
Letters to the Editor

From Ian MacDonald

I assume Julian Graffy continues to pick myopically at tiny threads in my Shostakovich book because he is incapable of taking in its complete canvas. Fair enough. Possibly, for him, revelation depends on a higher class of literature than mine. I'd recommend *The Gulag Archipelago* if I didn't expect him to reply that he'd read it with interest and found it rather contentious. Apart, though, from the three 'errors in the book's literary background' mentioned in his review (two of which are his, not mine), he has now repeated his wider caveat that my tone is rhetorical and my views exaggerated – which, considering he adduces no more evidence for this charge than he did the first time he made it, calls for a response. As it happens, I have no wish to bore *Tempo* readers with any more squabbling, so perhaps Mr Graffy would like to take this up with the Russian musicians and Western academics who have contacted me to express their warm approval of the tone and views he finds so worrying? As for his quaint theory that the truth about the Soviet system has long been a matter of universal agreement, only those who knew the background will be aware of how eccentric he is in maintaining this. I repeat: the record is there for anyone to read. For recent examples of disharmony at the highest scholarly level, Mr Graffy might care to weigh the 'sober assessments' of such controversialists as J. Arch Getty and Jerry Hough before venturing further pronouncements on the subject.

15 Roberts Close
Cirencester
Glos GL7 2RP

From Mark Doran

I wonder if I might enlist the assistance of your readers in my search for tape-recordings of the late Hans Keller. Although he was a tireless lecturer, speaker, teacher and coach as well as a broadcaster, few of his appearances seem to have been preserved institutionally, and it would seem wise to catalogue that which survives in private hands. Could I therefore ask readers who are in possession of any such recordings if they would kindly contact me, with the details? Should it emerge that a substantial amount of material exists, it may be deemed worthwhile to establish a tape archive dedicated to facilitating study of this most stimulating thinker.

c/o Music Department
University of Liverpool
P.O. Box 147,
Liverpool
L69 3BX

From Stephen Walsh

I am preparing a biography of Igor Stravinsky, to be published by Alfred Knopf in the USA and by Jonathan Cape in the UK. I should be extremely glad to hear from any of your readers who may have letters or documentation connected with the composer, or any other material or personal reminiscences which they are willing to communicate to me.

The Cwm
Welsh Newton
Monmouth
NP5 3RW
