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Henri Temianka Correspondence; (fmurphy)

Henri Temianka

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August 9, 1961

Chancellor Franklin D. Murphy
10570 Sunset Boulevard
West Los Angeles, California

Dear Franklin,

First of all, let me thank you most cordially for the generous letter you sent me. I only hope that I shall live up to the claims and qualities with which you have endowed me.

During the coming season I am scheduled to give seven concerts at Royce Hall, four of them in the "Let's Talk Music" series, the other three "Concerts for Youth." As I average four rehearsals per concert, I expect to occupy Royce Hall for a total of thirty-five (35) sessions. This makes me practically a full-time resident of that venerable and dismal auditorium.

Fortified with these claims, I would like to take the liberty of urging you to spend some small part of your budget on a few pots of paint and additional light bulbs. It seems to me that a relatively small outlay of money could be of immense benefit in this area. Even the sunny Mozart almost becomes gloomy in the present environment of Royce Hall.

I have, in the course of the past months, heard countless remarks on the subject, all of them unfavorable, by members of the audience, and I have come to believe that a modest facelifting job would do wonders for Royce Hall as an artistic focal point of the University.

With kindest regards,

Yours very cordially,

Henri Temianka

HT/sw