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Musical
ESCF

October 1, 1945

Miss ^{Ms} Martha Graham
66 Fifth Avenue
New York City 11

Dear Martha:

I am sorry that it has taken me so long to answer your letter of September 13 but I have been in something of a stew for some time. Your letter to Chavez has been mailed. You are correct in your assumption that the matter of royalties must be between you and the composer. It is important, however, that you communicate with me before announcing any performance of the Chavez work. It will be unusual to have a Coolidge Foundation work performed for the first time outside our auspices and I want to make sure that the arrangement offends no one, least of all Mrs. Coolidge.

The news about John Martin's awards for the Herodiade and Appalachian Spring came as a complete surprise to me. When did this happen? Before the war, I used to have the Times delivered to my home but I rarely see it nowadays. Please send me a copy of the clipping if you have an extra one or just tell me the date. I included a mention of Aaron's Pulitzer Prize in my annual report and I shall try to insert yours into the record also. For this reason I must have the information soon.

I was also pleased to learn of the commission by the Ditson fund. If I were in a nasty mood I might make a crack about imitation and flattery but instead I'll just wish my friends at Columbia the best of luck. I am glad that you chose Barber and believe that you can expect a beautiful work.

Your remark about the possible reaction of the Europeans simply dumfounded me. I'm no prophet, but I believe that your success in Europe (also in Brazil, etc.) would be tremendous. For this reason, I do hope that you can arrange something satisfactory with Hurok. You speak of more activity. Perhaps so but in the long run it will bring more returns and actually give you more time for rest. I realize that I am in no position to talk about driving oneself too hard but I shall try to take real vacations hereafter and I certainly hope that you will also.

We still look back on the Festival with pleasant thoughts. Thanks for the kind words but it was really you who was the good sport. With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Harold Spivacke
Chief, Music Division

HS/rg