

4-14-1969

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (gebauer)

Werner Gebauer

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Henri Temianka Correspondence; (gebauer)

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, Werner Gebauer, April 14, 1969, virtuosity in musical performance, culture, violinist, chamber music, discontent, audience, money, funds



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CHAMBER SYMPHONY SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

SPONSOR OF THE CALIFORNIA CHAMBER SYMPHONY
HENRI TEMIANKA FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR

April 14, 1969

Mr. Henri Temianka
2915 Patricia Avenue
Los Angeles 90064

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Henri:

It is a good and revitalizing feeling that augurs the dawn of a new era; we sweep out the last bones of contention between us and the clean, cooperative air of old shall rival that of Lake Tahoe.

While it is a major achievement in itself in our time to keep Societies such as ours open, no one could nor would deny that the Lake Tahoe project which is about to reach fruition can be recognized as the single, most important milestone in the history of the Chamber Symphony Society of California.

I well recall the dead-fish response at a Board meeting that greeted my recital of the Summer Music Festival project. And even you have withheld your support and encouragement practically until the Roast-Beef course of last Saturday's Gala Dinner at Lake Tahoe.

In your address to the guests present, you bunched me together with Larry August, when mentioning two dedicated catalysts who laid the groundwork for the Festival.

You and I, Henri, have been weened on audience acclaim; and, God only knows, I have never held back when it came to cheering you on and lauding your successes, on and off the stage.

I recognize the wisdom and need to keep the Temianka image before the public (ergo, Gala-Dinner in your honor, Mendijj's portrait of a conductor). I have been satisfied to work behind the scene, so that my name and growth contributions are practically unknown quantities, except to a small handful of our initiates.

Every executive in comparable position to mine (and if you know of any of these who can match my output, tell me) has gone on record publicly for his Society being interviewed by newsmedia, TV and Radio (L.A. Philh., Young Musicians Fdn., Glendale Symph.)-- not me!

So you can readily appreciate that an occasional bone of "Devotion and Loyalty" thrown in my direction, may readily conjure up the image of assuaging a family-retainer. Certainly, your dog Sam is devoted and loyal. Woof.

I am about, for the glory of the CSSC to take on a 7-day pressure week for the next 4 months; I am about to yank Marc out of school to make this possible.

I volunteered to you that, with an eye on our future, I would agree to defer compensation for making it possible for you to conduct at Lake Tahoe in '69.

It is accepted knowledge that both you and I are underpaid for what we do and have done for the Society-- with but one fundamental difference in our situation: the Society and the composite of its achievements are your monument!

I am pleased that you stand to make a handful of 1,000 \$\$\$ out of Tahoe '69- and, hopefully, increasing amounts in the years to come, not to speak of the barrelsful of publicity and glory.

Isn't it only just that you, as Founder/Director, give credit where credit is due ?!!!

I shall appreciate your formal acknowledgment of my role in what I consider a unique achievement. Unique, indeed, when you consider that a contract is about to be written which absolves us from any financial involvement in Tahoe '69-- when you consider that over \$ 5,000 were spent, ante facto-- when you consider that the California Chamber Symphony outside of L.A. does not constitute a bargaining factor, at least not yet.

Your accrediting me in your letter to the Exec. Committee for fathering, believing in, practically alone nursing the Lake Tahoe Summer Festivals to its birth-giving, last Saturday, will hopefully make you eloquent in your acknowledgment as Founder/Director of the Society.

And when you announce our marriage to General American Development Corp. at the Allegro Ball, I would love to hear a little less "Devotion and Loyalty" and a little more "Ingenuity and Never-Say-Die" in referring to your Administrator.

Believe me Henri-- it will go a long way in recognizing myself with \$ 850.- monthly and being "Konzertmeister von hinten".

Yours,