

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY  
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

May 16, 1956

Dear Ralph,

Thanks for your letter of thanks and let me reciprocate thanks with thanks. It was a very charming experience and I am glad I had it. Now I know what Vassar offers should once more I recommend a scholar to that place. You have taken care excellently of me. I liked the cocktail party, and the dinner you and your handsome Caravaggio friend<sup>1</sup> prepared was "as at home" - Alexander-Edwards Place level<sup>2</sup>-in other words: excellent. I just mailed a package of Karlsbad Oblaten to Miss [Betty] Meade who, I hope, will not bother to write a note, because otherwise I would have to thank her for the note etc. etc. in eternal regress.

The Katz proposals sound most reasonable, I should think. Of course, you can do whatever you please (as I had full freedom at Berkeley) and this implies that you will change your courses annually and play with the same material in kaleidoscopic variations-just shifting the stress and each time picking up some new material. That is the way one gets to know one's special field.

I have not kissed Eva<sup>3</sup> yet-or for that matter her mother. I was tied up with the press-verify cross-references and fill in blanks. Today Joan [Benson] arrived, which will change Bobby, who had another offer at Michigan. But he remains loyal to Barnard. - Some horrible news reached me yesterday: that Ilse Bukofzer committed suicide. She was helpless after the death of [her husband] Manfred<sup>4</sup> and lacking every *raison d'être*. Still, it shocked me terribly when Oliver Strunk<sup>5</sup> passed the message on to me.

Sec you soon. Once more many thanks and my greetings to the two ladies.

Love  
EKa. [Signed]

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<sup>1</sup> Barbara Knowles, junior faculty in the Art Department. She lived with Professor Elizabeth Meade (Art department), and they were the hosts for Eka's weekend visit to Vassar.

<sup>2</sup> Eka lived on Alexander street in Princeton, I (formerly) on Edwards Place.

<sup>3</sup> Michael & Lucy Cherniavsky's newly born daughter, soon to bear the nickname "Bombi."

<sup>4</sup> Manfred Bukofzer, musicologist, co-author with Eka of *Laudes Regiae* when they were both at California; Bukofzer had since moved to Princeton.

<sup>5</sup> Professor of Music in Princeton University.