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Henri Temianka Correspondence; (menuhin)

Yehudi Menuhin

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*65, Chester Square,
London, SW1*

Mr Henri Temianka
2915 Patricia Avenue
LOS ANGELES
California 90064

22nd April 1987

Dear Henri

There is no excuse for my sending a typed letter in answer to your wonderful handwritten one, especially as it is from a junior to a senior even if the fraction that separates us is becoming smaller and smaller!

Your letter reached me on the very day of the 22nd and finds me still, at nearly noon, dressed in the glorious Chinese brocade given to me by Diana, with the message 'To my Chinese Emperor, from his lowest concubine'. I assured her that she was high up on that scale! Lest you imagine that this dissolute picture reveals all, I can only tell you that last night I played Beethoven in London with this wonderful European Community Youth Orchestra and tonight will be the last of seven concerts in European capitals in Oxford. Tomorrow I am over to Holland for one day (as President of the European String Teachers Association) *can do no better* I have given less time than I would have wished and I see this with growing contrition. I feel I owe principally Diana, the children, the School, the friends and so many other interests and duties I have taken on, more time than I can give them. I hope, dear Henri, that you have still several decades ahead of you and that I shall trail on so that I may do a few of the things I would so love to do ~~as~~ yet.

Looking forward to seeing you in a few weeks. With much love to Emmy in which Diana joins.

John