

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

1
April 2, 1928

Dear Miss Grant:

I appreciate greatly your gracious letter of March 30.

I had in mind a Roerich Exhibition to go in one of our temporary exhibition galleries for a month and a half, and I shall still be very glad to arrange for such an exhibition. We have, however, six annual exhibitions which claim all our temporary galleries, and which prevent us from holding temporary exhibitions longer than the period of a month and a half. It is also impossible to change any of our permanent exhibition galleries, much as I should like to do so.

It is extremely kind of you to think of me in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Robt. B. Harshe (signed
Director

Rio de Janeiro, June 11, 1931

Miss Frances R. Grant
Roerich Museum
310 Riverside Drive
New York City

Dear Miss Grant:

Your letter of May 23rd has been received and acted upon and the Roerich pictures will be collected from the Bellas Artes and forwarded to New York by the first reliable American who is willing to convey them. Your suggestions for shipment will be followed and I shall inform you of the date that they are despatched.

I think you are wise not to plan a tour of South America this year. Conditions are uncertain and the larger political and economic interests are diminishing even the small interest which has hitherto existed in the fine arts. Until conditions improve the painters especially will have a hard time.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) EDWIN V. MORGAN

(Ambassador)

Buenos Aires
June 21, 1931

Dear Miss Grant:

I have received your many communications, after a long interval since you left here, due to the unfortunate circumstance that the first letters were sent to my old address, so that they were returned to New York, and were re-sent to me as copies, from there.

I know that you must have wondered at the fact that I did not answer your letters, but due to a series of misfortunes, which I am about to tell you briefly, I had not been able to do so. I will send you a more detailed letter about the affairs of the Friends of the Roerich Museum in the Argentine in the next mails.

I want you to know that our meetings have not taken place since last December, as most of the important members have been away for the summer. No sooner did they return, and we were about to resume our meeting, when a series of most disagreeable occurrences took place, which were most painful and which frustrated our plans to reunite. As a result of the revolution of September 18th, Lieutenant Servetti has been in a precarious position, which does not allow him much time or thought for our society.--Mr. Pavlovsky, suffered much ill health and had to go into a sanatorium, due to police intervention in his office. Here he remained three months and underwent two operations.--Mrs. Gucovsky went away for two months, traveling through the provinces.--Finally, and worst of all, our president Mrs. de Botana has been incarcerated for two months in a reformatory where she has been kept rigorously under surveillance by the police, because of the definite closing of "Critica" by the government.

As you will see ~~xx~~ it has been impossible for our principal and executive members to do anything for the Society, and any new initiative which I might have started would have come to nothing. Thus I have had to delay undertaking the various suggestions in your letters, awaiting the proper time when I might have more success in developing them. Mr. Pavlovsky has already left the hospital and will soon be able to participate in our work. As to Mr. Servetti and Mrs. de Botana there is no hope for the present. For this reason I am contemplating a reorganization of the group. Regarding this matter and all the other details, I am going to consult you and inform you ~~in~~ more ~~de~~ minutely in my next letter, which I will write Thursday, so that it may catch the air mail.

Hoping that all is well with you and the Museum upon receipt of this letter, I am happy to remain

Your friend, respectfully,

(Signed)

MANUEL BELTROY

P. S. The fifty copies of Corazon de Asia have already been mailed.

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250
United Hospital
Port Chester
June 26, 1931

Dear Miss Grant:

Thank you very much for your very gracious letter and for your deep interest in Mr. Sporborg's well-being. He is progressing gradually, but to my impatient eye all too slowly. Yesterday our son was operated and I am writing this from his room while he is sleeping. His physicians assure me that his condition is satisfactory up to this time.

You may sense my situation at the present and that my two precious invalids need all my thoughts and time and ministrations, and that any outside consideration for a little while is out of the question. Just as soon as I possibly can I shall get in touch with you and arrange for a conference. I shall pleasurably anticipate a message from Professor Roerich, especially when it is to be delivered by such a charming medium!

