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Miss Frances Burke. Se 35 Hardware Broot. Succee by

Untel Downer 687 Leximeton Avenue Sew York 22, New York

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THE COSMOPOLITAN CLUB

122 EAST 66+h STREET

NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

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I have a note of

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of Trultourne Australia

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# THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Broadcasting House, London, W.1

TELEPHONE: LANGHAM 4468 TELEGRAMS AND CABLES: BROADCASTS, TELEX, LONDON

Reference 26/PROGS/LC

13th April 1953

Alfred Barr, Esq., 11 West 53rd Street, New York 19. N.Y. U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

We are seeking Bank of England permission to remit to you the sum of £10. 10. 0 in respect of your talk entitled "Art Critics' Forum" which was recorded on 13th March in London for broadcast in the Third Programme.

Provided sanction is received we shall instruct our bankers to make payment by Mail Transfer Order. The Serial Number of this payment is F.P. 8.

Yours faithfully,

J. Gulkbertson

for Programme Accountant.

SKS

Mr. Dove

Dear

Soby

687 New

LH/ Enc.

Mr. Vico Bear Botel Dover 687 Lexisteton Avenue Box Tork 22, New York

A Hillards wroted.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

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Baes

January 23, 1953

January 15, 4983

Dear Mr. Baer:

I am enclosing the copy of Saturday Review which Mr. Soby had left with Mr. Barr to be forwarded to you.

Mr. Soby's article is on pages 34 and 35.

This copy is for you to keep.

The treat Sincerely, is barging on the second floor, but the two sculptures are an exhibition in Chicago.

Sincerely,

Alfred E. Sarry Jr.

At the prosecretary by life is somplicated with Jery Duty, but when I am through I hope to have the pleasure of scaling you.

Mr. Vico Baer Dover Hotel 687 Lexington Avenue New York 22, New York

LH/t Encl

Mr. Vice Bear

687 Lacington Avenue New York 22, New York

Attitives.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

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Baer 100 Baen

January 14, 1953

April 21, 1952

Dear Mr. Baer:

I am delighted to hear you are in this country again. Of course we are very pleased to send you a Courtesy Pass for your use during your visit.

I am much interested to hear what you say about Boccioni and your account of his death.

on the second floor, but the two sculptures are on exhibition in Chicago.

At the present time my life is complicated with Jury Duty, but when I am through I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you.

Sincerely, the Misson Collections

Mr. Vice Base Botel Dover 687 Lexington

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mr. Vico Baer Hotel Dover 687 Lexington Avenue New York 22, New York

AHB:mh

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REAL PRESENT

Boccioni Vico Baen

April 21, 1952

February 7, 1992

Dear Mr. Baer:

Mr. Vice Beer Hetel Rover 687 Lexington Ave Hes Tork RS, 1. T.

Mr. Barr thought you would like to have a photograph .

of the installation of Boccioni's La ville qui monte as it
appeared in our recent exhibition, Masterworks acquired
through the Mrs. Simon Guggenheim Fund.

Mr. Barr has sailed for Europe, but I am enclosing the photograph herewith.

Sincerely,

Secretary of the Museum Collections

Mr. Vico Baer Hotel Dover 687 Lexington Avenue New York 22, New York

LH/t

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Baer, Vico

WESTERN UNION

February 7, 1952

Pedruary 28, 1992

Mr. Vico Baer Hotel Dover 687 Lexington Ave New York 29, N. Y.

Duar Mr. Begri

REGRET MUST CANCEL LUNCHEON ENGAGEMENT TOMORROW
WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU SHORTLY.

addition that my alfred barr correction and addition that my application you even minor con-

Small it be too much trouble to any you

Send straight telegram

charge Museum Collections

Simprely,

Mr. Vice Day to bear to be a

Hotal Down 687 Lexington Avenue New York 22, N. Y.

Alliani S.Line

FOR STUDY PURPOSES ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION. Collection: Series.Folder: The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY AHB I.A.227 THE ART DALLERY OF TORONTO DEAROS FARK, TORONTO IS, CANADA - DORING VILLES February 28, 1952 HAROLD C WARRE G.C. May 25th, 1955. Dear Mr. Baers Here are copies of notes on two conversations about Boccioni: the first in my office, the second at Tuncheon with Mr. Soby. Would it be too much trouble to ask you to read them over and make any corrections and additions that may occur to you, even minor cor-rections such as spelling? We very much appreciate your help. I look back with great pleasure on our conversations and hope we may have some more. Also ass other forSincerely, as Paul Yobelltohew - Some smaller framage; Sali menus -Lever - "The Divers," 20214 La per - "The Diveralfred H. Barr, Jr. Mr. Vico Baer to ested no to let you know that there Hotel Dover 687 Lexington Avenue New York 22, N. Y. Yours sincerely, A HB : mh encl. 2

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Boldwin Honorary Patron and Honorary President HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE VINCENT MASSEY, C.H., Governor-General of Canada

Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario Mayor of Toronto

President of the University of Toronto

Honorary Vice-Presidents CHARLES S. BAND R. Y. EATON CHARLES P. FELL LADY KEMP R. S. McLAUGHLIN HAROLD C. WALKER, Q.C. FRANK P. WOOD

# THE ART GALLERY OF TORONTO

GRANGE PARK, TORONTO 2B, CANADA . EMpire 3-4388

A. BRUCE MATTHEWS, President A. J. CASSON, Vice-President R. W. FINLAYSON, Vice-President J. S. McLEAN, Vice-President E. P. TAYLOR, Vice-President W. C. LAIDLAW, Honorary Secretary

MARTIN BALDWIN

SYDNEY J. KEY

Secretary-Treasurer GEORGE HULME

May 25th, 1954.

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York 19, New York.

Dear Mr. Barr:

Before Mr. Baldwin left for San Francisco, he asked me to request galleries for drawings to be sent to Toronto for consideration up his return, as follows:

Valentin Klee - "Head of a Frisian Girl" Also one other for comparison;

Carstairs De la Fresnaye - Ink Vaguemeste, 12x10 cubist

Also one other for comparison;

Durlacher Paul Tchelitchew - Some smaller drawings;

Leger - "The Divers," 20x14 Leger - "The Divers," 15x16. Seligmann

At the same time, he asked me to let you know that these requests had gone forward.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) afficard

For the Director.

ARG

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Baldwin

cc: Mr. Barr

Brawings Mr. Beldwin sow in New York, and now suggested for purchase:

for "The Divers"

Lorer : for "The Divers"

May 5, 1954

20 1 14

Dear Martin:

I have just returned to my desk, having been out of commission for some weeks due to illness. Sorry not to have been able to check on your drawings until yesterday. As you know, I made the selection of the Klee at Curt Valentin's.

I have also seen the Léger drawings on your list at the Seligmann Gallery. I liked best the brown "Divers," 20 x lh". The yellow and green "Divers" is perhaps more typical but I don't think nearly as good a drawing as drawing, if I make myself slear. Seligmann's de la Fresnaye "Still Life" I think is particularly good. The de la Fresnaye drawing at the Carstairs Gallery had been lent to an exhibition in California, but they promised to show it to me when it returns.

Hoping these remarks will be of some use to you, and with all best wishes,

Sincerely,

Andrew C. Ritchie

Mr. Martin Baldwin, Director The Art Gallery of Toronto Grange Park Toronto 2B, Canada

ACR:al

The Mr. Alfred Burn Mr. Andrew C. Mine

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Drawings Mr. Baldwin saw in New York, and now suggested for purchase:

Leger	1,760	for "The Divers" brown (1942)	20 x 14	\$250.00
	10.70	for "The Divers" yellow and green	15 x 16	\$250.00
	At	Jacques Seligmann Gal	lery.	
de la Fresnaye	:	Ink vaguemestre	12 x 10 (cubist)	\$225.00
	At	Carstairs Gallery.		
	:	"Still life"	10 x 8	\$400.00
	At	Jacques Seligmann Gal	lery.	
Klee	At	Curt Valentin Gallery	(not seen)	

March 22nd, 1954. TO: Mr. Alfred Barr Mr. Andrew C. Ritchie

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Baldwin

THE ART DALLERY OF TORONTO

ACMINISTRATION OF THE PARTY OF April 9, 1954

Dear Martins

Personal Property of Street,

CHANGE S. WALL

CHANGE F FOR LADY DIME A. S. MEADORIDE HATOLOGIC WARRE O'C

TRANSP. WOOD

I will try to get in to see the drawings you list.

I have been in an awful rush recently and am now abed with a

N. P. SANDLAND, Name of Street, Street

cold, so I can't promise. Museum of Modern Art,

11 West Sird Street, New York 10, New York.

Sincerely,

Dear Alfred:

I am writing this letter to both you alfred H. Barr, Jr. one of you to sway.

One of our Women's Counditions has about \$1,200 which Mr. Martin Baldwin, Director
The Art Gallery of Toronto Orange Park
Toronto 28, Canada leries respectively. It seemed to me
AHBama Fight be able to buy three or four drawings for

om sentioned.

I would be most grateful if you would let me know whether you think the things evailable at these three galleries are good enough to consider for purchase, and if not whather you know of anything better in the field.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Hartin Baldwin.

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Honorary Patron and Honorary President HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE VINCENT MASSEY, C.H., Governor-General of Canada

Patronsi Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario Mayor of Toronto

President of the University of Toronto

Honorary Vice-Presidents
CHARLES S. BAND
R. Y. EATON
CHARLES P. FELL
LADY KEMP
R. S. McLAUGHLIN
HAROLD C. WALKER, Q.C.
FRANK P. WOOD

# THE ART GALLERY OF TORONTO

GRANGE PARK, TORONTO 2B, CANADA . EMpire 3-4388

A. BRUCE MATTHEWS, President
A. J. CASSON, Vice-President
R. W. FINLAYSON, Vice-President
J. S. McLEAN, Vice-President
E. P. TAYLOR, Vice-President
W. C. LAIDLAW, Honorary Secretary

MARTIN BALDWIN

Curator SYDNEY J. KEY

Secretary-Treasurer GEORGE HULME

March 22nd, 1954.

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director, Museum Collections, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York 19, New York.

Dear Alfred:

I am writing this letter to both you and Andrew in case one of you is  $\mathtt{away}_{\bullet}$ 

One of our Women's Committees has about \$1,200 which we have suggested they should invest in contemporary drawings by European artists for our collection. Last January I saw a number of drawings by Klee, Leger, and de la Fresnaye at Curt Valentin's, Jacques Seligmann's, and Carstairs Galleries respectively. It seemed to me that we might be able to buy three or four drawings for the sum mentioned.

I would be most grateful if you would let me know whether you think the things available at these three galleries are good enough to consider for purchase, and if not whether you know of anything better in the field.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Martin Baldwin,
Director.

MB/G c.c. Mr. Ritchie

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

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cc: D. Miller

Baltimore Sun Trombley

March 9, 1954

234 E. 96th St., Hew York, 28, NY, March 4, 1954

Doar Mr. Dear Mr. Trombley:

Thanks for yours of the 4th. I too very much enjoyed talking with you and Tamashiro. I have to apologize to both of you for not having sent you copies of What is Modern Painting?

