

Aug. 7, 1922.

10211

Dear Mme. Roerich-

Thus far I have written about three letters, but the rapid changes of events have made each letter inadequate even before it was finished. Permit me to repeat briefly the entire circumstances. Immediately on our return here last Monday, we saw our lawyer in regard to the incorporation and received a very unassuring reply concerning the possibility of using the name, Master School. We refused to consider such an idea, and induced him to leave for Albany on Tuesday, to personally plead the case. Up there he found the Attorney General & licensed Commissioner immovably, but recommending that we wait two months until the Board of Regents meets and again appeal the case. On Wednesday evening the lawyer returned & informed Mr. Horeh of matters. Mr. Horeh telephoned down from Saratoga, and as any wait of two months would be suicidal to the coming term, I decided to go up to Saratoga.

mont immediately. On the train going up,
the inspiration came to me that the
name "Master Institute" would solve the
difficulty (Is not this strange?). When
I reached Larchmont I told him
about my idea, so early next morning
he had his lawyer telephone to
Albany concerning the name "Master
Institute". The Commissioner refused
the new name, but our lawyer suggested
that he reconsider the matter for a few days.
The Commissioner consented to do so
but definitely gave us to understand
there was little hope. Then we telegraphed
to you - your reply that night sur-
prised me, in view of the circumstances.
As we had no recourse, and as need
of action was imminent, we decided
to go on using the name "Master
School" & in two months make a
concerted fight for the name "Master
Institute". You see at present, as
we have no license we cannot use
even the name "Master Institute"
in our advertisement. Remembering
the command of "Action" I decided to

The prospectus for Corona Mundi will be ready by your return, I am certain. I shall be getting at it this week some time.

In my letter to Mme Roerich I am enclosing the results of our Saturday evening meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Lichtmann came out Sunday, and we had much joy rereading all former messages about the School.

We are all counting the days when Mme. Roerich and yourself will return!

With devotion,

James R. Grant

P.S. In the past few weeks I have felt very much as though I must some day write a Biography of you. If I may, I would like to gather material of your work and that of Mme. Roerich, this year, for future use.

② I am happy to say that every teacher thus far secured seems to have caught the enthusiasm for the School, and is bent on co-operation. It is most interesting. From Mrs. Roberts I have received an outline for a lecture course in Interior Decoration. You asked me how I liked her - I found her very enthusiastic about you and your work. She seemed a trifle erratic about the course; if she is dependable, I believe she could help us. Frankly, I liked her less than Mrs. Isaacs. I have taken out for the School a chapter membership in the American Federation of Arts. Through this organization I think we can help Corona Mundi and also your own exhibition. I have also written to Miss Carpenter and will inform you of her reply.

In regard to the Chicago Opera, Bolm says only "Snow Maiden" of the Russian works will be given.

102/3
Aug. 28, 1922

Dear Professor Roerich.

I cannot tell you with what joy we all greet the letters from you and Mme. Roerich. Each of them brings us new fire, new inspiration, and fills our day with glow. We all see ahead of us, Corona Mundi a new force which must permeate all life. And for that reason, also, we work with added zest on the Master Institute, because this task must be well advanced before you return, so that we may turn with easy minds to the new duties. To-day I have felt that the crest of our work for the Institute is passed, in the matter of advance plans. Up to now it has been a somewhat heated period of adjustment; now we begin serious and absorbed pushing ahead.

Our faculty is now adequate for our needs, quite complete, though we can always add to it. The new names in addition to those I have mentioned before are Mrs. White in the painting faculty; Miss Margaret

Heaton and assistants for The Dalcroze;
Mme. C. Trotin for Solfège and Ear-
training; Frederick Jacobi for
Theory and Composition. To-day I
have spoken to Bolm and he has
promised to look up an assistant,
perhaps Bicafi I think. Negotiations
are pending with Paul Kéfer, a cellist,
who has practically accepted;
with Georges Barrière and other
members of his orchestra for Wind
instruments; with Carlos Salzedo
for Harp.

Some interesting approaches for
cooperation with various organizations
have been made, which makes me
feel that our not-too-distant destiny
will transform us into a great Master
Institute somewhat like a university,
under which there will be important
Schools of each art all mothered by
the center. ^{source} Again, like the rays
of light! On your return I will tell
you of these interesting advances.

102/4
however, only after our determination
to fight for it! It has been again
a glorious test. But it has also made me
understand that help can come only after
we have girded ourselves for the battle.
It has made me realize that in the fight
for Truth, in His Name, there can be not
the minutest concession!

To-day I began my work with
the School, and count it a Day of Days! The
hours seem too short to accomplish what
is necessary! Mr. Horch & his book-keeper
came up; we started a bank account.
And we had delivered a great big safe
with the name "Master School"
all ready to receive the moneys which we
expect will come pouring in!

