

AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

VIA ANGELO MARINA, 2

OPERATA S. BANCAREGGIO

ROMA

ITALIA



Post Box  
1701

Mrs Richarda Rhoden  
285-8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
New York 1, N.Y.

U.S.A.

T-56

BY AIR MAIL 1950

## AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

VIA ANGELO MASINA, 5

(PORTA S. PASCEAZZO)

ROME December 13, 1958

CABLE ADDRESS  
"AMACADMY"

Dear Shimie

It seems many times I write to you mental notes and sometimes think that I've written to you. For example yesterday I thought of all the little things and said that you would like this, or get a big kick out of this, or when I went window shopping it was what you always like. I bought you so many things. Every time I would see something of your special taste that would be for you and yet the only thing I have is many memories of us walking about Rome and when you were here I had very little time.

When I left Yugoslavia 10:30 am. The flight time was 3 hours it was stretched into five (5) because of a strong head wind. The plane was a pre-war DC3 and very light so we flew backward part of the time. I also had 1 1/2 hours delay thru customs with the big box, that really getting to be a nuisance. If I really had sculpture I wouldn't mind.

When I arrived by Embassy Car to the American Academy there was a mess up of the room because I was expected more than two weeks ago. Anyway the room that I received was cold and as bare as a witch's tit. And a strong smell of glue and paint. It was at first a bit depressing but that was for only 1/2 hour. I just had to face the fact that I was alone without you and my being here will

never be the same. It was a bit difficult to get a heater or extra blankets because of the late hour of arrival. I saw Ches and John and they helped me out as Bit. Mr & Mrs Roberts were away on a trip to Tunisia, nevertheless it was a cold miserable night without you. Now I at least have more blankets.

The next day I had to report at the Embassy to try to get visas for the Orient. That will be quite a job and much time spent on this plus getting my plane reservations and etc. I saw some figures on my tickets. I'm going first class and quite costly. From Rome to Tokyo about \$200. I didn't want to come back to the Academy today because everyone I saw would ask for you or about you. This made me more lolly, so, I remain in Rome (city) just walking. I saw Demetri & Molly three times and decided to have coffee with them. I refuse to do too much or any talking but just generalizing and being evasive. Now I've developed a technique of being evasive. Its much better because people are really jealous and narrow. I sneaked in the Academy and had a good sleep.

3  
AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

VIA ANGELO MASINA, 5

PORTA S. PANCRAZIO

ROME

CABLE ADDRESS  
"AMACADMY"

Today Mr Roberts returned from his trip and when he saw me he looked as if he saw a ghost. It was a warm greeting and the next thing he asked was if I wanted a studio. So he took me to Robert Laurent's studio. I accepted it for no telling what I may do in 7 days. Now I feel just a bit better with you but would be O.K. I saw Ches. Meras + Felvio, Mrs Corbette,

By the way dear I had hoped some stroke of Luck could have had you here with me in Rome now. I wished we could have had really made plans for this but as you know when I left nothing was really settled and I thought I would really try to get to Japan from Moscow. Several letters I've seen and one received from D.C. Another name has been signed acting Chief of Specialists instead of Mr Colwell. I've also been convinced that the U.S. Government policy would never pay for two in the same family (using the same name) of this kind of Grant. So pleased don't feel bad. I feel worse really not having you. As one time I wanted to really say let's spend the works but I must be realistic and think just where we will move. Surely the building will come

sawn. That brings up this problem.  
If the place leak Frank or the land  
lord or someone must fix the place.  
your health is important and you must  
take care of yourself as I am doing.  
Hold up the rent and they cant  
throw you out. Anyway they know  
we are a good risk.

I shall write to Permanente. If there  
is anything else you want write for it  
one good order is "The Chair" cost about \$50  
each. If by chance anything should  
come dont pay a penny for customs.  
Just tell them I'm working for the  
State department and all objects are tax free.

Tell mee mee shee a mee kee kee.  
Ie whistled as many cats and  
nose had answer my call like she  
has.

Please try to write to me before next  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>. I leave Rome for New Delhi  
but you can write to the Embassy in  
Bangkok, Cambodia, Indonesia, Seoul,  
Tokyo. I'll spend approx 10 days in each  
of these places. You'll get an idea  
where I am. As soon as I get my itinerary  
I'll send it too you.

Please dont stay hope for Christmas.  
What ere you do see that someone  
Bring you home to the door.  
I had much to love you dear. John