

Amon Carter Museum of Western Art

3501 CAMP BOWIE BOULEVARD, FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76107

P. O. BOX 2365, 76101, PE 8-1933

July 21, 1965

Miss Laura Gilpin
P. O. Box 1173
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Laura:

Since our talks last week regarding the publication to accompany the exhibition of the Indian Arts Fund in Fort Worth, I have had several thoughts which I wish to communicate to you and to all the others who have in any way been concerned with the book and the exhibition. My thinking has been focused upon the question of the sponsorship of the book, which, until our meeting on July 15, I had never questioned, as it had not occurred to me that another agency might be interested. When I learned that both the Indian Arts Fund officers and the School of American Research had expressed regret that they had not been given the opportunity to do the book, I was somewhat dismayed and a bit embarrassed. As you know, the Amon Carter Museum had taken the initiative in the project, and while the "proprietary rights" rest entirely within the Indian Arts Fund and the School of American Research, we had naturally assumed that there was no interest or intention to pursue such a project inasmuch as there were no plans afoot at the time.

I would assure you, as President of the Fund, and all others in any way concerned with the collections of that organization, that it is not the intention of the Carter Museum to in any way take unto itself a publication privilege which may properly belong to another agency. In the few years that we have been in operation we have constantly worked toward collaboration with other museums and educational institutions, feeling that our task was far too great and our capabilities too limited to go it alone. Therefore, a policy of cooperation with others has been an integral part of the publishing and exhibitions program.

I feel very keenly that our relationship with the several agencies in Santa Fe, all in one way or another associated with the Indian Arts Fund, is much too important to be jeopardized through any misunderstanding of our purpose. Therefore, we wish to suggest the following procedure whereby the Fund and/or the School of American Research may become an active partner in the enterprise.

To date all expenses of the project have been borne by the Carter Museum. We have compensated Betty Toulouse for the time she has devoted to research in the IAF files and in the preparation of the data sheets. We have also commissioned photographic

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work through you, with a view to its use in the book and possibly in the exhibition; and lastly, we have commissioned and have paid for the manuscript by Ann Nolan Clark. We will, of course, undertake all the expenses in the packing, transportation, insurance, and installation of the exhibition as well as the expenses of those officers of the Fund who would be invited to the opening.

Since the Fund and School have the primary interest in such a publication, it seems logical that it should be published with your imprint and copyright. The Carter Museum proposes that the manuscript and all materials pertaining thereto be turned over to the IAF and/or School of American Research immediately, to be published in an edition and format to be decided by those organizations. The only request that the Carter Museum makes in this is that a subscript credit be given on the title page indicating that the publication has been prepared with the cooperation of the Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth. All copyright privileges and the ownership of the edition rest with the publisher.

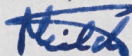
There are reasons for this action other than the one I mention above. We appreciate that the sales potential and program of your organizations are quite different from our own. Thus, it is difficult to accomplish the purposes of both without placing demands upon one another which may seem unreasonable. We understand the problems of a large edition, in your terms, whereas we shy away from books which are too high in unit cost. Further, sales in Fort Worth are largely limited to the period of the exhibition, except for our mail order operation, which provides continuing sales through promotion in our publications catalogue. Our sales activity is compressed into the period of the exhibition, whereas it would seem that you have a continuing sales potential, as the collection is on permanent exhibition in Santa Fe.

If the above suggestion is of interest to the officers of your organization, we will be happy to transmit all materials immediately in the hope that the publication might go to press in time to accompany the exhibition in October. If it is available at that time, we agree to the outright purchase of 500 copies at the unit manufacturing cost plus transportation.

We are proceeding with the plans for the exhibit and I shall hold all matters of the publication in the hope that this proposal will find a welcome acceptance with the Indian Arts Fund, Incorporated, and the School of American Research.

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely,



Mitchell A. Wilder
Director

cc: Mrs. Betty Toulouse
Dr. Eugene McCluney
Mrs. Ann Nolan Clark
Mr. Frank Wardlaw