I have been going over our
prices for tuition and I am frank to
say that I think they are prohibitive -
too high. I do not think the teachers
should get less for their efforts but
the percentage for the school could
now be a little more equitable; thus
the pupils could profit by it. Now
that we have ^{and} financially we could
readily do this. Do you not think so?
It somehow seems to me that the

②
begin activities under the old name, ^{at once,}
since it utilized the given name, and
have even given one advertisement, ^{with the form.}
To-day, much to our surprise, we
received news from the lawyer that
Commissioner Downing had written saying
he now thinks Master Institute an
excellent substitute, that he advocates
it, and will recommend its passage.
This practically assures its passage.
Immediately, we have sent up again
the legal forms and are now
awaiting a reply. I do not know
how long this will take, in the mean-
time, to avoid all loss of time I
am continuing work under the
name "Master School" and will
change the minute our legal
papers arrive. As you can imagine,
the whole experience, has been a
great light, to us. I cannot believe
otherwise than that I was inspired in
regard to the word "Master Institute"
and, to-day, this victory, which came,



**MASTER INSTITUTE
OF UNITED ARTS**

Nov. 23, 1923

310 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
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NICHOLAS ROERICH,
Honorary President
LOUIS L. HORCH,
President
MAURICE LICHTMANN
Vice-President
FRANCES R. GRANT,
Executive Director

My beloved parents,

It is with great happiness that each day we are reading and re-reading all your letters which have come recently. We are now making the plans for the archive as well as for a file where all the letters and material from you will be safe-guarded and where all the advices will be accesible for constant application. We are also getting the book, each to write down the day's inspirations or new ideas. With every word that comes from you we see more and more how constantly you look upon our labors and can read the record we make each day, for every line from you answers an especial problem or question which has arisen, and interprets an experience.

The last few weeks have been so filled with bounty which shall last, as The Teacher has said, "an eternity. The letters and photographs of the Shrine are bringing us a bond which draws us closer and closer each hour. I know you can feel and see how near we are to each other here, and how united in our love of our work, our Leaders and the Blessed One.

Several matters of interest have arisen during the past week. About the enrollments which Professor Roerich asked about, up to date, we have 219 enrollments in all the subjects, out of which 16 are scholarships. The piano leads with a total enrollment of 84; painting is next with 32 (Mrs. White); drama begins with 9; we begin sculpture this week with 3, but as Laurent works without a model, it is no expense, and several new students will start in December; the weak sister is journalism with one, and interior decoration with 2. But each day brings new inquiries, so we hope forv many more. The other enrollments thus far are selfege, 11; spanish, 1; German, 2; Theater Decoration 7; Theory 13; musical appreciation 9; vichin 9; cello 3; ballet 12; French 5; illustration 9. diction, 1.

We are also making efforts towards publicity. The music papers have had stories about Zavadsky, and next week musical America will print his picture. We have almost finished the translation of Grabentchikoff's article and shall try to place it to the greatest advantage. Several week ago, as I wrote, I called on avis, and he in turn gave me the letter to the head of the Foreign Press Service of N.Y. I saw him last week and spent an hour with him which was very useful in the way of practical suggestion. The Foreign Press Service is a syndicate which place material from foreign and American writers, taking twenty percent commission

on the selling price of the article, if they sell it. He gave me some ideas on the type of articles the magazines wish just now, and the amounts paid, etc. He advised that for magazines the articles be about 5000 words, and for newspapers proportionately less. I showed him Schklavers article which I happened to have, and he found it too short for a magazine. I think it might be better for a magazine. On Sunday I shall see him again and shall bring him Grabentchikoff's article. I also gave him the three unpublished articles of yours, telling him these could only be placed until January, and he is to look over them on Sunday and will tell me Monday where would be best to place them. His experience has been very wide, and he has been very willing to give us advice. I also have written to the leading magazines here about the material I have, and have received some nice answers asking me to submit it, which I shall do immediately after talking to Kennaday. Wherever possible, we would appreciate photographs with articles. "Travel" has asked for articles with photographs. And Century, one of the best magazines here from a practical point of view as well as influential (since they pay at least \$500 an article), has asked to look at the materials. Their requirement, however, is for articles about 5000 words. "Spiritual Garment" would be splendid if they can use it before the coming of the book.

Mrs. Crain was here about a week ago; she came with her daughter and a friend to see Sviatoslav's Madonna, but it had not arrived yet. "We Open The Gates" was hanging in the school and the daughter almost wept to buy it. I showed her through the school and they were delighted with it, and since the arrival of the "Madonna", have written to her, so we hope to see her within the next day or so. There also came to the school yesterday Miss Potter from Chicago. I showed her through, and she asked me especially to let her know of any books or prints that were published about your works as she wishes to have the collection.

This week we had the joy of seeing Hiram's "Madonna" -- truly an achievement. I only saw it for a while, but I hope to look at it long and deeply and find in the warm tenderness of Our Lady, and in the turrets of Rinuli, some memories of my yesterdays. We all, and I doubly, are deeply grateful to Hiram for his gift. His other works too indicate such remarkable growth in power.

Daily our joys are growing here--as the beautiful things are opened, the house becomes more beautifully adorned. And best of all the circle is striving with all its strength and with a union which would have seemed impossible a year ago, to adorn this Temple with its own offerings of service. It is happiness to work this way and our desire mounts higher constantly. We now are planning for Corona Mundi and the Museum, and the distribution of the book "Adamant", as well as editions of pictures of the paintings. I am enclosing a letter from Narodny, and shall write to him that I forwarded it, also telling him that in view of the opening of the Museum, the article will have such a tremendous value now.

I have had a few very interesting dreams lately, and they all leave me with such joy. Several weeks ago after our Saturday meeting, I awoke twice in the middle of the night. The first time I heard a voice saying the words, "Remember the story of Ruth and the order she created." And a short time later awoke to heard the sound of a beautiful man's voice chanting a passage. I also dreamt that we were with you in a very large room where many other were present -- it was such happiness to talk to you! However, it is Oyana and Mmr. Schafran who are our champions in this!

