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Henri Temianka Correspondence; (mitropoulos)

Henri Temianka

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Keywords

Henri Temianka, Dimitri Mitropoulos, September 22, 1952, culture, virtuosity in musical performance, violinist, chamber music, camaraderie

Los Angeles, Calif.
September 22, 1952

Dimitri Mitropoulos
Great Northern Hotel
120 W. 57th St.
New York 19, New York

Dear Maestro,

You know how we all look up to you for your courage and integrity in fighting for the cause of contemporary music. Now I am moved to write to you because only yesterday I heard a new work that appears to me to be perhaps the most important symphonic work written during the past decade. I am not alone in so thinking. Many of my most eminent colleagues here believe this and we all hope that once again you will be the one to fight for something worth believing in.

The work I refer to is the recently written Second Symphony of Ernst Toch. Whatever you may know of his earlier work, it would be the gravest injustice to prejudge the Second Symphony on that basis. Somehow, in the twilight of his life, Ernst Toch has written a powerful, deeply moving and convincing symphonic masterpiece.

All I beg of you is that you give this work a reading and arrive at your own decision. Please grant me this request. As always,

Yours in admiration and friendship,

Henri Temianka

HT:mg