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### Henri Temianka Correspondence; (taylor)

Kendall Taylor

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## Henri Temianka Correspondence; (taylor)

### Description

This collection contains material pertaining to the life, career, and activities of Henri Temianka, violin virtuoso, conductor, music teacher, and author. Materials include correspondence, concert programs and flyers, music scores, photographs, and books.

### Keywords

Henri Temianka, Kendall Taylor, May 24, 1967, culture, virtuosity in musical performance, violinist, chamber music, camaraderie, money, funds, husband, wife, medical personnel, father, daughter, Emmy Temianka

From KENDALL TAYLOR, 45 WORPLE ROAD, WIMBLEDON, LONDON, S.W.19

Telephone : WIMbledon 5544

May 24th. 1967.

Dear Henri,

It was a great pleasure to hear from you, and I am delighted to know that you have a tour fixed up with Mr. Goh Soon Tioe (he is Mr. Goh). I am sure you will find him admirable to work with, and you will have a most interesting time touring the Far East. Do let me know in due course where you will be going, and if I can provide introductions to any of the places to be visited I shall be most happy to put you in touch with any of the friends I made on my own visit. Mr. Goh has asked me to let him arrange another tour in 1969, and I look forward to re-visiting the East again and to playing in Japan.

Thank you very much for sending to me your publicity material some time ago, and I am sorry there has been no news to give you of prospects from Ibbs and Tillett. I am very disappointed with them myself - my concerts in this country come to me in any case (and without their help) and I have never known them seek any new openings or seek new fields for development. (Nevertheless they take commission on everything I do in this country - but not abroad).

In these circumstances I recently got in touch with another, and younger, concert agent with a view to changing. In a preliminary, and somewhat guarded, first letter and in a subsequent telephone conversation with this agent, I briefly discussed my own affairs and took the liberty of mentioning your name, stating that I hoped it would prove to be possible and practical to play sonatas with you in Great Britain and in countries of Western Europe. Great interest was expressed by this agent; it happens that to-morrow I leave for some concerts in the North of England and in Scotland, but an appointment has been arranged for my return on June 7th.; and I hope to go into matters thoroughly then and will at once let you know if anything useful transpires.

For my part, I would like to say very definitely that nothing would give me greater pleasure than to be associated with you in violin and piano sonatas; and though we live so far apart I would like to think that perhaps a period could be set aside annually for a tour of concerts together. Did I mention to you that for many years I shared a

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violin and piano partnership with Frederick Grinke ; we played widely together, recorded for Decca and must have given hundreds of performances for the B.B.C. Max Rostal also approached me to play with him but I was not then free to do so. The standard violin and piano repertoire has been familiar to me for a long time, and I do indeed hope very much that it will be possible to arrange performances together.

You will, I am sure, be aware from your previous experience of professional life in England that concert fees in England are very much lower than in the U.S.A. - I think it is quite necessary to be frank about this now, and the following figures are of course confidential : - My solo fee as quoted by Ibbs and Tillett is considered high at Fifty Five Guineas (£57. 15. 0 sterling); nevertheless on my first visits to Canada my general fee (apart from some universities) was \$ 500.00. In most countries abroad it has been around the £100 mark. Now, there are several hundred Chamber Music Clubs in Great Britain, and I am not fully conversant with fees they are currently paying to quartet parties etc., but I shall be surprised if many of them could manage more than £80 for a violin and piano partnership. This is a point to be discussed with the agent, but I should be glad to know your views as to the minimum British fee you feel you could accept ; and how many concerts in what space of time would be worthwhile from your point of view (in consideration of the long journey to be undertaken). Naturally, solo performances and concertos would also come into your considerations, to be included in the itinerary for the same projected visit.

May I suggest that I let you know the result of my appointment which is fixed for 7th June ; following that, would you let me know your views on the points which I have raised in the above paragraph ?

After my long absence from England last year, it is good to be back with my family ; instead of wandering about on my own, my wife is coming with me to the north to-morrow. My elder daughter Pat, who is a busy doctor, is nevertheless finding time to play the Brahms D minor Piano Concerto with a good amateur orchestra this coming Thursday (pity I shall be away, but she wouldn't allow me to hear it anyway, though we've been rehearsing it hard on two pianos)

My wife joins me in sending our most cordial greetings to you and Emmy, and we both hope we shall all be able to meet before long. I look back on our meetings in New Zealand with the greatest pleasure, and I shall indeed be happy if we can do some playing together.

*Yours sincerely,*  
Kendall