Meanwhile I have suggested to a Mrs. Jungman, who is in this country on a visit from Berlin and who is writing illustrated articles for a Berlin magazine on unusual interests and outstanding women personalities, to call upon you for a personality interview with you and to see and write up the Roerich Museum and its ideals. She is a brilliant woman and I know your meeting with her should be mutually enjoyable.

With deep appreciation of your letter,

Cordially,

(Signed)

CONSTANCE A. SPORBORG

12
105

San Francisco, Cal.
July 10th, 1931

My dear Miss Grant:

Thank you very much for your recent letter with its inclosure concerning matter to be placed in a biography of Professor Roerich. In an effort to unmerge the Out West Magazine, and Overland Monthly, it has been necessary to open a Los Angeles office where the joint magazines will be published for the next two months. This is necessary because Out West Magazine was founded by Charles F. Lummis, and was always published in Los Angeles. It was devoted solely to Southwestern affairs, but at his death the publication languished and it was finally taken over by the Overland Monthly, which is now and always has been a distinctly Northern California publication. Now Los Angeles wishes to revive the Out West Magazine and are making it worth while for Overland to unmerge and give them sole control of that property. In the circumstances there will be much less general matter published for some time and I cannot say definitely when it will be possible to make use of what you have sent me.

I am confident that we can give an extended review when the Biography referred to appears in print and I need not tell you that I shall be glad to do so.

The general uncertain and depressed conditions are sharply reflected here, and it seems almost impossible to go on, much less start anything new. No doubt you know that Mrs. Dobbing is seriously ill with arthritis. She has been confined to her bed more than a month and there is promise of immediate resumption of activities. She is very keen to do something for the Roerich Museum, and I am equally keen to help her, but we must wait for a more favorable turn in both health and financial conditions.

It is always a joy to hear from you and I do hope that you will not forget the strong impression your visit has made on many individuals in San Francisco. There is an opening here for the work of the Museum and we must patiently bide our time for a suitable opportunity to begin.

With all good wishes, believe me

(signed)

Cordially and sincerely,

LEONA E. W. COLBURN

San Francisco
June 18, 1931

Miss Frances R. Grant
Roerich Museum
New York

Dear Miss Grant:

The end of last week, I returned to San Francisco after quite an absence and yesterday was able for the first time to have a conference with Mrs. Dobbins. Mrs. Dobbins has been very ill for some time and I imagine it will be a month or six weeks before she can be active at all.

Mrs. Dobbins and I, after talking over the situation from every angle, feel that the time now is not propitious to call a meeting. The majority of the people we had in mind have scattered for the summer. We both thought it would be much better to start with the correct vibrations, than to haphazardly ask people who would only set-up an inharmonious atmosphere.

My own affairs at the moment are most pressing. Next week I must leave again for the South and complete a circle back to Salinas, so I don't feel my whole attention would be given. I have worked many months to culminate these affairs, but am sure the time is not long distant when my effort will be rewarded.

It is too bad Mrs. Long didn't inform us sooner, as at that time, I was free and Mrs. Dobbins was in apparent good health.

Dear Miss Grant, I do feel, as much as when you were here, the great need of this work. I do hope I will have the privilege to make it my life's work.

Please let me hear from you in the near future and any comments will be deeply appreciated.

Hoping you are enjoying the best of health and success,

Sincerely,

(Signed)

PATRICIA UHL

Mrs. George Uhl
1188 Lombard
San Francisco.

COPY

37

September 27, 1932

Miss Frances R. Grant, Vice-President
Roerich Museum,
310 Riverside Drive
New York City

Dear Miss Grant:

As a bondholder of the Roerich Museum, I am much concerned over the efforts that are being made by some parties at this time to deprive the Museum of its hitherto exercised privilege of applying a portion of its receipts from apartments, etc., in support of the cultural activities that have hitherto attracted to the Museum so particularly desirable a class of tenants.