They will be in the mail shortly.

I don't remember the exact year I was in Baltimore for the unveiling of the tablet in memory of my father, but the ceremony took place in the First Presbyterian Church, Park Avenue and Madison Street about 1940. The Sun could easily check by calling the Church.

Edward S. King was a classmate at Boys' Latin School, play graduating in 1918, and was a room mate at Princeton, class of 1922.

The luncheon with Lippmann was private so that I have to ask you not to repeat what I said about his opinions, though they have been expressed pretty explicitly in his column.

not be lengths. I look forward to seeing your article.

I have another question, not on the suSincerely, the article. Juring your lunch with Walter Lippann, did he indicate he was disappointed in Gen. Sisenhower and, if so, sid he say how he came to be such a strong supporter of Disenhower in the first places I mesht to ask you this yesterday. Lippann was an strong for Disenhower so early and I can't immains that he would have been had he known the man reads Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

> Mr. William Trombley 234 East 96th Street New York 28, New York

AHB:ma

Sincerely,

William Troubley

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234 E. 96th St., New York, 28, NY, March 4, 1954

Dear Mr. Barr:

Thank you for granting me interview time yesterday. Both Sam Tamashiro and I enjoyed talking with you very much.

In looking over the material I have written down as a result of the talk I find I am doubtful on three points of fact and wondered if you would clear them up:

You mentioned that you had been in Baltimore a number of years ago for the unveiling of a statute erected in honor of your father. Do you recall the year and the location of the statue?

Did you say that Edward S. King was a classmate at Boys' Latin and a roommate at Princeton or a classmate at both schools?

I appreciate your offer to look over the article I write and will send it along as soon as I have completed it. It will not be lengthy.

I have another question, not on the subject of the article. During your lunch with Walter Lippmann, did he indicate he was disappointed in Gen. Eisenhower and, if so, did he say how he came to be such a strong supporter of Eisenhower in the first place? I meant to ask you this yesterday. Lippmann was so strong for Eisenhower so early and I can't imagine that he would have been had he known the man reads nothing but the golfing news.

Sincerely,

William Trombley

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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

DATE March 10, 1954

# REQUEST FOR PUBLICATIONS

Kindly send

1

copies of the following publications: What is Modern Ptg?

paper cloth

x

revised edition

To:

Mr. Sam Tamashiro 66-20 Wetherole Street Forest Hills, New York

For:

Museum Collections

Requested by Alfred H. Barr, N. Cluyan De

NO.

DELIVERED

Mr. P. M. Bardi, Director Museu de Arte de Sao Paulo Rua 7 de Abril Nº. 230 Sao Paulo, Brésil

AHB : ma

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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

DATE March 10, 1954

# REQUEST FOR PUBLICATIONS

Kindly send

copies of the following publications: What is Modern Ptg?

paper cloth

x latest revised edition

To:

Mr. William H. Trombley 234 East 96th Street New York 28, new York

(This is a review copy. (Mr. Trombley is from the Baltimore Sun.)

Museum Collections,

Requested by Alfred Barr

NO.

DELIVERED

Mr. P. M. Bardi, Director Museu de Arte de Sao Paulo Rua 7 de Abril No. 230 Sao Paulo, Brésil

AHB :ma

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Bosdi

September 21, 1953

Dear Mr. Bardi:

Thave just returned from vacation to find your extremely handsome publication for the Museu de Arte de Sao Paulo. The color reproducations are excellent. It will form a really valuable addition to the Museum's Library.

My kindest regards to you,

Sincerely yours,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mr. P. M. Bardi, Director Museu de Arte de Sao Paulo Rua 7 de Abril Nº. 230 Sao Paulo, Brésil

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GEORGE BARNES

File to D. MacAgy.

The British Broadcasting Corp. Broadcasting House London W.l

24th June, 1954

Dear Mr. Barr,

Thank you very much for your letter of 8th June. It confirms my fears. I shall be coming to New York in the last half of September and I hope that I shall have an opportunity of meeting you there to discuss this subject. I shall be in a better position to do so when I have seen the current colour telecasts in the United States. My experience of them is already fifteen months old. the constitute of an entitle of copies porter which we

the solition of a new exhibition is GEORGE BARNES

Director of Television Broadcasting for the seming year in order to appropriate come of the substitions originally plained for the season of 1954 - 5%.

I am every so had to remain this decimber, but I know that you will understand that we find no choice in the nation.

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> 6/ Brattle Street Cambridge 38, Mass. Berrun

> > april 23 1954

Dear Mr. Barr.

Dear Dr. Barsun

I hope you will forgive the long delay of this letter, but I have been on vacation and returned only two weeks ago from Mexico. Since I have to leave again on an extended trip to South America, my time here was very short and my correspondence has suffered greatly.

Alfred Barr and I have conferred with our colleagues on the possibility of an exhibition of orphic poetry which we discussed at our very pleasant luncheon at the Plaza. Unfortunately the Museum's schedule for the coming two years is so tight that the addition of a new exhibition is impossible.

In September 1954 the Museum will inaugurate its 25th anniversary program for which a series of special exhibitions are being prepared. This made it necessary to condense the schedule for the coming year in order to accommodate some of the exhibitions originally planned for the season of 1954 - 55.

I am sorry we had to reach this decision, but I know that you will understand that we had no choice in the matter.

yours Faithfully yours,

om Barnington Bayley Rene d'Harnoncourt

Dr. Henri Barzum Beauchamp Gardens

New Rochelle, New York Dr. alper Barr,

Museum of modern art

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6/ Brattle Street Buyloy Cambridge 38, Mass.

Ofril 23, 1954

Dear Mr. Barr.

Thank you for yr. note on my Wright-Venice paper. I am enclosing a very interesting sequel to it. God wot that it marks some buil of a termining point in the progress of the Grand Design.

Yours very sincerely, John Barrington Bayley

Dr. Alfred Barr, Museum of Modern Art New York-

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Settignano Florence April 8th

Dear Mr. Bayley,

Thank you for your good letter of March 23rd, and the enclosed article.

Surely you are a David come to judgement. Every word of your paper thrilled me with delight.

At last, at last some one is saying so clearly, so wittily, so concisely what I have been thinking, and trying for more than sixty years to say.

As many years ago I published a short essay with the title "A Flea for Roman Churches". It was republished in one of my volumes on "Study and Criticism of the Arts", see my "Aesthetics in History",...in Reflexions ...even in my so-early critical "The Painters", are to be found approaches to what you say so well.

Goeffrey Scott was my secretary for twelve years, and I gave him the title of his excellent book.

You say you spent four years in Italy. Would you had come to see me. Can you not come now, and soon for I am within weeks of 89. There is so much we could anatomize, and it would be such stimulating fun.

If your article has appeared please sent me five copies, as I should like to give them where they would be appreciated. And would you mind if I... in getting it translated and published in Italian?

If you read Italian I could send you one or more articles I have contributed to the Milanese "Corriere della Sera".

Mr. John Dannington Rayley

Combridge 18, Meneschusetta

61 Bruible Street

Can I be made a member of the Grand Design, and will you let me know more about it.

Gratefully yours,

Bernard Berensen

Alfeed B. Perry Jr.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

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Brattle Street Bayley.

2379 March.

April 5, 1954

Dear Mr. Bayley:

Oces my Barry

Thanks for your letter of March 23. I look
forward to reading it with interest. My feelings about
Wright are so mixed that I may agree with a good deal you
say. Yet his design for the Grand Canal seems to me so
incomparably incomparably better than the stupid new hotel
building that is already up that I should be tempted to
yote for it.

Sincerely,

Design is ceaselessly

would be that

impress itself in one was

Alfred H. Barr. Jr.

op collegues utto

Mr. John Barrington Bayley 61 Brattle Street Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

AHBenn

Testo

	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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6 1 Brattle Street Campidge, 38 2329 March, '54

Dear Mr. Barr,

I am sending you this enclosure - a "letter" to the N.Y. Timis magazine - which devotes itself to the "cous" of Im. Wright's proposed building for the grand Canal, Venia. It would be printed, of course, and although it is unconscionable in length, it might interest you, or perhaps some of you colleagues who follow the tides of taste.

The grand Design is ceaselessly striving to impress itself in one way or another upon a careless world, and my pipe-dream would be that

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the letter - heavily deleted by some shilled 'Tunies' man - mught he published, and then answered by an authority. The end result being the creation of a briefic situation which would arouse public interest in the art of architecture.

Yours succeedy, John Barrington Bayley.

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John Barrington Bayley
61 Brattle Street
Cambridge, 38 Mass.

In re.: "A New Debate in Old Venice"

I wish as a reader to submitt these views concerning the erection on the Grand Canal, Venice, of a building designed by F.I.Wright.

now that she wisht be usuappy in the compar of the women of Dispole, of Vernous, of Ourpeccie.

Hierophants of the Modern Movement will I am sure find this design in harmony with the other buildings which line the Canal. One can hear them rationalizing that, for example, the church of Santa Maria della Salute aroused opposition when it was built, that avant garde designs always arouse opposition on the part of conservatives, that the design is "creative", and then the final too familiar syllogism, - that Wright's design is to our day what avant garde buildings of the past were in their day.

Historical syllogisms are always suspect, and the promotors of this building are not, in fact, an avant garde, but are the adherents of the Modern Movement, the accepted commercial and academic standard in all countries.

what the building will do is to introduce a new family of architecture to the Grand Ganal. A family which relies on the exploitation of materials, structure, and function.

This allegation will be immediately countered by saying that although the most prominent monuments of the Canal are in classic styles which admitt no exterior authority, and are a law unto themselves, that there are as well the Gothic buildings (so admired by Ruskin) which are not classic, and which do \*## derive from materials, structure, and function.

which do \*\* derive from materials, structure, and function. I remember some years ago an 'avant garde' Milanese architect explaining that his Corbusier-esque façade of glass, steel, and stone was suitable companion for Gothic 'palazzi' as each was the same statement made in the language (i.e. methods of construction and materials) of its own day.

This is again the too familiar syllogism, and actually the "emperor's clothes-ism" of criticism can go no further, for surely the spirit which animates the sumptuous 'palazzi' of the Gothic masons is at the opposite pole from that of The Designer from the land of Calvin.

I have before me the page from your article showing the Wright building. As an architectural historian I glanceat the fayade, and the first thing that comes to mind is Wright's "Midway Gardens" of 1912. The same interpenetration of masses, the same centripetal feeling, the same emancipation of the building from the box (Morris had enveighed against "boxes" in the 1850's), and the same system of abstract ornament in bands of bas-relief, owing something to the Aztec.

THE PERSON NAMED OF THE PERSON PERSONS ASSESSED.	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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If one were to picture the Muse of this design, she would be the daughter of the "Aesthetic Woman" (shades of "Patience"), the "Artistic Woman" of the American 1900's. Clothed in hand woven linen, falling in Fre-Raphaelite folds, stencilled in stylized iris, a sash about her waist, with a head-ache band restraining the careless mass of tresses (in the earliest manner of Carbo), one feels somehow that she might be unhappy in the compay of the women of Tiepolo, of Vernese, of Carpaccio.

