

Cope

ROCKIFF

133 MAIN ROAD
HERMANUS

April 28th 1959

Ibbs & Fillett,
124. Wignore Street,
London.
England.

Dear Mrs. Fillett:

Before leaving England last year I discussed the idea of a Concert of our dear Albert Coates' music, with Irene Morris and Arthur Hammond and also Avril Coleridge-Taylor, and they were all very keen about it!- Well now, it seems you have been kind enough to arrange this little effort for July 1st., I understand we are having a small part of the L.S.O.

I enclose a programme which I think might show all sides of Albert's music (as much as we can under the circumstances!) and will be glad of any suggestions you may send me. I do not have much idea of, how long it will play, or, how long the "In Memorium", or the Piano Concerto, will take!- Perhaps Arthur Hammond will be able to let us know. I have tried, in the programme, to give a few short notes with regard to the songs etc., but I have written to Frank Laffitte for his "short" notes, as well as Avril Coleridge-Taylor, and Arthur Hammond, but so far nothing has arrived. If the notes arrive I will post them on to you and ask you please insert them in the places on the programme, you think suitable. The idea of the "notes" is to say something about the items being performed as well, as the association with Albert.

I am posting a copy of the programme to Miss Irene Morris in case you will wish to discuss anything with her!

I hope to leave for England at the end of May (the 29th.,) by the "Athlone Castle" due Southampton on June 11th., My address in London will be -

Kensington Close Hotel,
Wright's Lane
London W.8.

I enclose a picture of Albert, conducting a class in Hollywood, I would like you please to have a "Block" made to the size of the smaller one and placed on the programme, maybe on the outside?- I will suggest a short resume of his life(?) and activities, (compositions?) etc., on the inside of the front cover, which I would like to be of a nice kind of paper (maybe a deep cream?) will you give me your ideas about this?-

I shall be bringing all the music along with me. I would like you to arrange for James Sherrin to have the Piano part, which Arthur Hammond has among the "parts" belonging to "Little Alfie" which I feel he should get acquainted with at an earlier date, than my arrival!- I have written to James Sherrin about it but he may need help, in case Arthur is in Belfast (!) in which case the next contact should be Mrs. Gladys Gibson. (my husband's niece) who had the music and may know where it is. Her address is 5. York House, Queen's Drive, North Ealing, W.3. Telephone No. (Acorn.1442.)

She is in business and her number during the day will be Langham 4261. There is a Flute accompaniment in "The Nightingale's Song" as well as in the Excerpt from the Opera (Van Hunks & the Devil) which Johanna Uys is to sing. I hope we have a tip-top Flautist for the job?-

(4) ✓
2. (continued)

I am posting this letter by Air-mail so it reaches you within a few days (5) and in case you wish to communicate with me, a few times (!) before I leave home. The ordinary air-mail letter (enclosed) is obtainable, as you know, at any Post Office and only costs a 6d. I feel I would like to have the Programmes ready as soon as we can, because, I have to send a couple of them to S. Africa House and ask them if they would like to have a few tickets!-

I find the resume of Albert Coates life, could be brought more up to date, so will not post it by this morning, hope to get it to you within a day or two.

With kindest regards and I am so glad that this concert will happen under your auspices!-

Yours very sincerely