

7-21-1980

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (rclark)

Henri Temianka

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Temianka, Henri, "Henri Temianka Correspondence; (rclark)" (1980). *Henri Temianka Correspondence*. 670.
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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, Roger Clark, July 21, 1980, virtuosity in musical performance, culture, violinist, violin, chamber music, camaraderie, telephone, aircraft, money, funds, orchestras, instruments, pianist, Endre Granat, Miwako Watanabe, Louise di Tullio, Nina Bodnar, Antonio Vivaldi, Maurice Ravel, Johann Sebastian Bach, bad weather, hotel

Sting

Information
Copy Only

Paris, Monday, July 21, 1980

My dear Roger,

I have just received your letter of July 15. Telephone communications from Paris are difficult, as even local phone calls sound as if one were sitting inside a helicopter, during a particularly noisy thunderstorm. However, I shall try later on today.

Before I go into the matter of personnel, let me stress the importance of a confirmed price, in writing, from Korean Airlines. The confused quotation was \$510 according to one source, and \$520 according to another. Usually 1 free fare is given for every 15 paid. This may or may not apply in this instance, as we are getting a special break. In any event, we need a contract, so that we are protected against any future fare increases which would play havoc with our budget. I assume you are consulting with Jackie Doby on this matter, and also advise submitting all written agreements to Dick Kurtz for approval. We should reserve 40 seats with the option to add more, and also with the right to cancel everything, without penalty, up to a given date (Aug. 20? 25?). I am concerned that no contract has yet been received from the Hong Kong Urban Council, without which the \$52,000 escrow money becomes useless.

Until the airfare agreement is signed, and the HK Urban Council Contract is received, I consider it premature to sign up the orchestra. For if the airfare were suddenly doubled, we would be out of business.

Now to the orchestra: We need 8 first violins, 6 second violins, 4 violas, 4 celli, 2 basses, 2 flutes, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons, 2 French horns, 2 trumpets, 1 percussionist, 1 pianist. No one can receive more than the minimum wage scale required by the Union. Several key players should be alerted now, above all Endre Granat, Miwako Watanabe, Polly Sweeney, James Durham, David Speltz, Louise di Tullio. It is equally important for you to be aware of the fact that several of those on the list you sent me are not to be included. Those dropped long ago or recently are Botchkis, Bruegger, Wooten, Gref, Oliver. We will not need trombonist Bohannon or harpsichordist Bess Karp for Hong Kong. If Joel Laykin or Carol Kim insists on a complete roster of names at this time, simply send them the printed list of this past year's personnel, without any explanations as to possible changes. It is the best we can do, and no one will know the difference.

Please phone Nina Bodnar, who left London before I had a chance to talk to her, and ask her to be ready to play the Rondo Capriccioso of Saint-Saens and the Tzigane of Ravel. As she has concerts in Mexico City during August, it is necessary to make sure that she return to L.A. in good time. Louise di Tullio should be alerted to the fact that I propose to feature her in the Vivaldi Piccolo Concerto, and in the Bach Brandenburg Concerto no. 4 with Susan Greenberg (who also should be alerted).

As Ed Chassman undoubtedly shall not be able to travel, David Atkins would probably be amenable to act as personnel manager. There are many gaps to be filled, which I plan to do personally the minute I return to L.A. on August 10. I shall assign one other orchestra member to act as librarian (for additional compensation of course), so we shall not need Anahid. Most of the music I am scheduling we already have, the rest I shall order through Barry Brisk of Musicians Supply store on W. Pico (near Bundy), an extremely able and reliable source I have only recently discovered. I may need Anahid for copying bowings, but that can await my return.

I realize this long letter may still not answer all your questions. Please prepare a list so we can have as effective a phone call as the French system will permit. I expect to go to Copenhagen 1 day early on Thursday 24, provided I can get a hotel room. The phone system there is more reliable. It would be helpful if I could know for certain at what hour I am sure to find you at the office.

the office.

Ever since arriving in Europe it has been rainy, windy and cold, in all other aspects delightful. I shall give you and Helen a full accounting upon my return 2½ weeks from now. By that time I trust you will be able to inform me that the Hong Kong trip is completely under control, and the Royce Hall and Taper series entirely sold out, with long waiting lists of disappointed subscribers gnashing their teeth or dentures.

Your press release was fine--many thanks! Greetings to you and Helen.

Yours cordially,

(signed) Henri T.

P.S. I do not have Ed Chassman's address with me, please convey my greetings and sympathy and tell him why I am not writing to him directly.--If and when the Hong Kong trip is under control, our board and membership should be offered an opportunity to go along at a package price to be worked out with a travel agency, to include 1st class or luxury hotel. Also, Laykin must finalize reservations for the orchestra at a top notch hotel.

P.P.S.S. I would be grateful if you would phone Fred Thorne and tell him and Marilyn that I am preparing a script outline which should be in the mail within the next few days.

Phoned
7/25
(RL)