

5-21-1957

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (burke)

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, Sonny Burke, May 21, 1957, virtuosity in musical performance, culture, violinist, violin, chamber music, camaraderie, Lou Levy, education, television, concert tour, musical recordings

May 21, 1957

Mr. Lou Levy
Leeds Music
322 West 48th Street
New York, New York

My dear Mr. Levy,

Sonny Burke has sent me a copy of the letter of introduction he so kindly wrote to you. We both felt that no letter could replace the opportunity of a personal meeting with you, and I shall be most grateful if you could let me know whether you have plans for an early visit to the West Coast. If not, I shall be in the East early in July to participate in a concert at Tanglewood (July 8), followed by a 4-day visit to Peabody College in Nashville, Tenn. from July 8 to 11. From there I go to South America for five weeks and expect to wind up that tour in Mexico City, from where I return directly to Los Angeles on August 16. I mention all these details so that you may determine where and when a meeting could be planned at your convenience.

Speaking generally, my present projects are all directed towards mass music appreciation. The American Book Company is now distributing four albums of mine in the schools, with my own commentary, narration and performances. One album presents the great composers of our time, another the basic musical forms; the influence of the dance and of national music are the subjects of the two remaining albums.

The first of a series of films on Basic Violin Playing is now being distributed by Coast Visual Education, and I have made seven other films that have been widely used on educational television this past year. I am increasingly engaged in lectures for adult education audiences and shall be lecturing nationally under W. Colston Leigh auspices.

In recent months I have been working on the preparation of material for a series of music appreciation records which, I believe, would have mass audience appeal. It is this project which I would like to be able to discuss with you in the first place, although in the course of our discussion we may follow various interesting ramifications, such as, for instance, publishing, editing and annotating the compositions and composers who are the subjects of my lectures, records and films.

From my talk with Sonny Burke I know that you are keenly aware of the exciting potentialities waiting to be developed in the field of music appreciation, and I would consider it a privilege to be able to explore these potentialities with you in the course of a personal meeting.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Henri Tomianka

cc: Sonny Burke