

September 24, 1957

Mrs. Raphael J. Cavaliere
172 Stoneway Lane
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Cavaliere:

Please excuse the delay in replying to your very nice letter concerning the stairway in our Grand Ballroom.

The stairway was designed by John W. Rhoden of 285-8th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y. He is a well known sculptor, who has had many of his works exhibited as well as receiving some outstanding awards. He received the Fulbright fellowship for 1951-52, and the Prix-de-Rome fellowship 1953-54. In addition, he has traveled throughout Europe, Africa, the Middle East, etc. In 1955-56 he made an exhibition tour for the State Department.

Mr. Rhoden used a blow torch to fuse copper, bronze, nickel-silver, brass, and jewel-colored glass in panels of contemporary design. The stunning background not only adds beauty to the Sheraton Hotel's Grand Ballroom, but is a support for the stairway, as the north end of the stairway is attached to the ceiling through Mr. Rhoden's masterpiece.

We trust the above information will answer some of your questions. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Rhoden for any additional information.

We appreciate very much your interest in the new Philadelphia Sheraton Hotel.

Sincerely yours,

Tom Ridgway
Public Relations Director

TR:jg

CC: Mr. Rhoden