

RUDOLF NUREYEV

Rudolf Nureyev was not only a personal friend, but though younger than Robert de Warren, a mentor, for his genius was also a fountain of constant inspiration. This letter was a testimonial of his respect, authored just five months before his sad loss. One of several unique documents in Robert's files.



At his apartment in Paris



Nureyev - conductor

POSITANO, AUGUST 18, 1992

TO ROBERT DE WARREN

DEAR ROBERT,

IN VIEW OF RECENT EVENTS I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I FULLY APPRECIATE THE DIFFICULTIES YOU HAVE TO ENDURE AS DIRECTOR OF THE BALLET OF LA SCALA IN MILAN.

MY FAITH IN YOU HAS ALWAYS BEEN REWARDED AS I HAVE WATCHED THE WAY YOU HAVE DEVELOPED THE COMPANY AND RAISED THE STANDARD OF PERFORMANCE HIGHER THAN EVER BEFORE. WITH YOU I ALWAYS FELT CONFIDENT AND RELAXED, SURE THAT YOU WOULD SEE TO EVERY DETAIL BEING AS I WOULD EXPECT.

IT WAS THE SAME IN NORTHERN BALLET, NEVER ANY DOUBT AS TO ORGANISATION AND PRODUCTION. THIS IS WHY I HAVE ALWAYS AGREED YOU COULD HAVE MY BALLETS.

LA SCALA HAS BEEN FORTUNATE TO HAVE YOU, THOUGH, AS ALWAYS THEY FAIL TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY HAVE. I WAS SPECIALLY HAPPY WHEN YOU ALSO BROUGHT THEM PAUL TAYLOR AND AGNESS DEMILLE.

PLEASE KEEP THIS LETTER AS A TOKEN OF FRIENDSHIP AND THANKS.
GOOD LUCK WITH THE COMBAT.

MY GREETINGS TO JACQUELINE.

BE WELL,


RUDOLF NUREYEV