

BARBARA MORGAN

HIGH POINT ROAD SCARSDALE, NEW YORK

2/3/48

Dear Laura:

Thank you for your very good letter.

It is wonderful to hear of the Yucatan book coming to birth as well as the Rio- for that matter, we just read Hasting House announcement of it in Publisher's Weekly. That debut takes it forever out of the realm of the subjective, conclusively.

We shall look forward to your coming when you give the once over to your plates-so let us know in advance- maybe I can have a party for you or some thing festive.

About the Karakul sheep- That fine wool of various age-colors just something wonderful - on my beam. I told Alice Weber, who remembers you warmly, and she felt that she could probably weave it satisfactorily although she has had no experience with such fine wool. She is keen to try and thinks it sounds beautiful.

I would love to get a gamut of color from the various ages as I am sure there would be a marvelous organic unity- do something interesting with it. Perhaps in the same garment- This cape that I want to have tailored as a kind of perennial costume -perhaps there could be a subtle gradation darkening to the hem line-perhaps a light stroke at the shoulders- a darker neck treatment or detachable hood.

If it is possible to get the wool will you let me know if your friend will sell it and if it can be spun, I will forward whatever money is involved. I would like to get enough to play with generously, since it is all experimental any how, and if we are doing it at all we might as well go strong. I would like to know all about these sheep-

Aren't they from the Caucasus- Bokhara, Afghanistan or some where?

Your description of the Indian dances makes me homesick- for it is the Corn Dance that has so far been my deepest spiritual experience as an American, or I should say, as a human being.

A Hindoo friend invited me to a memorial service for Gandhiji- or Gandiji, with the accent on the ji, as they all say. It conotes respect an affection.

It was one of the most moving experiences of my life, -Americans Ramakrishna-Vivekkananda Center and Indians to-gethercrowded into a little Vedanta Chapel on 94 thrd Street Swami Nikilananda conducted it and U N Indian delegates spoke as well as John Haynes Holmes of the N Y Community Church and a Jewish Rabbi. The delegate (UN) from Afghanistan rose and bowed but did not speak(? Moslem) Holmes said that while the West had traveled the materialistic road and had reached the pinnacle of physical force in the atom bomb, the spiritual road had produced in Gandhiji the non-physical force of the spiritual weapon, ahimsa(non-violence), a superior discovery.

The Indians spoke with deep feeling in a profound philosophical vein -but a Sikh and Professor Bas who teaches at NYU let their political passions get away from them to a degree that I could see the seething pit of India, to-day.

Fare thewell, I hope it won't be too much bother to go wooling. Don't make a special effort- for your time belongs in your books- only if it is a by product of your normal goings an comings.

Our best greetings and thinking for Gugenheim,

Barbara