

June 16, 1961

Mr. G. Trani  
G. Trani Marble and Tile Works  
220 East 24th Street  
New York 10, New York

Dear Mr. Trani:

You will recall that I have spoken to you as well as to Mr. Fani who is employed in your firm by long distance concerning a bill incurred by Mr. John W. Rhoden of Brooklyn, New York. The bill concerns damages to the bases of Mr. Rhoden's sculpture and it is my understanding that he has asked that new bases be made for his sculpture by your firm. Sometime ago I received a bill on the letterhead of your firm signed by S. Fani in connection with these damages and although I too requested a copy of this bill be sent to me for the purpose of the University facilitating payment of its part for the damages referred to, you were unable for some reason to send me a copy of the bill. You also let me know that you are quite unfamiliar with Mr. Rhoden's request made at your office that the new bases be supplied by you.

My reason for referring to these matters is that Mr. Rhoden has seemed very anxious to have the bases made and paid for prior to his leaving the country. The delay, if any, in payment for these bases is to be blamed on the unbusinesslike manner which the estimate and course of the transmission of bill to Howard University was carried out by Mr. Rhoden and your assistants.

Now, as to the purpose of this letter, it is merely to transmit to you two checks, one from the Aetna Insurance Company in the amount of \$75.00, the other from Howard University in the amount of \$67.00 representing a total of \$142.00, which according to the original bill was the sum of damages, requested by Mr. Rhoden. I regard these payments as a complete and faithful discharge of the University's obligation to assure Mr. Rhoden in the matter of the damages which he claimed. I would appreciate acknowledgement at the earliest possible moment of your receipt of this payment.

Sincerely yours,

James A. Porter, Head  
Department of Art

JAP:as

cc: Mr. John W. Rhoden