hear your recording of the Wieniawski you made with "Timber" Wood. It must be over fifty years ago.

You may have noted that "My dear Henri" and the date on the head of this letter is not the same type. Explanation, fairly recently I bought a Sharp Electronic with Accents & all kinds of extras, but the trouble is the "typist", and I have'nt mastered it, and keep mistakes/making, so finally after ruining three sheets of paper, I went back to my old one!

Sensibly you don't rely on these machines. I also knew you were 80 as I saw it in the "Overture". Dudley Moore has been a bit of a surprise, and he's in the top grade. I remember him when he started on TV and I must say his facility and talent amazed me. I would like to know what is your candid opinion. I suppose it is a case of too much talent and aptitude and not the patience.

Did you by any chance hear Ashkenazy play André Previn specially written piano concerto with specially difficult parts in it, and how he made light of everything and mastered the difficulties from memory !

I should of course love to receive a re-issued (preferably Cassetts) of anything of yours, if it's not too much bother. I remember your long bout with the Paganini Quartet, and also you played with Bill Primrose. Alas, so many of my contemporaries have gone. I have one son Antony who is still Professor of Music at Stony Brook (State Univ.N.Y.) and due to retire soon - he's 69. I have one daughter in law (who was my niece) who lives in Seaton with her fourth husband (73) and she is 66 next month, I have also one cousin on my French side with whom I still correspond. She's about 84, and that is all. So you see, what worries me is how and what to dispose of, and I have a house full of things.

You are wonderful with all the activities, writing, teaching,

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hing, concerts and I expecte you still conduct too, in fact you act like a twenty years younger!

Although I have something like 700 books in this small bungalow, I never have read "Facing the Music" and I 'm sorry it does not grace my shelves, so if you have a copy to spare I would be most interested to read it,

Indeed I join my best wishes and warm memories to one of my first celebrities, and in memory of that promenade concert and the days when Tommy Beecham in asking your name exclaimed on the spur on the moment,

"Oh, you should be called "TAMSHANTA" !!

Bet you have'nt heard that one for a long time Henri.

Yours always

