

4-11-1983

Henri Temianka Correspondence; (bodnar)

Nina Bodnar

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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, Nina Bodnar, April 11, 1983, camaraderie, virtuosity in musical performance, culture, violinist, violin, education, chamber music, celebration, health and sickness, discontent, father, daughter, marriage, love, husband, wife, recreation and entertainment, money, funds, holiday, Christmas

11 april 83
Santa Barbara

dearest Mr. Temianka,
so much time
has elapsed since we last spoke -
please understand that the past
five months have been very confusing
for me - I didn't mean to isolate
my friends, you in particular - but
I needed this time to work things out
for myself. I realize that my friends
are always willing to help me through
these periods, but amidst all the loving
advice I seemed to have lost touch
with my own feelings - I was being pulled
in different directions.

I just got back
from Europe a week ago. It was there
that I was finally able to make sense
out of what had been happening. It
was also there that I felt happy and
at peace with myself. My arm no longer
hurt, (after the actual physical condition

was cleared up, & still was experiencing pain - psychological -) which was the biggest, most frustrating problem I'd ever had. Once I could play again, everything else became crystal clear.

This is undoubtedly something that you and others had always predicted; Jack & I are divorcing. It's the best thing for both of us, but the adjustment is painful because we're still very much in love. Unfortunately love is not enough in this case. The age difference is the biggest factor, followed by our different worlds. We never really discussed specifics before we married, et voilà...

I have no regrets for myself. In the two years I've been with Jack I've learned a lot about love and even more about myself. I feel awful for him, however, because he is at an age where he really feels the need to start a family, to feel a stability in his life -

I am returning to Europe in a couple of weeks. I have a concert in Paris

followed by a concert in Zagreb.
Then I will stay in Paris long enough
to find myself a place to live - I want
to spend a year over there, if not
longer. I don't have many commitments
here next season, so the timing is
perfect. I'll be here over the summer
and I want to see you often, if possible.
(Make up for lost time.) If you need or
want me for any of your concerts, let me
know. I miss making music with you.
Last time I was in Europe, my friends
and I had chamber music parties
every night that would end around
4 or 5 am. It was wonderful. I was
not the only one who felt your
presence - Babeth, with teary eyes
one evening, (after having read Mozart's
g minor string quintet) said she felt
you were coming out of my violin -
needless to say, it was very moving,
not to mention very flattering for
me...

If you're wondering why I want to live in Paris - in brief: I've always felt happiest there. My friends are very important to me. I feel like I fit - I'm more productive when I'm surrounded by people my own age - hang ups and insecurities vanish. We're all experiencing the same things - we have a lot to share. I live and breathe music there - its so inspiring and so "right". The icing on the cake is that doors are opening for me - a lot of people (conductors and patrons, mostly) have taken strong interest in me - I have been advised that being more accessible would help me a lot. And just between us, I've had just about all I can stomach of this cities obsession with money. Musicians included. It colors their entire lives. I hate to be judgemental, but I can't help it. It is not a mentality that I can fit into.

I do have you, Jay and my family. When I'm here for concerts and over Christmas (Jewish Christmas?) vacation, I will have to make the most of my time...

I feel so much better haven't written this - I've thought about you a lot over these past months. I hope everything's going well for you, and that you'll forgive my lengthy silence -

All my love,
Nina

[[Henri Temianka Correspondence
Nina Bodnar
Letter #34]]

[[Page 1 – Letter]]

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[[Page 5 – Letter]]

-5-

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