

3-12-1974

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (mbernstein)

Mildred Bernstein

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/temianka_correspondence

Recommended Citation

Bernstein, Mildred, "Henri Temianka Correspondence; (mbernstein)" (1974). *Henri Temianka Correspondence*. 229.

https://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/temianka_correspondence/229

This Letter is brought to you for free and open access by the Henri Temianka Archives at Chapman University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Henri Temianka Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Chapman University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact laughtin@chapman.edu.

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (mbernstein)

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, Mildred, Bernstein, camaraderie, virtuosity, in, musical, performance, violinist, chamber, music, recreation, and, entertainment, culture, education, orchestras, discontent, violin

Sunday, March 12th.....
at home, quietly.....

Dear Henri:

I have been wanting to write you ever since the night of the concert at the Pavillion.....to tell you how much I enjoyed playing under your superb conducting, and what a thrilling evening that was for me. Unfortunately, I didn't get to it before I saw you at the Piacenza reception, and after our discussion, I felt it would have been superfluous and, perhaps, misunderstood by you.

However, your letter distressed me, and I have been waiting for this quiet moment (with no interruptions) to reply.

First of all, I would like to clarify something: So that you will not think your friends were silent on the issue, I was NOT a member of the orchestra council last year, but did attend a meeting when I heard for the first time that a committee, made up of 3 or 4 council members, had been appointed by the president to look into the possibility of using guest conductors for this season, since several members had been pushing for this idea for a couple of years. I then learned that this committee had already decided to use guest conductors, and it was not put to a vote (according to the rules of the constitution, this was not necessary), and you were to have been so notified.

Unfortunately, this orchestra is very lax in protocol, discipline, deportment, etc., (as you well know), and you found out about this decision from other sources. This was cruel, arrogant and unforgiveable on the part of the Council.



I find this part of the orchestra very distasteful, but have stayed with them because I enjoyed playing with you at the helm, and also because I too have made and enjoyed several good friends.

Last Tuesday night, during intermission of our rehearsal, I mentioned to Dr. Simkin that I had received a letter from you and how upset I was about the lack of communication and appreciation from the orchestra, and he said the reason nothing was done formally to say goodbye to you at that time, was they felt using guest conductors was for this season only, and that you would continue with us in the future!.... in fact, I think he was on the committee that made the decision and that was his version of it!.

So, perhaps this whole thing has been blown up bigger than it really is.

I want to assure you that the friends you have made in the orchestra are all very loyal to you and appreciate having had the opportunity of being associated with you....from all angles..... musically, friendship, etc., and how very fortunate for me to be in the front chair where I appreciate not only the conducting at a closeup, but the delightful nuances and humor thrown in!

I'm sure most of us agree that the Doctors' Orchestra has come a long way under your superb tutelage and patience, and that they never sounded as well. (Who would have dreamt that we could have played the Dvorak as we did just a few weeks before the concert?)

I am happy that our friendship will continue. You know how much I like Emmy and you. Robert and the Gerbergs join me in this thought, I know.

Even though I am a "layman" in the orchestra, I still feel very apologetic for their behavior. I have always abstained from generalizations, but this is one of the rare times I must say, and even doctors will agree with me, that as a group they are arrogant, authoritative, and, unfortunately, even boorish! I am on the Council this year merely because no other doctor in the 2nd violin section would bother taking it, which meant attending still another meeting.

Belenstein

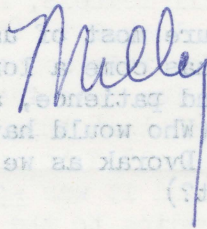
No matter how little they might listen to me, I hope to continue to voice my opinions, no matter how opposite or unpopular they might be, and while they seem to dismiss me casually now, perhaps some day, it will have some good influence.

In the meantime, please forgive us.....I'm sure we mean well and do appreciate everything you have done for us, but we have a poor way of showing it.

My love to Emmy.....and thanks to both of you for your hospitality the other day. Dieter enjoyed being with you both, and you were so nice to take him to the airport. Dieter invited me to go the Allegro Ball, but I had already planned on going with Robert, so Dieter won't be coming down for it. (Perhaps for some other occasion.) By the way, I was able to fill up a full table and shall give the names to Rosalie Sass in the morning.

I look forward to seeing you then, if not before.

Sincerely,



P.S. I keep wondering why your letter was directed to me....should it not have been written to the President of the Orchestra.....did you want me to turn it over to him, or destroy it?