

Monday - December 20th, 1954

Dear Mr. Roberts,

Thanks for your messages that were relayed to us by Miss Mary Williams. Immediately on receipt of it I called Mr. Stark of East 72 Street New York and when he heard that we had another buyer for the piece he said that he wanted it himself and would send us a check and we in turn will forward Schneider's commission to him. He is writing Schneider today concerning it.

As you no doubt have an inkling about it and had something of a premonition concerning it way last summer, our relationship with Schneider is not turning out to be as satisfactory as we had hoped it would be; in the last letter we received from him he said that our prices were much too high and that it was a hindrance to selling them. However, our gallery woman here in New York, Mrs. Eleanor Seidenberg, says that our prices are much too low for her clientele. To make a long story short, we are having our show in Chicago starting January 23rd, which is a Sunday; and Mrs. Seidenberg is giving us a show in March which will feature paintings by Braque, Picasso, etc and sculpture by Rhoden. Not bad? we think that it is the right kind of company. What we need is more sculpture. John is trying to do more pieces here but costs are quite prohibitive for any sizable piece and then of course the time element again is running very close. We would like it if someone from the Academy would pick up from Schneider these four pieces: The Ball, Belly Banner, Evasions, and Astronomer, and have Mr. Van Truxen bring them back with him when he comes back to America early in January. Naturally, whatever extra charges for Mr. Van Truxen we will pay. We will be able to clear them through customs through a code number that they have given John.

Also, when the pieces of sculpture are through traveling with the U.S.I.S. show would you have them send the pieces directly to us here as it would be too expensive to get them over here otherwise.

The Arthur Caver's are here spending the Christmas holidays with us and we all wish you a very Merry Christmas.

*Love & Best wishes from Richard & John Rhoden*