I feel certain that if these cultural activities were caused to be eliminated, through withholding of the moderate funds required for their maintenance, (a) the attractiveness of the Museum's property would materially diminish, (b) the Museum's apartments would be less readily rentable, (c) the Museum's income would suffer. (d) its taxes would increase. (e) the security of its bondholders would be impaired, and (f) that the bondholders' interest, my own included, would suffer in innumerable ways.

I sincerely trust that the Museum's desire to be permitted to apply to these cultural purposes that have proved so widely helpful, sufficient of its income from apartments, etc., to insure their continuance, will be looked upon with approval by those now having authority in the matter, and that the requisite funds will be provided, and that the Museum's cultural activities will thus continue to be adequately supported and maintained.

I should regard it as a great detriment to my interest as a bondholder if the accustomed cultural activities of the Museum, with which I am well familiar, should be materially lessened in any manner.

Very sincerely yours,

J. G. PHELPS STOKES

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WORLD UNITY
A Monthly Magazine
Interpreting the Spirit
Of the New Age

John Herman Randall, Editor
Horace Holley, Managing Editor

4 East 12th St., New York

October 25, 1932

Miss Frances R. Grant,
310 Riverside Drive,
New York City

Dear Miss Grant:

One of our contributing editors, Frau Ida Muller of Vienna, Xlll, Baumgartenstrasse 53, Austria, has made a German translation of Shambhala from the text of the article which we published in World Unity some time ago.

Frau Muller writes that she has read this translation to a group of people in Vienna and they were very enthusiastic about Prof. Roerich's work.

Perhaps you will acknowledge the receipt of the translation on behalf of Prof. Roerich and I am sure she would be delighted to hear from him at his convenience. Frau Muller is an old veteran in the peace movement, and her connection with the magazine came about on recommendation from the late Dr. Davis Starr Jordan of Stanford University.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Horace Holley

59
November 6, 1932

Dear Frances:

I have read over your detailed plan with genuine interest and given the whole matter honest deliberation.

For the good of the cause I have finally decided (after much argument with myself) that I can not take the chairmanship. I have the Chicago World's Fair Exhibit for the National Council to tackle just as soon as I lay down the State Presidency and that will keep me very busy, this whole winter. You will need someone to get on your job right away and do some real organizing there.

I am deeply appreciative that you should have thought me worthy even of consideration. I know your understanding heart will realize that it is fairer to your cause and to my own strength for me to tell you now, dear girl, that I should not even try to make the grade for you.

Cordially,

Constance Sporborg.

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THE INNER SANCTUM
Of Simon And Schuster
386 Madison Avenue New York

21 July 1933

Dear Miss Grant:

As Dr. Roerich says in his chapter on "The Island of Tears", the most difficult necessity is the necessity of refusal..... I regret greatly that we cannot do Dr. Roerich's inspiring book, THE FIERY STRONGHOLD. It had the benefit of every break here, every intuition.

There is no doubt as to the urgency of his message, but frankly, we do not feel we would be able to reach the audience which he undoubtedly deserves. I wish you the very best of good fortune with the manuscript in any case. You should bring it out yourself. Put me down for a copy.

In haste, but most

Cordially,

Signed: M. L. Schuster

Miss Frances R. Grant
Roerich Museum
310 Riverside Drive
New York City

THE INNER SANCTUM
Of Simon And Schuster
386 Madison Avenue New York

25 July 1933

Miss Frances R. Grant
Roerich Museum
310 Riverside Drive
New York

My dear Frances:

Your tribute to THE FIRST WORLD WAR touches me deeply, and I am eagerly looking forward to the comment which I hope you will get from Professor Roerich. The mere thought of receiving a tribute from the Himalayas is itself exhilarating. We shall be glad to broadcast to the world of letters any message from Professor Roerich on this work.

In the meantime, you have received our letter about THE FIERY STRONGHOLD. I regret that we have to decide in the negative, but I am sure your book will be published, and even if I can't sell the book, I will at least buy it.

With renewed thanks, I am

Yours cordially,

Signed: M. L. S.

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18 SEP 1933

Lakewood Christian Church
Detroit and Roycroft Ave
Lakewood Ohio

July 27th 1933.

