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Henri Temianka Correspondence; (schabas)

Ezra Schabas

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April 5, 1986

Dear Henri,

Thank you very much for your letter of March 27. Note that this letter is dated! You had actually written me earlier - last July, to be exact - in response to my letter and query about Josef Hofmann. At that time you referred me to a Terry McNeal in Santa Rosa. I have not followed this up since I am not sure that the subject is a good one for me. I'll keep you posted and thank you for the suggestion.

Ann and I were delighted to hear of your activities. Your energy is quite remarkable. We were also pleased that your 80th birthday will be honored so festively and publicly. I think it is one way of crowning an illustrious career that shows no signs of slackening off in its scope and breadth!

I'm pleased that Menuhin told you about his doctorate here. I gave the citation, in which I reminisced - among other things - about the evening of chamber music we had at your house in Toronto in the Spring of 1955 and how thrilled I was by it. Hyman Goodman, the concertmaster of the Toronto Symphony at the time and second violin that evening, now resides in Los Angeles; perhaps you have come across him. Rowland Pack, the cellist, died some twenty five years ago.

My life is a mixture of teaching - I have taken early retirement so teach only what I wish - consulting at the Ontario Arts Council eight days monthly on orchestras and chamber music in the Province - writing reports and the like and serving on juries. I shall start a new program in January to do with chamber music for the handicapped, underprivileged, seniors and the like. It is patterned after a program directed by Peter Renshaw, the former director of the Menuhin School, where you will teach in May (Are you going through Toronto?). It is now in its second year at the Guildhall. I shall do it through the University but without academic encumbrances.

I may not have told you that Ann became Dean of her faculty last year, an honor which I fully expected. Her improved financial position enabled me to retire as noted above although I'm only just turning sixty-two. Our five children are fine as are our six grandchildren. Three of the five are married, the fourth has just become engaged. The fifth, Peggy, is a professor at the University of Colorado in philosophy of science, and will be at a seminar at Stanford in July and early August.

I do hope that we can keep in touch. Our best to Emmy.

Warmest regards,

