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564 Riverside Drive
New York
Oct. 7, 1928

My dear Friend:

I was so delighted to get your letter and hear from you after such a long interval, although I felt the presence of your spirit. I spoke so often with your other friends here of your marvelous experiences in the wilds of Asia and always called up the Museum here inquiring whether they had heard of you. I read with intense interest your accounts of the whole situation and hoped that I would hear more when you will reach the landmark of correspondence again. I can but faintly imagine your marvelous and hard experiences. I have a secret longing to see some parts of the East. I went last summer as far as to Moscow, met many of my old friends, among them Alexis Stchussev, Lunacharsky and Mihail Reusner - now dead. I spoke of you and even imagined you back in the Kremlin. I wrote a series of articles and wished to publish in a book, but later felt it was too thin for a book so published in Asia and Musical America. My experience was very unusual. I have meditated a great deal on what I saw and heard and will some day tell you more about those. I am establishing a Russian Room of art in the Brooklyn Museum, to be sent by Stchussev and Lunacharsky, among which I want to have one of your pictures, and we are shipping with Fox an American Room to the Ermitage from here.

Personally I am retiring to our little farm on Sharon Mountain in Conn, where I have started to write the book I have always loved to write which I call "My Holy Legend - the World Within. It may take a year to work on it. I feel that now we will enter an intense new religious era, an era of spiritual Renaissance.

I have retired more or less from the Sunday papers and write only in Musical America and some art publications - to make my daily bread. For that purpose I am also trying to launch the scenario of a film for which I gathered information during my trip to France and Russia, namely the life of John Paul Jones in Russia during the time of Catherine the Great and in France with Benjamin Franklin, Laffayette, Marie Antoinette, etc. I want to live for something more than mere literary or journalistic existence - a religious dream I have had, in which I feel so inspired by your creations.

As I think Miss Grant and Mrs. Lichtmann have brought to you my two articles in Asia on my impression in Soviet Russia and some Musical Am. numbers, I will mail later those in which I will touch the religious subjects and your immortal works of art.

With all good wishes to you and best regards to Mrs. Roerich and your son I remain

Cordially yours

Ivan Tarnovsky

564 Riverside Drive

New York

December 19, 1928

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My dear Friend:

Yesterday I saw Miss Grant after return from the Old World and she gave me an interesting picture of all her experience and meeting with you and Mme Roerich. It was as if I heard your voice. I can imagine all the marvelous experiences that you went through, which ~~are~~ reflected in your works that I have seen. I get the inner soul of them - always, and that ⁱⁿ what makes them to me like a series of some marvelous epics. I cannot tell you how eager I am to see you personally and hear you talk on some phases of your long expedition. I have myself grown more inward looking and feel as if I was approaching too a sacred higher plane of understanding. In so far I have devoted myself mostly to preparatory work for a couple of books and earning living in journalism, particularly in Musical America and now and then the different Sunday papers, Asia or art publications. Our friend, Mr. Chanler has been very ill in France, suffering on the sickness of liver. He has asked about you. I feel very close to your institutions here spiritually, and may be some day can be closer to them. With all good wishes to you and your family, I remain

Most cordially

Juan Waresday