All these elements are apparent in his architecture. As he himself says it is not international, or national, but regional. If we are to have Usonian architecture (Wright's own term forhis style) on the Grand Canal; why not the glare of Mexican tiles, or the "refainement" of Swedish-pseudish?

Beneath the drawing of the Wright building in your article is a photograph of the Bauer-Grunewald Hotel. As we are considering the suitability of modern architecture in Venice, and indirectly the larger problem of its suitability to historic ensembles; let us consider the Bauer-Grunewald.

Although critics have pointed out that it has no feature not to be found in the Venetian vernacular (large areas of glass, balconies, columns...), it is difficult to imagine any Muse for this building: a trained nurse in starched white comes first to mind.

One can, however, picture its American admirers.

SHE is wearing sandals, a <u>simple</u> cotton dress, a giant shoulder bag, dark glasses, and her hair in a horsey tail. She takes a flat footed pose derived from the modern dance via fashion photos.

HE is dressed in "good design": wash pants, a grey flannel jacket, white shirt, black knitted tie, sneakers or gondolier's shoes, and a leica.

With heads on one side they squint at the façade, murmuring like veiled erotic invitations the talismanic phrases of the creed: "exciting", "powerful", "clean", "organic", "relevant", "important"...

These are the standard brand moderns, and this is the standard brand modern architecture of the new quarters of Rome and Milan, and of post-war prosperity everywhere. It is the architecture of the Abstract Age.

Why has abstract art become the accepted commercial and academic standard?

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In troubled times what could be safer than saying nothing? What could be safer than sculpting or painting or writing "from within"? What could be more transigeant than being safely subjective? The utility of an anesthetized intelligentsia has been recognized and rewarded by the press, and by the eleemosynary institutions, universities, foundations, museums, which are our chief patrons of art.

The pleasure HE and SHE derive from abstract art has little to do with art. It is the innocent pleasure of feeling a part of an intellectual 'corps d'elite'. Outsiders are wither reactionary or just plain "dull" or

The days of this easy "one-upmanship" are, however, numbered. The trouble is that anyone can do abstract art. The professional artist is unnecessary. This means that the "happy few" are in danger of becoming the anonymous many, and that moment is, in fact, at hand. Professional artists, as distinct from teachers, commercials, atc., are nearly extinct, while department stones. cials, etc., are nearly extinct, while department stores from Coast to Coast stock mobiles, driftwood, and the other props of the movement to familiar to mention. (This is not to say, of course, that abstract art will not persist for many years as a kind of occupational therapy.)

Modern architecture is also abstract. First there are the obvious connexions with painting and sculpture in the method of composition, of forms, of dependence on pattern, texture, and the like; and second there is the negation of meaning. For many years now architectural books have juxtaposed, say, a gasometer with the Mausoleum of Hadrian, or grain elevators and columns. The
purpose of this is to show that what buildings are is
not important, but that forms being equal, they are equally beautiful no matter where they are. Besides the "too
familiar syllogism", another form of abstraction is the
hailing of power stations as "the cathedrals of our age".
What a building is has no meaning; a building is an abstraction, an absoloir can be as beautiful as a villa.

The pleasures of abstract art have in architecture

The pleasures of abstract art have in architecture been joined with those of idealism. Every architect has always felt that the world would be a better place if it could be re-built according to his own sesthetic preferences. Modern architests, however, differ from their ancestors in one important respect. Whereas the architects of the past dreamt of their Golden Age in terms of architecture, the modern architect lawed and depressed by the fastnesses of kartifet knowledge inhabited by specialists), has turned from architecture to preoccupations with sociology, economics, engineering, and psychology. When the architect is more interested in the relation of a building to various things, than the building itself; then his design becomes no more than a prose account of this or that situation (a correct answer to a difficult examination question), and architecture as an art ceases to exist. This is precisely what has happened.

lositively nothing has happened in architectural art since the "'20's" beyond the evolution of mannerisms

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such as: "natural textures"(always rough), "natural colors"(always blonde), and bigger philodendrons(the plant that made Modern Architecture possible).

The masterpieces of the Modern Style were created in the "'20's". Successive operations have not only brought no return upon the Modern's philosophic and theoretical capital, but show an investment so diminished that it seems to havedwindled away completely. The creators of those masterpieces are now the grand panjandorums of the academies; the "modern generation" is in its sixties, and its followers are the "good guys" of Louis Kronenberger's "Company Manners". The streams of daring inspiration and enthusiasm which flowed so clear and swift in the "'20's" have left the peaks, even the foothills, and now move sluggishly in the wide meander patterns of the plains, stirred only by prospects of commercial success. of scademic entrenchment, of security.

As the Duchess said to Mabel in "the Ideal Husband",
"You are remarkably modern Mabel, a little too modern,
perhaps. Nothing is so dangerous as being too modern;
one grows old-fashioned quite suddenly."

The Gods of an expiring faith are the demons of the new. Ancient Pan with his gost legs, horns, and tail became the devil of the Early Christians, while the dieties of spring and grove became evil spirits.

fig Could it be true also that the principles of the Modern Movement will be anothema to some new movement? What is the principle article of the modern faith? It is to be modern. In 1847 Professor Donaldson speaking to the students of the Architectural Association, said: "The great question is, are we to have an architecture of our period?" For over a century we have believed that we have buildings which express: our times, new ways of life, new materials, and etc. These are the cornerstones of the Modern Movement in architecture. Is it possible that the new movement will take an interest in the Grand Manner of the Classic Styles which at its outset in the poetry and philosophy of the eighteenth century it rejected? Is it possible that the new movement -let it be known forthwith as the Grand Designwill point out that Michelangelo claimed to be no more than a humble plagarist of the ancients, that blondel in his Place de la Concorde hoped that he was recreating the Grand Century of Ferrault's Louvre colonnade, -and that we need have no fear of the past, no fear of "copying", no fear of "the Styles", as the backward glance always transforms, that every product of an age "expresses " it, and that the classic tradition always retrospective and always different is the road to progress.

The pitchpipe of change is sounding, and it may be said in some not too distant future that architecture should be the master, and not the slave of construction and exterior necessity, that we may prefer richness to simplicity, the Graeco-Roman tradition to primitivism, palaces to youth hostels, knowledge to ignorance, the classical myth to the

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Freudian, communication to incantation, art to nature, and in sum, that Man is at the centre of the Universe.

If a new building is to be built on the Grand Canal what style should it be in? What is the style always castigated by critics? What is the style that calls forth epithets such as "mere pastiche!" "derivative!" "eclectic!" "dull!!" What is the style that due to its lack of sensationalism in the preservation of the ensemble by tact, and above all by its difficulty, holds the smallest appeal for the commercial and academic architect of today. What is the style that in all respects is revolutionary, i.e. the substitution of a new architectural polity for an old. It is the Grand Design.

If the City of Venice desires to give real proof of its vitality and of the liveliness of its traditions, let it build in the Grand Design. Let this new building be decorated by artists who knowing no fear re-introduce the beauty of the human form in all its infinite variety into painting and sculpture.

The task is dangerous for the artist must leave the backwaters of abstraction and syllogism, and enter into fields where he can be judged, where incompetence, technical or philosophical will be instantly recognized, and where Everyman can say "the emperor has no clothes".

If the Wright building is built it will eventually share the fate of the old iron bridge that used to span the canal at Accademia, or the façade of the old Austrian railroad station, i.e. demolition, but before that let us hope that a benificent providence will prosper the vines in those window boxes and conceal the building with a blanket of overgrowth, or perhaps, it might take the fancy of some future Hearst who would transplant it, stone by stone to the place where it belongs, - some distant suburb.

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Becker

# CINCINNATI MODERN ART SOCIETY

EDEN PARK - CINCINNATI, (6) OHIO - CHERRY 6139

March 1, 1954

Dear Alfred Barr:

Ever since I read your Profile in the New Pear Marioniave been wanting to tell you how

I am really touched by your letter which, as I like the New Yorker profile, does me all too much credit.

I do hope your retiring from the CMAS will not mean that you will withdraw your interest in it or that any serious change of policy is implied.

distressing pressures of one kind or another, that no such vibrant institution

could have resulted. It is somehow a

Marion R. Becker Art Society

Cincinnati 6, Ohio I can realize to

And impossed and extent what those problems have been as I retire from direct parti-

cipation in the CMAS, an avocation which

has given se great pleasure through the years. I also want to thank you for the

generous help you have always siven we

will continue to give the nor director.

Robert Luck. Grainfully

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EDEN PARK - CINCINNATI, (6) OHIO - CHERRY 6139

Dear Alfred Barr:

Ever since I read your Profile in the New Yorker I have been wanting to tell you how delighted I was that the author felt as I have these many years that without the terrific grasp you havehad of the overall problem and your spirit in resisting many distressing pressures of one kind or another, that no such vibrant institution could have resulted. It is somehow a relief to me to know that this authoritative and facutally documented tribute has been made public. I can realize to a very small extent what those problems have been as I retire from direct participation in the CMAS, an avocation which has given me great pleasure through the years. I also want to thank you for the generous help you have always given me in this job, help which I feel sure you will continue to give the new director,

Fc61814

Robert Luck. Gratefully, Marion R. Bedeen

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Bedard

# PARSONS

School of Design

136 EAST FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET, NEW YORK 22 9 PLACE DES VOSGES, PARIS

c 6 AAA Nerwort

July 1, 1954

Dear Mr. Barr:

My wife has shown me your letter which pleased her as much as it did me. My only regret is that I was not in on the discussion at Marjo Dewey's the other evening. I do hope we can pick up the threads and continue the conversation, as you say, sometime when it is cooler. It would be delightful to see you and Mrs. Barr again.

I am happy to know of your interest and that of Mrs. Barr in Parsons and that you have been giving some thought to the possibility of sending your daughter here at least for a summer session. I hope very much that you will do so, for I feel that our association with the Museum of Modern Art would be, if it were possible, even closer and that it would give us the occasion of seeing you more often.

You have our catalogue, so I am sending you herewith the folder for the summer session and another for the extension courses.

Faithfully yours,

Pierre Bedard

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr. The Museum of Modern Art 11 West 53rd Street New York 19, New York

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COP

# PARSONS SCHOOL OF DESIGN

136 East 57th Street, New York 22 - 9 Place des Vosges, Paris

Pierre Bedard, President

July 1, 1954

Dear Mr. Barr:

My wife has shown me your letter which pleased her as much as it did me. My only regret is that I was not in on the discussion at Marjo Dewey's the other evening. I do hope we can pick up the threads and continue the conversation, as you say, sometime when it is cooler. It would be delightful to see you and Mrs. Barr again.

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Faithfully yours,

/s/ Pierre Bédard

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr. The Museum of Modern Art 11 West 53rd Street Wew York 19, New York

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Bedard

June 28, 1954

PARSONS School of Design

July 1, 1955

Dear Mrs. Bédard:

I am really relieved to have your note and the very handsome catalog of the Parsons School -- I feared that I pushed my argument too far and had bored you.

Perhaps sometimes we can continue it - when it's cooler and maybe with your husband, who I am sure could answer my question.