We shall write again after to-morrow's meeting -- the beautiful recurrence of these holidays for us is like the repetitions of a superb rhythm.

I close now with my deep reverence, hoping that I may hourly become a more worthy instrument of the holy work.

Your child,

Frances

NICHOLAS ROERICH,
Honorary President
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President

MAURICE LICHTMANN,
Vice-President
FRANCES R. GRANT
Executive Director



CORONA MUNDI
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Agencies in all Foreign Countries
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312 West 54th St. New York, N. Y.
Telephone Circle 3954

December 28, 1923

Dear and beloved parents,

This is our Christmas intermission, and things are somewhat quieter. We are taking the time however for readjustment and planning.

The chief thought for us now is the opening of the Museum. The walls are being broken through and the layout of the exhibition rooms is fine. We have chosen a neutral shade of covering for the walls somewhat like a burlap but not as rough. As you suggested we have sent out just short items about the museum in the local papers, and as I have some duplicates, I am enclosing these. This week we again send something -- this time a short item about the publications appearing co-incident with the founding of the Museum.

Here and there the undesirables continue to fall away from the faculty--Simonsen is also now among the departed. We are in touch with a Mr. Woodman Thompson who seems very nice--he is young and has done some interesting work.

From Grabentchikoff come unusual letters, showing the fine spirit of the man, and his eagerness to do anything in order not to be a burden. He is full of humility and expresses such great love for all you have done for him. I have sent out his article here, and as I have not received it back as yet, am hopeful it will be taken by the Century. We are planning the channels to try for both him and Zavadsky.

To-day I have received from Adyar the Theosophist with your article "Standard of Beauty" included. There have also come Christmas greetings from Boscoms, Cassidys, Crains, the Temple Artisan and others. To Mrs. Adney and Mrs. Taffinder I sent photographs of some of the recent pictures but have not had an answer as yet. The Temple Artisan has asked me for an article on some phase of art, and I shall send it to them. We are also planning for the Design contest but have not as yet had answers from all the judges and must wait until they accept. We are so grateful for all the "Futures" you dictated last year and are sending to us now, as they answer every problem we meet.

The Horches are away now for a short rest but will be back next week. We all work together with great zest, always

thinking of you with the utmost love. Thus drawing inspiration from the thoughts of you, and united as one, our obstacles cease to exist.

Our complete love is with you, our own dear parents,

As ever your devoted daughter,

Frances

December 29, 1932

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TOBY G. ROSEN ...

... SOCIETY

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Jan. 18

Beloved Parents,

These have been indeed busy weeks for us all. New plans, the Museum, the Atlantis contest, lectures--all coming at once. The thing uppermost in our minds this week was the success of the Claude "ragdon lecture. Stark Young, who was to speak last Tuesday became ill, and Claude "ragdon, consented almost at the last minute to take his place. The evening was to a great extent the climax of our work thus far this season.--the atmosphere was one of such joy and pleasure. The students were all so happy, and Mr. "ragdon's lecture was quite simple but very appealing. In addition, he brought up his designs, which we put up on a screen, and had in effect, the first exhibition of Corona Mundi, at the house. Strangely enough, before the ~~xxxxxxx~~ illness of Young, we had suggested the possibility of some related designs and paintings at the same time as the lecture, but we were uncertain as to how to carry it out--and here everything came out quite simply, and gave us a precedent for the future.

Also we have been able to get a new man to take the place of Simonsen--a young man, named Warren Dahler, who has been full of enthusiasm and practical ideas about the course in Theater Decoration/ We are also planning to start a class for Halpert, soon.

"Adamant", too, is here and we are busy sending it out for review and to the clubs. I have sent out the copies with your note inserted

but have received no replies, yet. We have written to Crane's several times, but so far no answer. So I have also sent Grebenstchikoff's book to Mrs. Hapgood and wait for a reply. We send out publicity of some sort every week for the institutions, and are encouraged by the frequency which they begin to strike fertile soil/

The year has up to now been so full of experiences, so full of problems to face! For most of them your letters, and all the valued treasures of advice we have here from you, (^{as you have} foreseen even last year these problems,) furnish us a solution. But in working out these problems, I feel as we all do together, that we all hold more firmly the rudder. We face outsiders with greater strength, greater assurance, with certainty of our ground.

You know of the small edition of pictures to be gotten out in book form soon. Last night we went through the pictures, and it will contain at least twenty-five -- as none of us have the heart to leave any of those photographed out. We have collected the photographs from Mrs. Longyear, Hubrecht, Kansas City, Spaulding and all others we could reach to include. And with it goes a preface summing up the work. I think it will prove of tremendous interest.

With letters, Yeruya, Grebenstchikoff and Zavadskys are keeping close to us, and we are all trying to lend our encouragement and help. The thoughts of our parents keeps the enthusiasm in our work always at full blaze.

We received your letters from Bombay -- it is a holiday for us when your letters come. We hold them till the end of the day and read them together, and thus share the joy of them. It is as though you were with us every moment -- truly space is non-existent, an illusion when love can so swiftly traverse distances.

Beloved, beloved parents, I send you my utmost --
my whole self. Your daughter,

Modra



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January 23

Most Beloved parents,

I would like to enclose herewith several articles and clippings that may be of interest to you.