Miss Frances R. Grant
Roerich Museum
310 Riverside Drive
New York, N.Y.

My dear Miss Grant?

Your Statement relative to the new approach to Peace during the visit of the ministers to the Roerich Museum deeply interested me.

As chairman of the Committee on Program and Arrangements for the next International Convention of the Disciples of Christ, which will be held in Pittsburgh, October 11th to 15th, I shall be glad to present your resolution to that convention for consideration. Our churchbody has a million and a half communicants and our Conventions have an attendance of four to five thousand.

With appreciation for your prompt sending of the resolution, I remain

Sincerely

Harry B. Mc Cormick, Pastor.

Res. 1592 Arthur Ave
Lakewood, Ohio.

13
Box 176, Guayaquil, Ecuador,
October 9, 1936.

Miss Frances R. Grant,
Vice-President, Roerich Museum,
310 Riverside Drive,
New York City.

My dear Friend:

I was truly delighted to receive your letter of May 2nd, though it was greatly delayed in reaching me and had been sealed officially by the Ecuadorian post-office. I tell you this as the information may be of importance. The letter reached me shortly after my return from Quito, in August.

You are quite right in believing that your long silence could have no influence upon my interest, and indeed, were I not so very busy myself I would have written you again, but I have put in nearly two arduous years of work on my translation into Spanish of Cuspensky's "Terium Organum", and that is why I have had to let all other matters go. The book is now on the press and I hope to see it ready for distribution in November, when I shall be very happy to send you a copy. I have devoted all my efforts to making it as clear and simple in Spanish as is possible in the case of a language so lacking in metaphysical terms, and I had the good fortune to be aided in the final revision by Dr. Modesto Chavez Franco, a great student of theosophy, a philologist and a very gifted writer.

As you no doubt know, there is a strong effervescence in these countries, though it is confined to the few intellectuals who are spiritually awake, but they are centers of vast influence and I felt their need for such a book and knew their mental hunger. You can have no idea of the enthusiasm manifested over the Table of Contents, which has been published in advance. Truly, the work is of most timely importance in the new spiritual movement in Latin America.

While in Quito I talked many times with the Mideros brothers and lent them various books, including Light on the Path, Outline of Theosophy, some meditations of Lao-Tsé, etc., and they literally devoured the contents of those books. I passed various volumes around to other people and was touched by their gratitude. So you can appreciate the responsibility I feel for all these people who are seeking their individual path to truth.

It has been out of the question to attempt to do anything about forming a nucleus here of any kind for I have such frail health that it was necessary to devote it entirely to the translation, and furthermore, I have wanted if possible to talk with you before going about a definite organization. So until you can come down, I think I shall quietly prepare the way and then definite steps can be taken for organizing after you have been here.

No, except for a reference to it in a letter from Mr. Bragdon, I have not heard anything about the the persecution to which Mr. Roerich has been subjected. It makes one indignant and yet it so obviously proves the value of his work, for all true effort is attended by bitter persecution and enmity. History has revealed that fact again and again.

Yes, you did send me a copy of the Signing of the Roerich Pact, and I also received a very interesting book from India, regarding Professor Nicholas Roerich and his various activities. I acknowledged the book as requested by the author. I shall have to take up the matter of the signing with the women here who are working for world peace, and shall also mention it to General Chiriboga, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who is a personal friend.

In this country where people have so little innate honesty, books cannot be taken out of the library, and so those who want to read must go there and sit by the hour. In the case of busy people that is out of the question, and is the reason why I am slowly getting together a few books to be lent with discrimination, depending upon the spiritual progress of the student. But so far I have none of the Agni Yoga books, and in fact but a few of any kind, for I am financing Tertium Organum myself and can't devote any great amount of money to other purchases for the time being. Nor am I sure that these books are to be had either here or in Quito, though Dr. Chavez Franco, who is Director of the Municipal Library, has the largest collection of theosophical literature to be found in this country.

