

Copy: Mr. John Rhoden

August 7, 1957

Mr. Richard Maxwell
c/o Eliot Noyes Architects
105 Main Street
New Canaan, Conn.

Dear Mr. Maxwell:

Please find enclosed a glossy print of the welded background for the Grand Ballroom stairway in the new Philadelphia Sheraton Hotel. We have also included various other material concerning the hotel which may be of interest to you.

It was very nice talking to you today, and we are delighted that Mr. Thomas Watson, Jr., was impressed with our Grand Ballroom on his recent stay here.

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 room but is a support for the stairway, as the North end of the stairway is attached to the ceiling through Mr. Rhoden's masterpiece.

As Mr. Rhoden lives in New York, we are sending him a copy of this letter in order to assist you in getting in touch with the artist. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Rhoden as we are sure he would be delighted to give you additional information.

We appreciate very much your interest.

Sincerely yours,


Tom Ridgway
Public Relations Director

TR:jg
Enc.