To-night we inaugurate "Corona Mundi Hall" with a faculty concert. The stage is not quite completed, but it has turned out a most charming little place! Texas has not yet answered, and we are trying to devise further means for approach. We are also trying to approach other club women. We will join several women's organizations also, I believe, as this may be a means of approach to the women.

We have just completed a postcard of the messenger as our first enterprise in this direction. I shall send you a copy as soon as it is completed. Also, Varenagian sea is through, and I am sending you a copy under separate cover. Many interesting persons are approaching, and each day brings others who are spell-bound by your work. Yesterday came quite by chance an important member of the largest mineral firm, who has a hobby of art and was much touched by your paintings and spoke of buying. Our mutual interests of course made him extremely friendly, and he is coming here tomorrow. Will write cre about him after we see him again.

New Syndicate goes merrily on, and we are trying to get new papers to subscribe to our service. I am enclosing a clipping from Boston to show you the mutual benefits of the syndicate. After writing a story for Boston Post on Zuloga, for which we received \$25, we invited him up to see the museum, thereafter sending out the enclosed publicity about his visit. It is quite an endless circle. As Avirach says we are the only organization to get paid for our publicity.

We are delighted to have Avirach, and the news he brought us overwhelmed us. Uncle Boris has been here and as Avirach will write is cooperating in every way.

I believe I told you we have been able to cooperate with the Radio Company, giving a weekly program of lectures and music each week, from the Master Institute as well as the other institutions. Louis begins the lectures in February on Aztec Art. I am planning to speak later on my favorite topic - "Roerich". We are arranging to give lectures Sunday mornings in the Museum?

Just now came the director of Buffalo Museum to see Zvetic's paintings, so I must rush away. I will write again within the next day or two, but am including the clippings.

With all my love and devotion, your daughter

Mona

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OF UNITED STATES
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY



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102/10



MASTER INSTITUTE
OF UNITED ARTS

January 25

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Beloved Parents,

Another week brings us nearer to the opening of the Museum -- tomorrow we expect the pictures, and then comes the great days of hanging them. We are all thrilled at the thought of it. We have had interesting notice of the Museum especially outside of New York, and I am now waiting for duplicates to send to you. We had notices in the Detroit Free Press, in Chicago papers, Boston and others. So far we have received letters of thanks from Mrs. Sage-Quinton, Edes and Sutro for Adamant. Mrs. Sutro bought three additional, and came in to tell me she read it with such interest, and read one essay every night before she went to bed. From the others no answer as yet. We have also sent it out to be reviewed by the papers you mentioned, and have donated it to the libraries. Of our experiences with the Book, "Leaves", Porroma will write -- I have sent it to the Temple Artisan and shall await an answer.

This week we were all made more than happy by the arrival of the card with your pictures. It was more than wonderful to have them -- with our Mother on it, too. However, no photograph can ever reflect her light and glory to us -- we must look inward to our heart for that, to that eternal memory. To-day came the larger photographs -- again a joy.

We are planning a number of concerts now, as the one of last Sunday by Max Drittler and Willem Durieux (the new cello teacher) was a real success. So now we will have the children play and show some of the children's work in the other subjects, such as drawing etc. The Children's Hours go much better now -- as we plan each program ahead. Porroma, Radne and I take turns in talking to the children about painting, music and literature, and they seem to enjoy it. A friend of mine has asked me to give a lecture before a club in February so I shall talk on "Why a Roerich Museum!"

These next months are so full of work and plans! Then, too, Grebenstchikoff and Zavadsky shall be here in April, so we must help to plan for them. The more tasks, the better -- it is such great happiness to be together. I think, beloved parents, you feel how much this labor here in the thought of you has meant to us in closer unity, and in the conquest of our selves. Every effort is dedicated to you.

With my complete devotion, I am,

Your daughter
Madra

102/11



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February 15

Dear Parents,

Things have gone more serenely this week, and more beautifully,--after a somewhat turbulent January and beginning of February. So much slander, so much disturbance, but facing it all together, we have passed it unscarred.

The preparations for the Museum consume much of our time now. Besides the hanging of the pictures, there is the printing of a short catalogue, also we are working on a short books with about sixty reproductions of the paintings and a preface, to sell. We also are preparing the lists for invitations.

As to Adamant, we have already sent out for review the previous lists you have sent us. We are now sending out the "World of Roerich". About the opening of the Museum, we have just sent out short notices to N.Y. Out of town to some papers we sent the article -- the friendly papers which printed notices. However, I have sent abroad to all friends, article requesting them to spread the word. I have also sent to India.

We are also planning a small printed card to send out about Adamant and World of Roerich. On one side a short little sketch about the books, on the other, a few "What his contemporaries have said of Roerich". This we will also circularize among libraries. I have sent the book as gift to libraries, and received letters of appreciation.

To-day we received your two letters of Jan. 13. We have only have time thus far to hear a part of them, and that of our beloved mother but we are all aflame and burning to hear the rest. Such beauties-- like the most fragrant of dreams! But here too we gaze daily upon the beauties left to us -- those most glorious of creations!

Another teacher has left us this week--Rosa Munde, but I expect that Chester Hale will be able to take her place. These deflections and desertions we take much more calmly now -- we always know with what confidence and courage we must go. Last Sunday we assembled to talk through the phonograph to you--let our voices and our hearts speak to you from out that little horn, in the midst of the Himalayas.