As it happens, I have already seen the catalog which my wife had secured with the possibility in mind of sending our daughter at least for a summer session.

It was a pleasure to meet you and Mr. Bedard

Se again.

Sincerely,

that law taking to

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mrs. Pierre Bédard 136 East 57th Street New York, New York

AUDana

ou neu catalogue. J

lever the hope you wil

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

Collection: Series.Folder:

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PARSONS
School of Design

4504

Jean Mr Ban:

Our con versation was such from Juday.

That I am taking the liberty of Send eng you our new catalogue. I ferree the hope you will

Settignano Firenze, Italy

AHB:ar

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# **PARSONS**

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School of Design

like it.

With hest wishes Succeely.

Jeny Bedard

Thusday

Settignano Firenze, Italy

AHB:ar

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Bereusen

July 1, 1953

June 30, 1953

Dear B.B.,

Inspite of Marga's warnings I have written a letter of introduction to you for Conger Goodyear who for ten years was our Museum's President. I don't think he would mind my telling you that his nickname in Buffalo, where he grew up, was "Toughy" Goodyear, a fact recorded by Mabel Dodge along with other notes about him. Actually, although he is a rather formidable lumber and shipping tycoon, he is exceptionally cultivated and a great collector of modern sculpture, especially Maillol. His wife was Mrs. Cornelius Bliss whose former husband before his death was president of the Metropolitan Opera and whose sister was the angelic Lillie Bliss, our first Vice-President.

I know it will mean a great deal to them to be received by you and I myself would appreciate it greatly since, inspite of the many quarrels we had during his regime, I have great affection for him.

I do hope you are surviving the summer's heat and the summer's guests. My very best to Nicky and yourself.

Cordially,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mr. Bernard Berenson I Tatti Settignano Firenze, Italy

AHB:ar

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Bereusen

April 23, 1953

June 30, 1953

Dear B.B.,

I know how many visitors you have at I Tatti yet I feel that you would really enjoy receiving two friends of mine, Mr. and Mrs. A. Conger Goodyear. Mr. Goodyear was the first president of The Museum of Modern Art, carrying it through its first difficult decade. Before that he was president of the Albright Art Gallery in Buffalo and, I think, one of the leading American amateurs and collectors of modern painting and sculpture.

His charming wife has also been much interested in our Museum. I know that they would greatly enjoy meeting you and seeing I Tatti.

My very best to Nicky Mariano and to you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Gertrode Sanson 7719 Union Avenue Elkine Park Pennsylvania

Dr. Bernard Berenson I Tatti Settignano Firenze, Italy

AHBset

AHBsar

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	AHB	I.A.227

Dear Gertrude:

That was a really handsome notice you gave the new edition of WHAT IS MODERN PAINTING?

I read it with much appreciation.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Gertrude Benson
7719 Union Avenue
Elkins Park
Pennsylvania
AHB:et

AHBiet

ened Love Turn

boot

Aurilla.

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Gertunde R. Beusen 7719 UNION AVENUE · ELKINS PARK · PENNSYLVANIA Lea alfred Son -You see 2 am some Thing of a Borr fan. I enjaged your sock as much the time as when I fort read it. and wish I could have Juien more q les flavor of the boot--Treetings to Duesi Gairmai F.

	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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Sidney Bernstein called this morning. He is in town for a week at the Dorset. He thanks you for the letter, which I read to him over the phone, and says to tell you that he made a pilgrimage to see Iris Barry last Easter in Bience. Facence

1954

Marie.

He asks for to visit him when west for are in England.

this all the more since, unless I am mistaken, I remember you as a friend of Iris Barry's. Perhaps you could obtain permission from the British Museum or the Victoria and Albert, one of which surely has a copy of this masterpiece. If they don't, I think Zwymmer would have.

hundred New I Sincerely, and wonder If yet to reproduce in this country for this

Alfred H. Barr, Jr. Director of the Museum Collections

the very early days, even before

= Jidney Chamery

Mr. Sidney Bernstein, Chairman
The Granada Theatres Limited &
Transatlantic pictures Corporation Limited
36 Colden Square
London, W. 1., England

AHB ama

ours sincerely.

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ec: D. Miller

Berustein

December 1, 1954

Dear Mr. Bernstein:

I am sorry that the Museum is not in a position to give you permission to make a New Year's card from the Picaseo illustration in "Le Chef d'oeuvre incomu". I regret this all the more since, unless I am mistaken, I remember you as a friend of Iris Farry's. Perhaps you could obtain permission from the British Museum or the Victoria and Albert, one of which surely has a copy of this masterpiace. If they don't, I think 20/mmor would have.

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Alfred H. Barr, Jr. Director of the Museum Collections

Mr. Sidney Bernstein, Chairman
The Granada Theatres Limited &
Transatlantic pictures Corporation Limited
36 Colden Square
London, W. 1., England

A HIB sma

- Sidney Chamers

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ayres

11-26

Dear Dorothy -

SIDN

Don't quite know what to say, since we not only can't give permission but don't even have permission ourselves!

If we suggest writing to Picasso he won't get any answer anyhow & will probably identify the drawing as a MOMA Xmas card, thereby making P mad at us again.

Publisher of the book was Vollard, so we can't suggest that.

????

Tion -

The The 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N.Y.

Dear Sir,

I would like to reproduce Pablo Picasso's drawing from "Le Chef d'oeuvre inconnu" (number 7 in your Christmas Card catalogue) on about two hundred New Year cards, and wonder if you would give me permission to reproduce in this country for this purpose?

If so, I would require a good reproduction from which we could make a block, and would, of course, pay you any reasonable royalty in sterling. Alas, have no free dollars.

Full credit will be given. I would suggest "Pablo Picasso: Drawing from 'Le Chef d'oeuvre inconnu' by kind permission of The Museum of Modern Art, New York City".

Perhaps I should add that I was one of the subscribers to your Museum in the very early days, even before you were at the 'paper planning' stage.

Yours sincerely,

Tidney Bernens

10/ADR/CP

-mosgo 10, Illinois

AMBens

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SIDNEY L BERNSTEIN THE GRANADA THEATRES LIMITED and TRANSATLANTIC PICTURES CORPORATION LIMITED

36 GOLDEN SQUARE LONDON WI

Telephone Gerrard 3554
Telegrams: Berdarold Piccy London

17th November, 1954.

Dorothy miller

The Director,
The Museum of Modern Art,
11 West 53 Street,
New York 19, N.Y.

Dear Sir,

I would like to reproduce Pablo Picasso's drawing from "Le Chef d'oeuvre inconnu" (number 7 in your Christmas Card catalogue) on about two hundred New Year cards, and wonder if you would give me permission to reproduce in this country for this purpose?

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Yours sincerely,

Tidney Bernens

10/ADR/CP

- Lucago 10, Illinois

AUBron

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roAstor Street ock

November 2, 1953

Dear Alfred:

Your letter of October 29th is at hand and we will be looking forward to meeting Lady Norton and having her in our home. From your note I assume that she will get in touch with me on her arrival, and so I shall be awaiting her phone call.

At the moment Leigh and I have no immediate plans for a New York visit but if and when we contemplate same we will let you know post haste as we are looking forward to seeing you once again. In the meantime Leigh joins me in warmest greetings.

Cordially,

Many

(Mrs. Leigh Block)

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr. The Museum of Modern Art 11 West 53rd Street New York 19, New York

make other arrangements. I certainly don't want to be a bother.

I look forward very much to seeing you and Mr. Block and your wonderful pictures again.

Sincerely yours,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mrs. Leigh B. Block 1260 Astor Street Chicago 10, Illinois

AUBons

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

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Milwankee Block

26 June 1953

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

Dear Mrs. Block:

Thank you for your not o will be delighted to come to dinner on the evening of the ist.

ALL WOMAR'S BOARD

May I ask you a big favor? My doctor has ordered

the-season insomnia. Do you think that I could take a late
afternoon map, perhaps in Alfred Frankfurter's room? He

me to lie down for an hour before dinner to help cure end-of-

In any case Dan Rich is taking me from your party to his home where we shall spend the night and go on the next morning to Milwaukee for a jury session.

May I phone you as soon as I reach Chicago late
Wednesday morning? If my request is inconvenient, I can easily
make other arrangements. I certainly don't want to be a bother.

I look forward very much to seeing you and Mr. Block and your wonderful pictures again.

Sincerely yours,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mrs. Leigh B. Block 1260 Astor Street Chicago 10, Illinois

AUBerm

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cc: Lady Norton D Mkller Block

October 29, 1953

THE WOMAN'S BOARD

## THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

MRS. TIFFANY BLAKE, President

MRS. CHAUNCEY McCORMICK, Honorary Co-chairman

MRS. POTTER PALMER, Honorary Co-chairman

MRS. CHARLES H. WORCESTER, Honorary Co-chairman

MRS. SAMUEL A. MARX, Treasurer

MRS. WALTER P. PAEPCKE, Assistant Treasurer

MRS. VICTOR K. ZURCHER, Secretary

CHICAGO 3 ILLINOIS TELEPHONE CENTRAL 6-7080

June 18, 1953

Dear Mr. Barr:

This is just a quick note to tell you that we are expecting you for dinner at 7:30 on July 1. We are looking forward greatly to having you with us.

Cordially yours,

Many Poske Block
Mrs. Leigh B. Block
1260 Astor Street
Chicago 10, Illinois

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director The Museum Collections The Museum of Modern Art 11 West 53rd Street New York 19, New York

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cc: Lady Norton D Mkller Block

October 29, 1953

Dear Mary:

An English friend, Lady Norton, expects to come to Chicago about the 6th of November for a few days and would very much appreciate having the chance to look through your collection. I am giving her a note of introduction to you and hope that you may find it convenient to let her see the pictures. I am also giving her letters to Florene Marx and to Earle Ludgin.

Lady Norton is the wife of Sir Clifford Norton, the British diplomat now attached to the British delegation of the United Nations. She has been very active in the London art world for the past twenty years, both as a collector and as an organizor of exhibitions. I think you will find her very good company.

I have suggested that she phone you.

My very best to yourself and Leight When are you coming to New York?

more open thought up house torre observe.

I have to take the pleasure of se Sincerely yours, and yourself. Resemblic let us thank you both

Simparchy

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

shifted By Barry Fra

Mrs. Leigh B. Block 1260 Astor Street Chicago, Illinois

AHB : ma lafata B. Massie

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Block

April 9, 1952

Dear Mr. Block:

By now you doubtless have my letter of three weeks ago written to ask you whether I might see your collection when I was in Chicago last week. After I arrived I learned from Sam Marx that you were in Europe, but he most kindly volunteered to take me to see your pictures. Of course I was greatly disappointed totate see you and Mrs. Block and realized that a good many of the pictures were away on loan. Nevertheless I was very much delighted and impressed by what I saw. Of course I knew a good many of the pictures before you bought them, but some of them were entirely new to me, and altogether they are certainly a remarkable collection. I think you have the best early Miro landscape I have seen; the best 1914 Picasso; two wonderful van Goghs, and other distinguished 19th century pictures. Of course I regretted not seeing the Matisses, but the other fine things by Picasso and Gris helped make up for their loss.

