

1964

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (hwwilliams)

Henri Temianka

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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, Hermann Warner Williams, culture, virtuosity in musical performance, violinist, chamber music, camaraderie, instruments, Anna Eugenia La Chapelle, money, funds

Comments

Due to the exact date of the letter being unknown, an estimated date has been provided.

The Corcoran Gallery
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Williams,

We have been advised by Mr. Schang that you have annulled our contract to appear at the Corcoran Gallery next season because of our projected appearance at the Library of Congress.

As you and we can never forget, our traditional annual concert at the Corcoran Gallery is intended primarily as a tribute to Mrs. W.A. Clark, who was responsible for the founding of the Paganini Quartet and who for all these years has been the great and good friend of both the Corcoran Gallery and the Paganini Quartet.

You will recall that the Paganini Quartet refused to accept any fee from the Corcoran Gallery for these concerts, until, after a number of years, it transpired that, year after year, we had been deprived of important prestige appearances at the Library of Congress because of the Corcoran Gallery's insistence on having the Paganini Quartet's exclusivity in Washington.

Much as we would like to please you, it is not possible for us to abide by such an arrangement. The Library of Congress does not share this desire for exclusivity, and I am certain that Mrs. Clark would never wish to see a tribute in her honor treated as a competitive event. Instead of annulling our traditional annual appearance at your Gallery next season, I propose that we now revert to our original arrangement under which we will play for you without fee, but with the understanding that you will henceforth not restrict our freedom to play elsewhere in Washington. If the original date should no longer be available in your schedule or ours, we shall try to find another date for you.

Yours cordially,

Henri Temianka