What joy it is to realize your happiness looking out over the peaks of these giants and into the Home of glory. I pray that during the night our spirits soar to you like birds.

102/12



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February

March 13, 1925

Most Beloved parents,

In these days our thoughts are going out to you with all love. These are such crowded moments; it seems as though we were upon the threshold of such universal things. Here it is difficult to pause, because each succeeding moment contains its germ and its concern.

Under separate cover I am sending the March "Foreward" with a short article and the reproduction of a Tibetan painting. I had hoped to be able to review George's book for March, but as it had not come, I felt the occasion should be utilized; so I wrote the brief article with the reproduction.

This week has been so full of events, that one is at loss to write about them. Yesterday Por. and myself went down with your letter to Rock but encountered his secretary, and did not leave the letter. We shall try in some way to reach him personally. In the meantime Avirach is trying at the church, as he has probably written. As yet we have not heard further from Texas. As you heard, the representative visited us, and realizing the future importance of the occasion Rad and I saw her, and talked to her as broadly as possible. Then we wrote a letter supplementing our remarks, and now await a reply. It may be necessary for one of us to go down ahead to see the lady in charge. As it happens, Bossom is very well known in Texas, and may be able to put in a good word for us there.

New Sybdiatze has been active. ~~xxx~~ To date the receipts from articles are about \$250 and some payments outstanding. This is from one paper, but we are making efforts to enlist others, as the same efforts could bring in far larger returns. The wider possibilities of spreading out are excellent. Should everything prove ineffectual, we can use New Syndicate in R.'s case. To-day I had an interesting story. Colonel Roosevelt (son of the former President) with his brother and another gentleman are taking a scientific exploration to the Ladak and surrounding regions, under the auspices of the Field Museum, with of course every aid from America and Britain. It is a most interesting expedition. They were delighted to hear of your work and are looking forward to meeting you? They will come up here before they go. Their purpose is to get mammalia, flora, etc. of the region. An interesting story indeed may be woven of the two expeditions, for art and for science.

I am assiduously devoting myself to a study of diction and go to Columbia twice weekly at night for the purpose. I realize its importance and shall try to acquire it perfectly. I am the "worstest" student you can imagine because I devise non-existing words, but I love it so, that I am sure it will come.

I shall write now to my colleague in Paris, and appoint him the representative for New Syndicate in those countries, and advise him about press material. Also will write to Rapiavoli in Italy.

We now await the opening of Experimental Theater, a program of which I enclose. The first performance has stood us quite some money, as Mr. Lazareff needed \$100 for the sceneries and costumes. Also the various other expenses stood us a like sum. Under such circumstances of course, the Theater would be somewhat impractical with our limited seating capacity. Please give us your advise about this.

We are having an outside event -- a concert -- on April 2, by a Canadian singer, on the purely cooperative basis, and we hope it will be successful. We are having very interesting publicity on all activities. Gauguin exhibition, Experimental Theater, exhibitions in libraries, and all supplementary exhibitions. Although I wrote to Nardony asking him several times for copies of his article, he has not sent it, but Iogvan and Avirach will see him for lunch Monday and ask him personally.

In regard to the Museums we have written to about Sviatoslav's exhibition, these included Chicago; Wellesley College; University of Oklahoma; Minneapolis; Savannah, Ga.; Indianapolis; Kansas City; Charleston, S.C.; Cleveland; Rochester; Ann Arbor; Corcoran Gallery, Washington; Carnegie Institute; Saint Louis; Worcester; Detroit; Syracuse; Toledo; Newark; Dayton; Montreal; New Orleans; Toledo; Vassar; Elmira; Richmond; Fort Worth; Austin, Tex; Baltimore; Bowdoin College; Harvard; Memphis; Smith College; Buffalo; San Diego; San Francisco; Omaha; Denver; Cincinnati, etc. The possibilities are Boston, Wellesley, Oklahoma, Buffalo, possibly Minneapolis; Ann Arbor; Smith College, possibly Denver;

Laurvick and ~~xxxxxxx~~ Hewitt have not responded. Have written them twice, but will now write Sage-Quinton, as I gave first chance to Laurvick. I believe we can start in Boston in October and since Smith and Wellesley are near, work around there and in Buffalo, and thus work our way west.

We had an excellent article about Sviatoslav in Chicago papers, also a syndicated picture throught America.

It is impossible to tell how the influence of the works grows. Each day come new admirers ~~xxx~~ of your paintings and new students for the school. Mary Siegrist is writing some articles also. We are also having success with the children's hours, with lectures and plays. I should like to write a one-act play this summer about Saint Sergius or some other character near to us, as well as much other material for the Syndicate. I hope that George will also send material for the Syndicate. Kindly remember the Syndicate for Exclusive news, George.

I shall write further to-night from my home.

Your devoted daughter,

Modra



**MASTER INSTITUTE
OF UNITED ARTS**

March 14

NICHOLAS ROERICH
Honorary President
LOUIS L. HORCH
President
MAURICE LICHTMANN
Vice-President
FRANCES R. GRANT
Executive Director

310 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK N. Y.
CABLE ADDRESS "UNITAR"
TELEPHONE ACADEMY } 3860
 } 3861

Dear Parents,

Precious moments are passing now, bringing us closer and closer to the eventful opening of the museum. Most of the invitations have gone out now, and we have tried to be discriminating in the choice of persons we asked. Outside of friends, we have omitted artists. We have invited the critics and mostly educational heads of various kinds. We have tried to avoid those who find grounds for envy or ill-feeling. Our faculty, lecturers, head of museums, owners of your paintings are among those we asked. The letters and invitations you asked us to send have been sent.