Some time when I come back to Chicago
I hope to have the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Block and
yourself. Meanwhile let me thank you both for a wonderful
hour even though my hosts were absent.

Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mr. Leigh B. Block 1260 Astor Street Unickgok, Illinois

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Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mr. Leigh B. Block 1260 Astor Street Unwcagow, Illinois

AHB:mh

THE SECOND SECON	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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March 21, 1952

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Blocks

I expect to be in Chicago on Wednesday and Thursday, the 2nd and 3rd of April, and should greatly appreciate seeing your collection if that should be convenient for you. May I phone you as soon as I get to town?

I look forward with great pleasure to seeing your pictures and your house and renewing my acquaintance with their owners.

All Street St. Barry, July

Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Leigh B. Block 1260 Astor Street Chicago, Illinois

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BLOMQUIST

June 12, 1953

November 1h, 1950

Dear Mr. Blomquists

Dear Mrs. Thank you for leaving your card. I appreciate

your having brought greetings from Mr. Grunewald.

Sincerely yours,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Director of the Museum Collections

Mr. Allen Palmer Blomquist 1116 North Grant Avenue Pocatello, Idaho

AHE :ma

Collection: Series.Folder: The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY AHB I.A.227

THE MU

Mr. Allen Palmer Blomquist
Mr. N. Grant And
Pocatello, Idales

ERN ART

June 9'53

To: M. Barr

Re:

Part Deck

Left at funt Desk for Mr. Burr.

With all best wishes for the success of your show and kindest regards to you and Mr. Blumberg, I am

If no we would esincerely yours, buring you

visit us evalo for a day and siving mes. Planters the

benefit of your criticism of her recent work. Whather your tri Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg 1395 Ingraham Highway Coconut Grove Miami, Florida

AHB:mh

Eng Dumberg

Collection: Series.Folder: The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY AHB I.A.227

THE MUSE Personal greetings RN ART

Jrom Ivan Grunewald ne 9'53

Stackhalm, Sweden.

MBbongmit

To: M. Barr

Teft at funt Deck for Mr. Burr.

With all best wishes for the success of your show and kindest regards to you and Mr. Blumberg, I am

wish as evals for a day and giving Wra. Humberg the

If so we would "Sincerely yours, or time you

benefit of your criticism of her recent work. Shether your tel Alfred H. Barr, Jr. have just

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg 4395 Ingraham Highway Coconut Grove Miami, Florida

A HB :mh

Day Humberg

	Collection:	Series.Folder:
The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	AHB	I.A.227

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date June 9'53

To: M. Barr

Re:

From: Front Deck

Left at funt Desh for Mr. Burr.

With all best wishes for the success of your show and kindest regards to you and Mr. Blumberg, I am

wisit on again for a day and giving Mrs. Plumberg the

If so we would Sincerely yours, bearing you

benefit of your criticism of her recent work. Whether your tot Alfred H. Barr, Jr. hare just

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg Miami, Florida ty to show you want the han been doth's

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BENJAMIN BLUMBERG

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

TELEPHONE CHAWFORN SURE

Blumberg

4595 Ingraham Way scount Grove, F 1s. November 4, 1858

Mr. Alfred Barr, Director

The Museum of Modern Art

November 14, 1952

11 West 55 St.

Haw York, 10, N.Y.

Door Mr. Harri-

Just a note to let you that the Rudolph

Gallery Dear Mrs. Blumberg: Y. has booked a one can show for

I was very happy to hear that you are going to have an exhibition this month at the Art Gallery of Miami University. I hope this means also that you have fully recovered and are painting again.

As far as I can see now I shall not be able to come to Florida this winter, but should my plans change I will certainly let you know.

With all best wishes for the success of your show and kindest regards to you and Mr. Blumberg, I am

If so we would Sincerely yours, wwing you

benefit of your criticism of her recent work.

Whether your tri Alfred H. Barr, Jr. have just

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg
4395 Ingraham Highway
Coconut Grove
Miami, Florida

AHB:mh

Long L. Humberg

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### BENJAMIN BLUMBERG

306 STAR BUILDING

#### TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

TELEPHONE CRAWFORD 5068

4395 Ingraham Hwy Coconut Grove, F la. November 4, 1952

Mr. Alfred Barr, Director
The Museum of Modern Art
11 West 53 St.
New York, 19, N.Y.
Dear Mr. Barr:-

Just a note to let you that the Rudolph Gallery of Woodstock, N.Y. has booked a one man show for Mrs. Blumberg at the new Lowe Art Gallery at Miami Univeristy for November 25 to December 14th. and hence we have assembled a large number of her paintings down here.

The thot occured to us that since you have come down during the past two years, you might be con templating another visit to Southern Florida again this year.

If so we would enjoy very much having you visit us again for a day and giving Mrs. Blumberg the benefit of your criticizm of her recent work.

Whether your trip would bring you here just before or just shortly after the show this would give her an excellent opportunity to show you what she has been doing.

Penyl. Mumbers

FOR STUDY PURPOSES ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION. Collection: Series.Folder: The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY AHB I.A.227 BENJAMIN BLUMBERG DOZ STAR BUILDING TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA TELEPHONE CHANTONS SORE May 19, 1952 September 22, 1952 Mrs. Blumberg asked no to send the englosed program of her show which opened posterday afternoon. We really had a good time and there was a spirit of friendlinear and good homer all through the reception. There were quite a number of people there from Terre Haute, a great many of the familie, and of course, many students although it was a rainy day outside. Dear Mrs. Blumbergive been surprised at the favorable newspaper I am heartbroken to find that you have left town so soon. I tried to reach you Friday and then was out of town over the week-end. I had hoped so much to reach you today to see whether you might be free to go out to Weber's, or at least to have luncheon with my wife and myself. I had just returned from Europe. The next time you come to New York, won't you please write me a bit ahead so that I am not going to miss you again. Meanwhile my very best to you both. Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg Terre Haute, Indiana AHBemh

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## BENJAMIN BLUMBERG 307 STAR BUILDING TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

TELEPHONE CRAWFORD 5068

May 19, 1952

Dear Mr. Barr:

Mrs. Blumberg asked me to send the enclosed program of her show which opened yesterday afternoon. We really had a good time and there was a spirit of friendliness and good humor all through the reception. There were quite a number of people there from Terre Haute, a great many of the faculty, and of course, many students although it was a rainy day outside.

We have been surprised at the favorable newspaper publicity that has come out of this show in all the Terre Haute papers and even the Indianapolis papers.

I noticed quite a number of students examining each picture carefully and making a great many notes, so I presume as a part of their class work there will be some comments and criticism that will prove beneficial.

Sorry you were not able to be here to see the show.

Sincerely,

BB'wd Encls.

10

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De Pauw University Kappa Pi Art Traternity invite you to attend a tea in honor of Fannie Burgheim Blumberg marking the opening of an Exhibition of her paintings and lithographs De Pauw Art Center Sunday, May 18 two to five o'clock

The Exhibition to continue to June 8

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rove, Fla. 13 1952

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regards

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very traly yours

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A to the

The DePauw University Art Center proudly presents an exhibit of paintings and lithographs by Fannie Burgheim Blumberg, an outstanding Hoosier artist. The University is extremely fortunate in having this one-man exhibition in order that students, faculty, and patrons of the community may enjoy these deeply-felt artistic expressions.

Mrs. Blumberg's paintings and prints are outstanding for their deep expressive values. Seldom does one find such power, sensitivity, religious feeling, and strength in a woman's artistic works. These are expressionistic paintings—a product of a mature and sensitive mind.

The artist is a member of the Rudolph Galleries in Woodstock, New York; she is a member of the Pen and Brush Club of Terre Haute and an honorary member of the Kappa Pi Art Fraternity of Indiana State Teachers College. Her work has been shown in many local and national exhibitions, and her first one-man show was held at the Indiana State Teachers College Gallery in 1949. Mrs. Blumberg resides in Terre Haute and Miami, Florida.

Mrs. Blumberg has studied with Franz Joseph Bollinger and Byron J. Newton of Miami and Sueo Serisawa of Los Angeles.

DePauw University and Kappa Pi thank Fannie Burgheim Blumberg for the honor of presenting her work to our campus and community.

Ray H. French DePauw Art Department



an exhibition of oils and lithographs

art center

DePauw University

May 18 - June 8, 1952

## Oils

- 1. FLOWERS OF PAIN
- 2. TERRY'S GIFT BOUQUET
- 3. THE SINS OF THE FATHERS
- 4. LITTLE CLOWNS' FIRST PERFORMANCE
- 5. MY FRIEND MAY LEVAN REJOICE
- ONE STEP FORWARD
- . ROOF TOPS
- 8. WATERMELON STILL LIFE
- 9. STILL LIFE STUDY
- 10. YELLOW BADGE
- 11. MOTHER AND CHILDREN
- 12. YOKE
- 13. PRAYER
- 14. STILL LIFE WITH BONE AND INDIAN RUG
- 15. BANANAS
- 16. BIRDS AND FLOWERS
- 17. SEASCAPE
- 18. SAN FRANCISCO ROOF TOPS
- 19. LILIES
- 20. SUNFLOWER STUDY

## Lithographs

- 21. MY FRIEND MAY LEVAN REJOICE
- 22. SAN FRANCISCO ROOF TOPS
- 23. BANANAS AND LILIES
- 24. SUNFLOWERS
- 25. TREES AT NIGHT
- 26. TREE FORMS
- 27. SECRET BURIAL
- 28. "LOOK ON THE RISING SUN: THERE GOD DOES LIVE"
- 29. SEATED NUDE
- 30. PENSIVE MAID

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BENJAMIN BLUMBERG 307 STAR BUILDING TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

TELEPHONE CRAWFORD 5068

Coconut Grove, Fla. March 13 1952

Blumberg

Mr. Alfred H.Barr, Jr.

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53rd. St.

N ew York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Barr:-

I was so surprised and everwhelmed to receive from you the other day an autographed and numbered copy of your book on Matisse. You must know how much I appreciate your thofullness and how much I prize possession of this particular volume. I thank you.

I am happy to be able to say that my health has greatly improved since you were down here, and that with the coming of warmef weather I have been able to put forth more effort and get much more accomplished than during the first few months.

We are now looking forward and planning on our return to Terre Haute and to our family there, as well as the little show I am to give at DePauw University under the auspices of Prof. French beginning May 16th.

Mr. Blumberg joins me in sending best regards and gratitude for the Matisse book.

very truly yours

Fame Both by

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4593 Ingraham Highway Coconut Grove, Florida

February 25, 1952

March 3, 1952

Museum of Modern Art 11 West 53rd Street New York Dear Mrs. Blumberg:

sorry indeed to hear that you have been ill again.