I read the review of your new book with much interest, as it was handled very sympathetically, I thought, by the New York Times. Not all works of this nature receive such gentle treatment. I can appreciate its value and from your letters I can also imagine the charm with which you have developed such an enthralling subject. Its merits all the success I am sure it will have.

As to my photograph. Except for a formal one of which I am not sure that I still have a copy, I have none, as I take a most unflattering photograph and am human enough and feminine enough not to feel pleased with such unfavorable pictures. However, if I manage a fair likeness I shall be very pleased to send you a copy.

It is very heartening to have the encouragement and the friendship of people so deeply dedicated to the work as you are, and I am more grateful than I can possibly express for your interest and cooperation. It will be a very great pleasure to meet you in person and then I shall be able to tell you so much more than can be expressed in a letter. In fact, there is so much significance that I feel intuitively and which cannot even be put into words, that until I receive the comments on Tertium Organum I shall hardly be in a position

to make any definite appraisal of progress in South America of actual spiritual progress.
Again I thank you for your very welcome letter and send my very best wishes to you and to all those connected with the Museum for greater and greater wisdom and ever widening circles of service.

Yours most sincerely,

Lydia Henriques.

Instituto Cultural
Argentino -Norteamericano

Buenos AiresmJulio 13

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Mai u 686
U.T.Retiro 3855

Miss Frances R. Grant
Vice Pr4sident del
ROERICH MUSEUM
310 Riverside Drive,
New York, N.Y.

Estimada Miss Grant,

As you see by the attached note in which the Roerich Museum us informed of the new Board of Directors of the Instituto, my colleagues have done me the honor to reelect me as President.

I believe, as I said in my recent speech, which has been sent to you under separat4 cover, the moment has come for initiating a new period to be characterized by an intensification of interchanfe between our two countries. And one of the first projects which I proposed to the new Board to inaugurate this objective, and which gained the unanimous support of the board is the realization of an Exhibition of North american artists in Buenos Aires, which was also one of your own aspirations and which we conversed agout on various occasions/

Justnow this idea becomes very feasible since, due to the ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ proposal made by the Institute to the Munson steamshil line, they have consented to transport gratuitously, back and forth, the paintings of the North American artists destined to be exhibited in this capital and other Argentine cities.

Thus, if the Roerich Museum could undertake the assembling and insurance of the works, tje Institute would assume all expenses relative to the exhibition and transportation within the country.

I would wish to have an early reply in order to be able to arrange the exhibition the present year and within the suitable period, and also the names of the artists who would exhibit, among whom ther should be represented the most outstanding living artists, in order to effect an exhibit of the first order.

Anticipating greatly your reply and happy to address you with my greatest consideration and thanks, believe me,

Cupertino del Campo.

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X

Dear Miss Grant

At last I have secured a copy of your splendid report of our luncheon to Dr. Roerich. I am enclosing it herewith.

I am fervently hoping that you will be able to give a home to the World Fellowship of Faiths in your Museum. I am sure Mr. and Mrs. Horch, Mr. and Mrs. Lichtmann and my other friends will be favorably inclined to my proposal/

The facts which we are most attracted to the Roerich Museum are the artistic surroundings, idealistic atmosphere and good fellowship. Our World Fellowship of Faiths belongs to the Roerich Society.

Our National Committee will greatly appreciate it if you can give one room permanent quarters, free of rent as the Hotel New Yorker has been doing, or at a nominal rent. In return for your great courtesy we shall be able to do very little on our part except introducing friends and the publicity through tons of our literature and two magazines "Appreciation" and "Dharma" and through our innumerable meetings and many thousands of letters sent all over the world. But, you will "have the satisfaction of helping one of the greatest movements of the time" (as our late President, Dr. Robert Norwood remarked.)

I am planning to go for a short visit to Europe at the end of August. Before I sail, I want to have a permanent address in New York for printing in preliminary literature of the Parliament of Religions to be held in London in 1936/

Herewith I am enclosing a folder on which you will find our "Present Undertakings" on page 3, marked in red pencil.

With cordial greetings, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,
K. D.G.
Kedarnath Das Gupta