We received several letters this week, and are proceeding on the various translations -- article and legends. Sina and I started yesterday on the latter, and much of the article has been done in its first version. Sina has been our official translator from the Russian, and she has done all the translations with beauty and devotion -- there is little to add in the final version, really. It was thrilling to begin last night, and we hated to stop. In the meantime I shall be working on it; it is in such beautiful free verse, like a chant, and we shall want to retain its original rhythm as closely as possible. It is indeed a wonderful privilege to be doing it.

The small catalogue for the museum is finally on the press, but numbers are such perverse things that before we got them all herded into proper order, Avirech and I had a headache for three days running!

We have had some difficulties with our assistants here -- Thomas, mostly, and also Dorfman, and on February 4 and 5, matters reached their climax. There was an attack and this is probably what you refer to.

We have had some different indications of response from various persons in reference to the book, the museum, etc. For instance, Block of Omaha seems very responsive a person -- he writes of your painting in Omaha with much love. He says that he is always happy to see that the people who do not know about pictures, always choose yours as their favorite -- the simpler people; and this, he said, is for him a great criterion, because they come with no prejudices, and say what responds to their real inner feeling.

The Atlantis contest is rousing much interest, and we have had so many requests from outside students to attend Bossom's lecture on Mayan Excavations, that we will not have enough room. I think we will have a very wide response to the competition -- it will close on April 1.

I have had a very fine letter from Miss Levy of Philadelphia telling me how much she loves the book. I did not hear from her last summer when I sent it, and I thought it might be good to invite her to the museum opening. She responded at once, quite sincerely and we now wait to meet her.

We have had to make another change in the faculty -- in our ballet. Miss Munde left us, and Mr. Hale undertook the classes. But he was absent everytime, except once, letting the pupils wait, and finally he told us he couldn't continue it altogether, so we have gotten a young teacher, but one who seems to love being at the school. Our drama department also is not as we would wish it, and as soon as the museum is opened, we shall begin making next year's plans and schedule. We are now planning to begin a small experimental class with Mr. Leich in the afternoons; he has been touchingly faithful, never missing a lecture here, and talking with so much love (that is, as much as his energy permits) that it is really affecting. It seems he has exhibited the sketch of yours in clubs and libraries of his home city, so that every one could see it.

We have been in communication with the Temple at Halcyon, and they have been cordial. From what they write they have a scarcity of beauty there, as they are not very well off. We were thinking that perhaps we could give them something from Corona Mundi, to beautify the Temple -- if it were permitted, a sketch of your own, so that they might have something of real Beauty. We sent them photographs, and they seemed to appreciate them so deeply!

During the last week I have felt your presence near me so constantly that it has given me tremendous happiness. We all are growing more united and more close -- and the thought of your your letters and love is the most invulnerable and biding chain.

With my deep devotion and love,

your daughter,

Mother

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**MASTER INSTITUTE
OF UNITED ARTS**

March 27

NICHOLAS ROERICH
Honorary President
LOUIS L. HORCH
President
MAURICE LICHTMANN
Vice-President
FRANCES R. GRANT
Executive Director

310 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
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TELEPHONE ACADEMY } 3860
 } 3861

Beloved Parents,

As there are many official papers to send, I must dispath them in time to reach tomorrow's mid-week boat. I shall write at greater length for Saturday's boat. Today's we have received your precious letters, but as yet we have not have time to translate them, I have already however had beautiful fragments, which Avirach was not able to contain. How we antticipate them!

The article "Star of the Morning" has had its first translation, and I hope the final copy will be on the way to you by the Saturday steamer. The translation of "Strings of Earth" is enclosed herewith as well as a Russian copy. We have sent copies to Bottomley, Rapi-cavcli, Schklaver and Yeruya. I also send twelve copies of Selivanova's book, as yourequest.

Changes in the faculty are coming to a head. We have a new man, a young one, Raymond Sovey for Theater Decoration; Gilbert Clark for costume design. And now, Mrs. White becomes difficult. She has had the most beautiful room in the house--but suddenly she makes more demands and becomes difficult. I believe she will go.

I must take these things to the postoffice, now to reach the steamer. One bit of news, however, Admant, World of Roerich, and Monograph, now begin to catch fire everywhere. In the last two days have come important orders. It seems as though just now all our circularizing, etc. is showing its results. Among recent buyers are Otto Kahn! Scudling of Boston; Boston Public Library, and book shops of importance. We feel verygratified, as it signifies the beginning.

Dearest, beloved parents --we are locki g to the future and such a vista greets our eyes as is difficult to express. We are ever united and happy.

With my deep love, I am,

Your daughter,

Moder



**ROERICH
MUSEUM**

— **Founded** —
November 17
— **1923** —
New York

April
Fourth
1925

TELEPHONE ACADEMY 3860
310 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK N. Y.

LOUIS L. HORCH
President
MAURICE LICHTMANN
Vice-President
FRANCES R. GRANT
Executive Director

Prof. Nicholas Roerich,
Kashmir General Agency,
Srinagar, India.