You should have felt under no obligation to return the Max Weber book promptly. I am very glad you please liked it. for not returning the beautiful little max weber book any somer. Eave been the actually your letter brings me great

Actually your letter brings me great
embarrassment, because it reminds me that I never
wrote to thank you for your extraordinary kindness
to Millard Meiss. Certainly you and Mr. Blumberg
could scarcely have been more friendly or helpful.
He and his wife were really quite overcome with
gratitude — and so was I.

too, is the last of Art" by Max Reber, and this too, is the last of the last o

In the meantime my very best to you

both,

Sincerely - Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg 4539 Ingraham Highway Coconut Grove, Florida

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BENJAMIN BLUMBERG R R 5 TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

4593 Ingraham Highway Coconut Grove, Florida

February 26, 1952

Museum of Modern Art 11 West 53rd Street New York 19, New York

Attention Mr. Alfred Barr

Dear Mr. Barr:

Please forgive me for not returning the beautiful little Max Weber book any sooner. Have been ill again and it has delayed some of my duties.

It was a great joy to have the little book for a while and I want to thank you again for so kindly lending it to me.

One of the teachers at the University also let me borrow "Essays on Art" by Max Weber, and this too, is terrifically interesting to enjoy.

With best wishes -

OS. Doch wiee be on its may.

fb:nw

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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

c.c. George Stillman

January 17, 1952 Date\_

Alfred Barr

Re: Matisse book for

From: Natalie Hoyt

To:

Mrs. Blumberg

In answer to your memo to Rene d'Harnoncourt about sending a copy of the deluxe edition of Matisse to Mrs. Blumberg, I have asked Marianne Hartog to order a complimentary copy and charge it to Membership. George Stillman has approved this expenditure from the funds of the Membership Department.

NH.

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THE

The Membership Department is sending the de luxe edition to Mrs. Blumberg -that way she might get on their lists for future publications. I ART

, 1952

To:

From:

for Mrs. Blumberg

Miss Hoyt told me that the Membership Department wanted to send a copy of the Matisse De Luxe edition to Mrs. Blumberg. I am attaching an order form for your signature.

mh

might not want to send her a copy of the limited edition in which I could write some sort of message. I attach her letter. Please return it to me.

what we below thing afterious that and indesity belief with you did seeing your book but also the drive with her Alighberg to see missi belongither

I are dell'about an indice that over talk high life

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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date January 16, 1952

To:

F

Mr. George S. Stillman

From:

Marianne Hartog

Re: Matisse Book for Mrs. Blumberg

Dear Mr. Stillman:

Miss Hoyt told me that the Membership Department wanted to send a copy of the Matisse De Luxe edition to Mrs. Blumberg. I am attaching an order form for your signature.

might not want to send her a copy of the limited edition in which I could write some sort of message. I attach her letter. Please return it to me.

What are today while of services that were now

I am dell'appropriate that our talk was let

ween a little only of you. I thought afficusively that you are by about make a points too standard but you are by about a point of real playing and directs according to the little of t

Under another cover I we made you she of two copies with a large to have hept on the database of approve before your last and a large to the large t

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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date December 26, 1951

To:

Mr. René d'Harnoncourt

From:

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Re: Mrs. Blumberg

Dear René:

I have aim a most enthusiastic if somewhat incoherent letter from Mrs. Blumberg about the Matisse book which arrived. She now apparently wants to send me the copy back to be authographed.

Under the circumstances I wonder if the Museum might not want to send her a copy of the limited edition in which I could write some sort of message. I attach her letter. Please return it to me.

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I am not be properly an under that over tally went out

that periods I had cold down points too also all but you are no also bell a person of man about all all received on implication.

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Blumbery 10, 100 /

December 18, 1951

I am also sentifue may a rais of fact towar's book of poems and wondouts called remarkings. I wish I small give it to you but it was print I am it Woter himself over twenty years ago as a fact I on our feel I can cart with it personnelly. I am to the to find you another cong.

With want burn whomay by you but for a harmy

Dear Mrs. Blumberg:

Charle home man flow Sentr. C wall-

I was delighted to find your letter upon my return to New York -- although I felt embarrassed at not having written you first to teank you for the delightful afternoon in Coconut Grove.

I am really quite relieved by what you say about Mr. Rockefeller's purchase. What I explained to you was tone, namely that he was under no pressure or obligation to buy. I often call his attention to works by American and European painters, but quite often he is not interested. Also quite often he and I do not agree, as is true in your case for I greatly prefer your little abstraction. However Mr. Rockefeller's choice may bring some reassurance to Mr. Blumberg who, I remember, did not entirely approve of your abstractions.

What an interesting afternoon that was not only talking with you and seeing your work but also the drive with Mr. Blumberg to see Miami University and Mr. McNab.

I am delighted to think that our talk was of even a little value to you. I thought afterwards that perhaps I had debated some points too strongly but you are so obviously a person of such strong and sincere convictions that I indulged my inclination to debate perhaps too strenuously.

Under another cover I am sending you one of two copies which I happen to have kept of the catalog of our Max Weber exhibition of 1930. After having read Holger Cahill's eloquent and moving account of Weber I am sure you will find this very brief text an anticlimax. Nevertheless it does include several notes by Weber on his paintings and also several quite good plates.

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Mrs . Benjamin Blumberg

-2-

December 18, 1951

I am also sending you a copy of Max Weber's book of poems and woodcuts called Primitives. I wish I could give it to you but it was given to me by Weber himself over twenty years ago so that I do not feel I can part with it permanently. I am trying to find you another copy.

With very best wishes to you both for a happy Christmas and New Year, I am

Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg 1395 Ingraham Highway Coconut Grove Miami, Florida

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MRS. FANNIE B. BLUMBERG De 17 51 Dear mi Barr and I really should address you as afred 29, 1951 Barr after receing the magnificent book kince the writer cutaing deserves most honorable recogniz half cted you really disers scolding I presume it. to be modest by sincerely believe that r, Jr.

	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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MES. FANNIE B. BLUMBERG TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA a perfect sight to be voluttle enthusiastic and exceled. l exceled ale revaure I leur r, Jr. a skatches, AZT t

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MRS. FANNIE B. BLUMBERG TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA What for we might han hat on What Tuesday if you had opened your heart and let mlf love for great painters and their willes speak. I would and could have listered quite spell bound to you rewalls r, Jr.

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RS. FANNIE B. BLUMBERG FERRE HAUTE, INDIANA (4) edotes and true 29, 1951 half tope you will for me 14 they in r, Jr.

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MES FANNIE B. BLUMBERG TERRE HAUTE INDIANA if it is a gift on you I shall 29, 1951 half Must wo me again in senting you r, Jr. o sketches. All !

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MRS. FANNIE B. BLUMBERG new year. Luicerg Famile BBh TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA 29, 1951 half cted r, Jr.

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Blumberg TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA MRS. FANNIE B. BLUMBERG The other water lolor arried to ly parted as cauful half 10 red r, Jr. to the Heaven and

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA MRS. FANNIE B. BLUMBERG 29, 1951 r, Jr.

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Ole 11, DI MRS. FANNIE B. BLUMBERG Dear Mr Barry Frist I want to you loth Der 29, 1951 my which g for such a r, Jr. o skytches, All !

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## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date December 19, 1951

To:

Mr. René d'Harnoncourt

Re: Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg

From:

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Dear René:

Here is a letter from Mrs. Blumberg. Would you glance through it and return it to me?

With very kind regards to you and Mr.

Sincerely yours,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg Coconut Grove Miami, Plorida of one was a small to with the accessed fill to that the and her best been very kind to he has been and

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	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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November 29, 1951

Dear Mrs. Blumbergs the Sanking place of the place to

Outr Hys. Blueborgs

I have been out of the Museum for almost half a year now working on the Matisse book so that I neglected what I had planned when I borrowed the two watercolors from you last December, namely to show them to Melson Rockefeller anonymously to see whether he might not be interested in them. Finally today I had the opportunity to show them to him, still without mentioning your name. To my delight he wanted to buy the fruit still life. After he made his decision I told him who painted them. He is going to sand you a check. The other one we are returning to you.

7 hope to have the pleasure of seeing some more of your pictures in the not too distant future.

and which two small submiddless are strend hard Paithfully if any

With very kind regards to you and Mr. Blumberg, I am

Sincerely yours,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg Coconut Grove Miami, Florida at the work we would be with the shottenes. All

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

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## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date November 9, 1951

To: Monawee Allen

From: Letitia Howe

Re: Mrs. Blumberg

Dear Monawee:

Some time last summer I promised to let you know the name of the lady whose two small watercolors are stored here! Faithfully if not promptly, she is:

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg 4395 Ingraham Highway Coconut Grove, Miami, Florida

Will try to find out what we should do with the sketches. All I know is that she and her husband have been very kind to the Museum and we were going to advise her on art teachers.

I still have your water colors in my office and look back with so much pleasure on my all too brief visit to your home.

My best to you and your husband,

Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg 4395 Ingraham Highway Coconut Grove Miami, Forida

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Blumble

cc: Mr. d'Harmoncourt

February 2, 1951

December 15-1940

Dear Mrs. Blumberg:

How very good to hear from you. I am glad to know that you liked the Soutine show. I wish very much that you could have seen it. You may be interested to know that we exchanged our Soutine, reproduced on page 70, for the more important and livelier picture illustrated on page 74.

I am interested to hear that you have been working with Dan Lutz. I wonder if the next time you have a critic down to see your work, you might not consider someone from New York, such as Bradley Walter Tomlin or Philip Guston. Both of them work at the present time in abstract style, but both have had the strictest kind of academic discipline as students and have been successful in various more realistic styles in the past. We have not approached either of these painters, but would be glad to do so if you should be interested.

I still have your water colors in my office and look back with so much pleasure on my all too brief visit to your home.

My best to you and your husband,

Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg 4395 Ingraham Highway Coconut Grove Miami, Forida

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Blunding

December 21, 1950

Than drer.

Dear Mrs. Blumberg:

As you know I made the plane with four minutes to spare and a great deal of embarrassment over not having had the couple of hours' leisurely talk with you that I had hoped for. Unfortunately the Scottish chauffeur who drove me from Palm Beach got lost completely in Miami - indeed had to ask his way some seven times - before reaching Ingraham Highway. I had no idea that Miami was so big, so confusing, or so full of traffic.

You were most kind to receive me as you did.

I greatly enjoyed even our brief talk together and my brief glimpse of your paintings. I am so glad that you let me take a couple of the water colors along with me. They are in my office now to my real pleasure.

I hope soon to write you some definite recommendation about a painter who would be able to come to Florida for a week in order to give you some critisism and advice on your work.

Won't you tell Mr. Blumberg how much I appreciated his wonderfully efficient transportation to the airfield.

Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director of the Museum Collections

Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg 4395 Ingraham Highway Coconut Grove, Florida

P. S. Mr. d'Harnoncourt believes there must be some misunderstanding about his having recommended Max Beckmann. He agrees that Beckmann would not be really a desirable candidate.

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Fannie Burgheim Blumberg 4395 Ingraham Highway Goconut Grove Jan 26/51 Miami, Florida Mr. alfred Hy Barr Ir. Dingos of the Museum Collectors Dear mr Barr, We received The interesting book on onor Vontine from The museum for which we was say Thaul you. This summe Antines and was award and his magnificent the chingre Alus sey hand of The nureum to retake

Collection: Series.Folder: The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY AHB I.A.227

> lis in this manner and an are proof toold it to gove collection o) and books. Have been unly hard as usual. Mr Mis Dan Furty wer here for alwa week and I had a stiff sond yout-- Leisin, Afryoge Ais hand to tashle thereproblems ar an I should like to let Them shide but feel quite sure The Junto the arting mee presandant

24, 1953

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY AHB I.A.227

than der. With many Thanks to the mesum again. all had when Is you an my. of Harmond from toth ous -Anicery Fame Boharley ad of Tonor Parker mear

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Blumberg

Fannie Burgheim Blumberg 4395 Ingraham Highway Goconut Grove Miami, Florida

December 30th /50

Mr alfred H. Barr. Vr. Dea Mr Basy we receive you kuid letter an were glad to know you

arrived safely in new york after such a long and hertie day in miame.

