Henri Temianka correspondence; (Carneal)

Vesta Hutchins

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Henri Temianka correspondence; (Carneal)

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.
Dear Mr. Temianka:

Dr. Boorstin has asked this office to reply to your letter of September 2 regarding the recordings of your performances at the Library of Congress in 1946.

Although it appears that budget restrictions during the immediate post-war years prevented the Library from recording some of the chamber music programs of that period, we are happy to find that the entire Beethoven Quartet Cycle and the Sonata Cycle were fully recorded. The original recordings were made on 16" instantaneous acetate discs which in turn were rerecorded onto mylar tape reels in the 1970's for preservation purposes because the acetate discs are very susceptible to drying and cracking.

We will be happy to provide you with a set of tape copies of the recordings; however we cannot allow the originals to leave the Library. Our Recording Laboratory is able to make the tapes on either 7" diameter reels or 10" diameter reels and at 3.75, 7.5, and 15 inches per second speed. In addition, you can order either full track recordings or double track recordings. Double track recordings will give you twice the playing time as full track; however you cannot edit a double track tape. The complete playing time for both the Beethoven Cycles is estimated to be 12 hours.

The Recording Laboratory operates on a revolving fund, not on appropriations and must charge for all recording work. The basic fee is $25 per hour of engineer's time plus the cost of the raw tape. If you wish to order the copies, please send your order to Dorothy Zeiset, Public Services Coordinator, M/B/RS Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540. Please advise her of the tape size, speed and configuration you wish and she will prepare an order form giving the price estimate and send it to you. The fee will probably be between $300 and $350; however this can be reduced somewhat by asking that the copy be made at double speed. This will reduce the engineer's time considerably and the fidelity will not be adversely effected to any degree.

Mr. Leavitt of the Music Division has reminded me that, in case you decide to issue the recordings of the Beethoven Sonata Cycle, you should get in touch with Mr. Leonard Shure who holds an
equal proprietary right to the recorded performances. I am not sure where he is just now, but as of last year he was teaching at both the New England Conservatory of Music and at Boston University.

If I can be of further assistance please let me know.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Carneal
Acting Chief

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