Dear Prof. Roerich,

It is a pleasure to know that you have already proceeded to Kashmir to work on the completion of the grandiose panorama of the regions which you will visit and paint.

I can hardly convey to you what a tremendous interest has been aroused in America by the order for an artistic work of such magnitude--and from everywhere inquiries and expressions of congratulation are pouring in. Although no official announcement has been made of it, articles are constantly appearing in the press, telling of "the consummation of your art in this mighty panorama".

The plans for the erection of the new wing to house your paintings are completed and we would like to know whether you have any architectural or lighting suggestions other than those you gave us personally during your visit.

In closing, let me again repeat my expression of happiness that this mighty product of your genius will be permanently housed in America, which already has so many of your works, and which cherishes them so reverently.

With my sincerest personal regards to yourself and Mme. Roerich, believe me,

Very cordially,

Frances R. Grant
Executive Director

FRG/HS

102/16



ROERICH MUSEUM

Founded
November 17
1923
New York

May
Twenty-ninth
1925

TELEPHONE ACADEMY 3860
310 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK N. Y.

LOUIS L. HORCH
President
MAURICE LICHTMANN
Vice-President
FRANCES R. GRANT
Executive Director

Professor Nicholas Roerich
Imperial Bank of India,
Kashmir, Srinagar,
India.

Dear Professor Roerich,

We are hastening herewith to send you word of the resolution of the Directors and Shareholders, in regard to the immediate procedure of the Expedition.

Upon receipt of your letter, the matter was brought before the meeting of Directors and Shareholders, who unanimously share your opinion. In view of the circumstances, an abbreviated passage through Ladak, painting only the most characteristic spots, and thence to Chinese Turkestan to do the great part of the work, would be highly acceptable.

It will please you to know of the great enthusiasm expressed by all present over the results of your work, and of the vote of deep appreciation and confidence unanimously carried and which I am hereby instructed to extend to you in the name of all. It is felt that the paintings of Chinese Turkestan will tremendously enhance the results of the Expedition for America.

With our sincere united greetings to yourself and to the members of the expedition, I am,

Very cordially yours,

Executive Director

FRG hs

102/17



**MASTER INSTITUTE
OF UNITED ARTS**

December 14

NICHOLAS ROERICH,
Honorary President
LOUIS L. HORCH,
President
MAURICE LICHTMANN
Vice-President
FRANCES R. GRANT,
Executive Director

310 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
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Revered Parents,

So many details have presented themselves this week to keep me here late in the evenings, that I have not been able to write before this. We have been trying this week to do some special circularizing for the weaker classes and I hope we build them up. We are making plans for Corona Mundi; an article appeared this week about us in the Evening Mail, and our first customer (a dealer) came to look at the exhibits. We are also planning the publications to appear with the museum-- the catalogue, picture collections, etc.

The "Prima donna" among our lecturers appeared this week -- Mr. Bellows. You probably have received the laments from all of us in turn. A duller and more stupid lecture I never heard -- Mr. Mukerji and Montani were brilliant lights in comparison. Even Mr. Bayfield's speech of last year becomes a happy remembrance in contrast. I do not yet know what he spoke about, but he reached his climax in an appreciation of Dynamic Symmetry, the bugaboo which all the students are frightened with in America. Our poor pupils left here much bewildered-- and now we appreciate Mrs. White. After the lecture all of us except Mrs. Shaffran had to go out and celebrate that it was all over. Logvan is introducing the lecturers, and he does it with dignity and poise-- improving each time/

Another of the old ones has dropped out-- Bayfield. The students had complained about his teaching, and last Sunday he telephoned that he would have to leave owing to an engagement in a performance. So we have gotten two young people (husband and wife) with whom the students seem to be delighted. We have gotten in touch with Mr. Halpert (the artist recommended by Pepper) and he wants very much to have a class. He seems willing to begin with just a few pupils as we want, and he thinks the light is wonderful. This is in contrast to the pupils of the Sterner class some of whom still dream of northern light and grumble about the present room. If possible, they are even drier and older than Sterner himself.

Our next event is a concert by Mr. Drittler and Mr. Durieux our new cello teacher, on Jan. 6. Then comes a lecture by Stark Young on Jan. 15. We hope for nice things from him because he has been cordial with the Master Institute. Last week I sent to Torrence your article "Right of Entrance", asking them to use it before Jan. 1, because of the appearance of the book. He answered that the article was unavailable but that the New Republic would like to have something by you to use.

So, perhaps if you send something from India, I shall send it to them at once.

We are starting our contest of Atlantis plans. So far Peyton Boswell and Howard Greenley have accepted, as judges. Other of our old friends are turning up. Bossco^m wrote me a very nice letter, and the Sutros ~~were at~~ our Bellows lecture. They informed me that Scholle is now in Chicago, Curator of Decoration at the Museum.

I guess I have summed up all the news. We are all working together with great love--and before such comradeship nothing is unconquerable.

With my constant love and devotion, believe me,

Your daughter,

Frances

We received your beautiful diary from aboard ship and your farewell notes! Our thoughts are with you always, when we are together, or when each of us is alone with the companionship of the beautiful messages and inspiration we receive constantly. My, deep, deep love.