It was Thotple of you to travel so for and was

sey glob to med you and did affreirate your

BOLDT

r 24, 1953

Nonor from

ne rest

ring York.

> Parker hear

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: I I have untlen to 7mm, d'Haroncourt and I believe he wie tell you how we feel aln't and beginned. We are very gratiful to The mospelin for under taking the project and bein it will be careful executed. We wish to thank you as well as the miseum for the intent and antery which you have show. me Blinky yours me ni unting you the text bot the Coming year bot the Coming year

	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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BOLDT

## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Movember 3, 1953

Rot Amfonid Gentle

November 24, 1953

For Photography Department From: Marie Alexander

Dear Dr. Bolt:

I have been able to ask Edward Steichen, the head of our Department of Photography about the Genthe negatives. He replies that the San Francisco negatives of Arnold Genthe were left at the San Francisco Palace of the Legion of Monor (or possibly the de Young Museum). Portrait negatives from the New York studio he believes were "just dumped." The rest can be found in San Francisco.

I am afraid this is not very helpful in recovering the negatives of the portraits of Mrs. Bolt made in New York. If I can find out anything more, I will let you know.

It was very good to hear from you. I am going to send you letter to my mother who lives in Detroit (1415 Parker Avenue, Detroit 14). I know she would be delighted to hear from you if you have the time to write her.

Cordially yours,

Mr. Steichen believes that most of the San Francisco regalities of Arnold

Genthe were left at the San Francisco PalacAlfred H. Barr, Jr. Honor (it

2954 Linden Avenue

Berkeley 5, California de believes were just dumped. The

rest can balbimed in San Francisco.

Marke

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	AHB	I.A.227

Bolt -

## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date November 4, 1953

To: Alfred

From: Marie

Re: Arnold Centhe negatives

Mr. Steichen believes that most of the San Francisco negatives of Arnold Genthe were left at the San Francisco Palace of the Legion of Honor (it may be the Young Museum, but he thinks it is the former). Portrait negatives from the New York period he believes were just dumped. The rest can be found in San Francisco.

Marie

Thank you,

Sincerely and best wishing

Allered R. Sary, St.

Money Italy

som luck.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY AHB I.A.227

1301t

## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date November 3, 1953

To: Photography Department

From: Marie Alexander

Re: Amponld Genthe

Mr. Barr has had an enquiry from Dr. Bolt of the University of California about the negatives of Arnold Genthe, a San Francisco photographer who moved later to New York.

Arnold Genthe had a studio on Fifth Avenue as late as 1921. Would you please ask Mr. Steichen if he knows anything about the photographer and where his negatives might have gone after his death?

Simparely and best

Calleria Destinale Starte Modares

Thank you,

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

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GALLERIA NAZIONALE D'ARTE MODERNA

There IC BY Throw DE

Shit SE

Ringraziamento.

The Bacarelle

Al Dott, ALFRED BARR Nuseo d'Arte Moderna

NEW YORK

February 11, 1953

Dear Dr. Bucarelli:

January 17. I shall be glad to keep watching for a copy of Cubism and Abstract Art should it turn up at some antiquarian's. However, it is extremely rare and, I am afraid, very costly. However, we may have some luck.

Sincerely and best wishes,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Dr. Palma Bucarelli Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna Valle Giulia Rome, Italy

Ancora moite grazie e gradisca i miel migliori seluti.

AHB:mh

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# SOPRINTENDENZA GALLERIA NAZIONALE D'ARTE MODERNA

St. 11/ Posiz. St. 15/2 Allegat

Risposta a de

Prot. Tt. Dio.

Oggetto Ringraziamento.=

Roma, li 17 GEN. 1933 195

(VALLE GIULIA) - TEL. 870.508

Al Dott. ALFRED BARR

Museo d'Arte Moderna

NEW YORK

Gentile Dottore,

La ringrazio moltissimo della cortesia con la quale ha aderito alla mia richiesta relativa alle pubblicazioni del Museo di Arte Moderna di New York . Approfitto della Sua comprensione per chiederLe di seguire, possibilmente, il mercato antiquario, dove penso che si potrebbe trovare il volume esaurito, anticipandomi cortesemente il denaro che poi provvederei a rimborsarLe.

Ancora molte grazie e gradisca i miei migliori saluti.

IL SOPRINTENDENTE

(Doth. Balma Bucarelly)

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

Collection: Series.Folder:

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Bucarelli

January 5, 1953

Dear Dr. Bucarelli: 1685 of Cas basics which you

Deay Dr. Bucayellis

We are very happy to send you Mr.

Ritchie's book on Abstract Painting and Sculpture
in America but unfortunately it is quite impossible
to provide Cubism and Abstract Art which has been
out of print for a dozen years and is extremely
rare.

Hersiana.

It is very agreeable to hear from you. My very best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

imposor of the Museum Colin

Dr. Palma Bucarelli Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna Valle Giulia Rome, Italy

A HB smh

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Bucarelli

LERIA NAZIONALE

Obligation of 15 of manifest

Oppose Pubblinamioni del Museum of Modern Art. April 5, 1951

Dott. A. H. Burr. Jr.

Dear Dr. Bucarelli:

I am attaching a list of the books which you wrote that you would like to have and which we can send to you. In some cases I have been able to apply my personal 50% discount as a member of the Museum staff, but unfortunately there is no discount on the paper-bound books. You will also see that one of the books is now out of print. The total price of the books, therefore, is \$14.98.

We will await your word as to how we should ship the books, whether through American diplomatic pouch or not.

BY Abartha Sirie abunta questa Engantendente La

Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr. Director of the Museum Collections

Dr. Palma Bucarelli
Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna
Valle Guilia
Rome, Italy

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### SOPRINTENDENZA GALLERIA NAZIONALE D'ARTE MODERNA

Prot. St. 60 3 3 Posiz. St. 15 - 1 Allegati St.

Risposta a

Prot. T.

Posiz. Tt.

Oggetto Pubblicazioni del Museum of Modern Art.

Bucarelli 7 maggio

50

Dott. A. H. Barr. Jr. Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53rd St.

NEW YORK FREEDREE

Caro Barr,

Le trasmetto a nome della dott. Bucarelli temporaneamente fuori sede un assegno di dollari 14,98 che il Prof. Lionello Venturi ha cortesemente messo a nostra disposizione per l'acquisto dei libri di cui Lei ci ha inviato l'elenco. Le sarò molto grato se vorrà spedirli a questa Soprintendenza mediante la valigia diplomatica americana. 1111 1 più cordicii culuti

E' inutile dirLe quanto questa Soprintendenza La ringrazi, anche a nome degli studiosi che frequentano la nostra biblioteca, per il Suo amichevole interessamento.

Sperando di poter usufruire anche in futuro della Sua cortesia e di poterLa in qualche modo contraccambiare, La prego di gradire intanto anche a nome della dott. Bucarelli i miei più cordiali saluti

> L'ISPETTORE Corradoualten (dott. Corrado Maltese)

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#### SOPRINTENDENZA GALLERIA NAZIONALE D'ARTE MODERNA

Prot. T. 6983 Posis. T. 15-1 Allegati T. Museum of Modern Art

Risposta a del

Prot. T. Div.

Oggetto Pubblicazioni del Museum of Modern Art di New York. =

Roma, li 5- J- 1951

Dott. A.H. Barr Jr.

11 West 53.rd St.

NEW YORK N.Y -----

U.S.A.

Caro Barr,

La informo che sono giunti a questa Soprintendenza i libri da Lei cortesemente inviati.

Mentre La ringrazio anche a nome degli studiosi che frequentano la nostra biblioteca della gentilezza usataci sia nelle difficoltà della spedizione sia nelle riduzioni sui prezzi, La prego di gradire anche a nome della dott. Bucarelli i più cordiali saluti

Counts Walten

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#### SOPRINTENDENZA GALLERIA NAZIONALE D'ARTE MODERNA

Prot. T. 2009 Posiz. T. 15/2 Allegati T. Direttore del Museo di Arte Moderna Risposta a Prot. Tt. Div.

Oggetto Richiesta di pubblicazioni .=

Roma, li 12 - XII - 1952 (VALLE GIULIA) - TEL. 870.508

A Mister ALFRED H. BARR

NEW YORK

Caro Barr,

per la biblioteca della Galleria avrei assoluto bisogno di due importanti pubblicazioni del Museo di Arte Moderna di New York, e precisamente di "Cubism and Abstract Art" 1936 e "Abstract painting and sculpture in America" 1951. So che il primo di essi è quasi introvabile presso le librerie, perciò mi rivolgo a Lei nella speranza che possa averne ancora qualche copia presso il Museo stesso o possa procurarmela in qualche modo.

Le sarò molto grata se vorrà mandarmi i due volumi con la massima cortese sollecitudine, perchè mi occorrono per un lavoro urgente.

La ringrazio anticipatamente e Le mando i miei migliori saluti.

IL SOPRINTENDENTE

(Dott. Palma Bucarelli)

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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

DATE January 5, 1953

## REQUEST FOR PUBLICATIONS

Kindly send one copies of the following publications:

paper

abstract Painting & Sculpture in America

To:

DR. PALMA BUCARELLI GALEERIA NAZIONALE D'ARTE MODERNA VALLE GIULIA ROME, ITALY

al adilari 44.47 I libri che vorrei mi fosmero inviati sono i seguenti: Io - Fourteen Americans-edited by Dorothy C. Miller- Rilega= X 1.50 to in carta 20 - The history of photography from 1839 to the present day by Beaumont Newhall dollari -5.00 2.50 30 - Painting and sculpture acquisitions from January I, 1948 X to July I, 1949 - Edit. idem - Rilegato in carta cents 25 4º - Pierre Bonnard - By John Rewald - Rilegato in carta dollari 1.75 2.50 1,25 50 - Stuard Davis - By James Johnson Sweeney dollari Totale da riportare dollari 11.00

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## SOPRINTENDENZA ALLA GALLERIA NAZIONALE D'ARTE MODERNA

IL SOPRINTENDENTE

Roma, 18 febbraio 1951

(VALLE GIULIA)

Mr. Alfred H. Barr
The Museum of Modern Art
II West 53rd Street

NEW YORK 19

Gentile Signor Barr,

X

X

La ringrazio vivamente di quanto mi scrive nella Sua gradita lettera, del catalogo "Pubblications of the Museum of Modern Art" e particolarmente del catalogo della vostra raccolta.

Avrei intenzione di acquistare alcuni dei libri compresi nel catalogo ricevuto, ma desidererei prima conoscere quale sconto Lei potrà concedermi sulla somma complessiva di dollari 24.25

I libri che vorrei mi fossero inviati sono i seguenti:

I° - Fourteen Americans-edited by Dorothy C. Miller- Rilega= to in carta dollari 1.50

2° - The history of photography from 1839 to the present day
by Beaumont Newhall dollari -5.00

3° - Painting and sculpture acquisitions from January I, 1948 to July I, 1949 - Edit. idem - Rilegato in carta

cents 25

4° - Pierre Bonnard - By John Rewald - Rilegato in carta

dollari 1.75

50 - Stuard Davis - By James Johnson Sweeney dollari 2.50 1,25

Totale da riportare dollari 11.00

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	The state of the s		· ·
	riporto	dollari	11.00
	6° - Charles Demuth - By Andrew Carnduff Ritchie	dollari	2.50 1.25
	7° - Gabo-Pevsner -Introduction by Herbert Read -		
	By Ruth Olson and Abraham Chanin	dollari	2.00 1.00
X	8° - Mies Van der Rohe - By Philip C. Johnson -		
	Rilegato in carta	dollari	2.50
	90 - Mondrian - By James Johnson Sweeney	cents	-50
	10° - The sculpture of Elie Nadelman - By Lincoln		
	Kirstein	dollari	2.00 1.00
	11º - Soutine - By Monroe Wheeler	dollari	3.95 1,98
		1	
	Totale	dollari	24.25

Onde evitare le spese di spedizione vorrei pregarLa di comunicarmi se potrà interessarsi in qualche modo per farmi pervenire i libri per via diplomatica. Da parte mia cerche= rò di interessare della questione l'Ambasciata Americana a Roma.

Delle pubblicazioni concernenti la Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna potrò inviarLe l'itinerario della Galleria ed alcuni cataloghi di mostre tenutesi nei locali della Galleria in questi ultimi tempi.

RingraziandoLa anticipatamente della Sua gentile premura per agevolarmi l'acquisto dei libri suddetti La prego gradire i migliori saluti

(dott Palma Bucarelli)

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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

DATE May 15, 1951

## REQUEST FOR PUBLICATIONS

Kindly send (1) each copies of the following publications: paper cloth See attached list, total \$14.98 (check attached)

7o: Via American diplomatic pouch
Dr. Palma Bucarelli
GAlleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna
Valle Giulia
Rome, Italy

Requested by Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

NO. DELIVERED

Hasegawa directly about you, but it was he who initiated the enquiry as to his willingness to give instruction and I am sure that he would recommend him very highly as an instructor.

I hope that this information may be of some help, despite its tardiness.

Sincerely yours,

Marie Alexander Secretary to Mr. Barr.

Mrs. Tower Bullard 23 East 74th Street New York, New York

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When Mrs. Bullard calls: (Che ster Dale Curator)

I had talked to her before and she wanted to know the names of possible tutors in Chinese brush stroke for her own study.

I have talked to Mr. d'Amico, etc. The only names that were suggested there were Arnold Banks, Art Students League and George Salter, Cooper Union.

I believe she wanted private teaching. Either of these men might be willing to take her on as a pupil or to suggest other possible instructors.

She preferred an Oriental teacher, but the Education department could suggest none.

Marie

Chester Dale office

PL 9-3000

be and alert and intelligent man, as well as a distinguished artist. I don't know how long he plans to be in New York, but his present address is: 310 East Luth Street, The Beaux-Arts Apartment Hotel, Murray Hill 9-3800.

I don't believe that Mr. Barr has spoken to Mr. Hasegawa directly about you, but it was he who initiated the enquiry as to his willingness to give instruction and I am sure that he would recommend him very highly as an instructor.

I hope that this information may be of some help, despite its tardiness.

Sincerely yours,

Marie Alexander Secretary to Mr. Barr.

Mrs. Tower Bullard 23 East 74th Street New York, New York

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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

NEW YORK 19

June 10, 1954

CHARTE MOSTRHAST, NEW YORK

Burkle

DIALCTOS

Dear Mrs. Bullard:

I write in answer to your phone call about an instructor for Chinese brush painting - and I must apologize for my long delay. From the Education department in the Museum I could only get the names of Arnold Bank of the Art Students League and George Salter, Cooper Union, both of whom teach the subject and either of whom might be willing to instruct you privately.

I have, however, had word just this week, though indirectly, that Sabro Hasegawa, the visiting Japanese artist, would be willing to give lessons. He is a student of Chinese artists and has studied diligently for years. He seems also to be and alert and intelligent man, as well as a distinguished artist. I don't know how long he plans to be in New York, but his present address is: 310 East Lith Street, The Beaux-Arts Apartment Hotel, Murray Hill 9-3800.

I don't believe that Mr. Barr has spoken to Mr. Hasegawa directly about you, but it was he who initiated the enquiry as to his willingness to give instruction and I am sure that he would recommend him very highly as an instructor.

I hope that this information may be of some help, despite its tardiness.

Sincerely yours,

Marie Alexander Secretary to Mr. Barr.

Mrs. Tower Bullard 23 East 74th Street New York, New York

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NEW

RENE d'HA DIRECTOR memo from ...

caroline burke

RCLE 5-8900 NEW-YORK

Bunke

Wout was .

for giving me some more ammunition. We are trying very hard to get things back to the level of last year and hope eventually to improve considerably on that. But the taking out of the "bugs" of a new restaurant seems about as difficult and time consuming as taking them out of an experimental jet plane. The trouble, as you guessed, is to gear a big outfit to a small intimate performance. If you don't find that things improve call me and please write another letter. - But before all this happens, lets have lunch together, or drinks or something.

I will call you right after the birthday on the 19th is over.

Best greetings,

Faithfully yours,

Miss Caroline Burke National Broadcasting Company RCA Building Radio City New York

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Bunke

## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

NEW YORK 19

11 WEST 53rd STREET
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900
CABLES: MODERNART, NEW-YORK

RENE d'HARNONCOURT DIRECTOR

October 12, 1954

Dear Caroline,

Many thanks for your good letter and many apologies for the delay of this answer. Life is pretty hectic, right now with all the 25th Anniversary festivities adding an extra push to an already fast moving outfit.

To your complaint I can only say, thank you for giving me some more ammunition. We are trying very hard to get things back to the level of last year and hope eventually to improve considerably on that. But the taking out of the "bugs" of a new restaurant seems about as difficult and time consuming as taking them out of an experimental jet plane. The trouble, as you guessed, is to gear a big outfit to a small intimate performance. If you don't find that things improve call me and please write another letter. - But before all this happens, lets have lunch together, or drinks or something.

I will call you right after the birthday on the 19th is over.

Best greetings,

Faithfully yours,

Miss Caroline Burke
National Broadcasting Company
RCA Building
Radio City
New York

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Burke

September 24, 1954

Mr. Rene D'Harnoncourt
Museum of Modern Art
11 West 53rd Street
New York City

Dear Rene.

I want to start by thanking you for all the pleasure the Museum has given me over the summer and to tell you that I tried to find a larger apartment but just can't bear to move away from the neighborhood chiefly because of the Museum. I hope you have had a good summer and are rested up for the winter's fray.

I do have a complaint however, and I feel that as such a frequent 'frequenter' of the Museum, I have a right to be considered. I find that the food on the sixth floor is just not what it was—and somehow the atmosphere surrounding it is a little less pleasant. Is it because of the new restaurant in the garden? Has it's mass production somehow taken away from the pride in the niceness of the sixth floor, which I always found in the people who serve it? In any case, I feel that my life is a little less pleasant now and I hope you will be able to "bring back the good old days".

Looking forward to seeing you and to enjoying much things chez yous this winter.

With best greetings,

Caroline Burke

CB:TA cc: Mr. Alfred Barr

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Burke

March 1, 1954

r colleagues soight want to someider her for the redfo-Dear Caroline:

Remembering your interest in the Bernays release, I thought you might like to see the enclosed advertisement, though doubtless you have already seehit.

Here is the address of Lily van American just in case

That was a most delightful dinner last Thursday. I am sorry that I was so exhausted that I could not rise to the occasion by at least addressing a few more stimulating questions to your brilliant guest, I was not, however, too sleepy to appreciate the magnificent food and the exceptionally interesting talk.

It was good to see you at lancagen. I an working on

Pile Libers Many thanks to you. Interested in the sometime you raised about timescape, he saws as their illustration over till speak to him about the matter too an Sincerely, our selevision

Aliford H. Barry Jr.

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Miss Caroline Burke The National Broadcasting Company 1270 Sixth Avenue New York, New York

Water out. Brenderviller Gospany

AHB:ma

Euc. 865-0H

that latter.

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Burke

one D. Miller

February 2, 1954

Dear Caroline:

Here is the address of Lily van Ameringen just in case you or your colleagues might want to consider her for the radio art news broadcast.

chall have a chance to bear a little might. 155 East 22nd Street Communication is Miss belle Home telephone: GR 5-2435; Office MU 9-3564

She is a very able and alert girl who knows a lot about the art world and was on the staff of Harper's Bazaar. She now works on a magazine called Lifetime but would very much prefer to be working again in the field of art.

I have spoken to Richard Griffith, the Curator of our Film Library. He is very much interested in the question you raised about kinescope. As soon as Rens d'Harnoncourt is back I will speak to him about the matter too and also with our television people. at all, so Sops chould you wish to got in touch with

It was good to see you at luncheon. I am working on that letter. Now write to

that I was impried in our communication Sincerely yours, shall nee

Simoeruly,

Alfred H. Parr, Jr.

Alford H. Burr, Jr.

Miss Caroline Burke National Broadcasting Company 1270 Sixth Avenue New York, New York

such other this afternoon for ma.

A HB ross Tartin A woman We York, Now York

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BURKE

cc: D. Miller

January 28, 1954

Dear Miss Burke:

Thope that I shall have a chance to hear a little more about this possible art news program you mentioned last night. The woman whose name I suggested is Miss Belle Krasne, who until recently was the brilliant editor of Art Digest. She was dismissed this month by the new owner who, I gather, wants to change the policy of the magazine radically.

I have known Miss Krasne for a number of years and very greatly respect her knowledge of the New York art world and her excellence as a writer. She has a charming personality and I suspect might speak well over the radio. Her address is 50 Fast 78th Street, New York 21, telephone, TR 9-6112. I have not mentioned this possibility to Miss Krasne at all, so I am leaving it up to you to take the first steps should you wish to get in touch with her.

I have tried to phone you to tell you that I was leaving the building and already late for an appointment so that I was hurried in our conversation. Perhaps we shall see each other this afternoon for tea.

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Sincerely,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Miss Caroline Burke
The National Broadcasting Co.
1270 Sixth Avenue
New York, New York

AHBıma

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BURKE

June 1, 1953

Dear Miss Burke,

Thank you for your note. I am delighted to know that you are in New York again and hope to be in touch with you shortly.

In the meantime, won't you accept this Visitor's Card which will admit you to the Museum without entrance fee at any time.

Cordially,

Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

Miss Frances Burke The Cosmopolitan Club 122 East 66 Street New York 21, N. Y.

AHB:et enc. (Dictated by Mr. Barr but signed in his absence)