NEW SYNDICATE

27 Pine St., N. Y.

June 12, 1925

102/18

Most beloved Parents,

Knowing that the time for our correspondence grows shorter, we want to make the most of these last few days. Matters of extreme interest have been crowded into the past weeks--both from our brothers and here. Of foremost interest here, erhaps, is the Brentano matter. Once again I saw Mr. Herold, in regard to the terms. I mentioned to him that in view of the fact that we give the materials and ~~the~~ loan the publishing rights, we become in the class as authors. He said that such arrangement would entitle us to 5% authors fees in addition to a jobbers discount of 42% on the books, the authors' fees of course being on all books sold. Tentatively he felt they could only publish 500, because they themselves could only sell 250. But they are quite willing to publish 200 more for, us if we take them on the same basis. There is a slight possibility that the remaining 200 may be had at a more advantageous figure to us. He was very interested in the material, and I showed him your photograph in costume. as well. I spoke about the possibility of raising the price of the book after it appears. Of course, he said, most of their own trade was with book sellers, who would in any case order in advance, and it might be unwise for them to raise. However, he thought, that this was a point that we might decide later, by mutual understanding. We spoke of a tentative pice of thirty dollars on the book. He is going to write me a letter on Monday confirming all our figures, and then we can decide finally the matter, leaving the details as to material, etc. to our discretion.

In regard to the Rockefeller matter, as his answered mentioned that 'at the present' Mr. R. would not commit himself to any further interests, we decided to write a letter merely acknowledge the answer and hoping that erhaps he might again at some time ~~he might~~ see fit to aid 'in any measure or sphere of our activity that he saw fit'. This leaves the door open to a later appeal again.

In regard to New Syndicate--thus far I have been able to get Miss Bartholomew to do some of the stories, and Miss Young has also done one. Thus far I have had to reWrite completely all the stories but I believe Miss Bartholomew may improve; she is the young girl from the Forward and seems movable enough to get the idea of the story. To Miss Young, the idea of the 'feature sotry is new and not always, perhaps sympathetic. But I believe it would be best to try her on several other stories. I have asked Miss Rosen to show me some of her writings, but as yet she is not very sure of her English. However, I have asked her to show me some o her college themes, and she has promised too. Her brother as yet cannot read or write English at all. We are still in the good graces of the Boston Post, and almost every Sunday 'Elinore Elgin' has her share in its pages. Of course, I must confess the subjects are not always delectable ones; they are what American journalists term 'Sob stuff', in most cases. In other words we revel in romances of actresses, millionaires, musicians, etc; anything sentimental although, fortunately not scandalous. In addition we have done some fine explorer and advneture stories, which are quite interesting. ~~Wherzszr~~ At first I puzzled whether such subjects were leading us in the right direction, but I realize of course, that the immediate story is not so important as is the fact of gaining the confidence of such good mediums of publicity, and of securing our position. Wherever the subkect of the story is such as may directly lead to some good contact for the work, I try to do it myself.

NEW SYNDICATE

27 Pine St., N. Y.

Otherwise, where possible, I get some one else to do it, and re-write it. I hope however that either the present two will soon write the stories without need of complete revision or that we may get someone who is flexible to the style of a paper. Of course, in all cases where some one has gone for the story, whether it has to be rewritten or not, they are regarded as authors and have gotten the customary authors fee, as after all they have given their time. I am sure the right person will develop. Many are the interesting opportunities that this is leading too--for instance to-day we had an assignment to get a story with a young woman who is engaged to Dr. Sverdrup a scientist on the Amundsen expedition. I found that she is the director of 'Fox Films'--that is educational one-film pictures, covering really unusual topics of an educational nature and dealing with men and events. I told her of the possibilities of our institutions, and she is coming up to see them on Tuesday. She was most enthusiastic, and it might be possible to get her cooperation in something. The films are not 'stories' but include artistic movements, scientific and educational material. Tuesday, also, a man from the Putnam Syndicate of NY is coming to write a story about the Tibetan paintings. In regard to Davie-Neels article, it is at present in the hands of the Independent Magazine, who expressed that they were interested in it, and I await their final r3ply. If not, the Times has mentioned their possible interest, if it is an interview; so if it refused, I shall take your advise and rewrite it as an interview for the Times.

Texas is now almost fully decided, and we have received a gracious letter from Mrs. Bacon that the ywill begin on July 27 with nine Governors nad numerous club presidents there, and quite a remarkable inauguration. Her letters are very cordial, and I believe that personal contact will enlagre the place of the institutions there tremendously. We shall also go a-hunting for the acres which are ours.

~~But~~ At the end of June, we shall send you a complete financial statement of the year's work, of the institutions. Although the final figures are no in, as we have still some lessons in June, they accord favorably with our budgets despite additional expenses.

We have given prizes to our children this year--Varengian Sea framed, and to the older students, Ikon drawings. Our catalogue grows larger as you will observe on receiving it.

I am sneding under separate cover ~~expisxof~~ samples of paper fo half-tones. Of course the paper will be thinner, but we would appreciate it if yoh would choose the shades. We would appreciate all your advices about the volume, as from present indications, Brentanos seem o en to all our ideas.

It is now approaching 10PM., and I would like to get off two cables--one to you about rentanos and one to the boys, so I shall be going home. We shall write again for Wednesday's steamer.

With all love,

Your daughter
 Modra

Recd. cable about Narodny. Will see him Monday & give him material. All, all my love.