

September 7
1968

Mrs. Stewart Udall,
Center for Arts of Indian America,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Udall:-

Thank you so much for your kind letter. You are very considerate in your offer to help me get the exhibition ready. So far all is going along very well. I have an ex pupil who has volunteered to help me in the dark room three days a week and we are progressing on time, I trust. We are mounting and labeling as we go along so that the stack of finished prints grows higher with each week. I really got myself into something when I undertook two shows of this size this year with my present incapacities! I am making all the large (16x20) prints first. We have twenty more to go. Two of each on the Navaho material. This means that by Sept. 15th we will have some 75 and more prints ready for each show, yours and Amon Carter.

I have not talked to Jim McGrath since he returned. Wanted to give him time to get the school year under way. Then we will go over the other material for your and his show and decide on sizes, etc. How many of the Maya ruins etc. And shall I add a few that you had last year or not? Such as Maria making pottery, the color print of Maria and Po? These do belong in this show. Then we must decide about the few big one. There will 12 of these for Amon Carter of Navaho. I have not yet ordered any of these until we make all final decisions.

How very nice of you to be wondering about a New York show. Last spring I asked Mitch Wilder if he thought Rene' Harnoncourt would be interested in a show of the Navaho prints perhaps to include a fine display of Navaho crafts. Mitch told me that Rene was to leave the Modern Sept. first and that he is engaged in preparing a big Indian show for Paris. I do not know the present director of the photographic department, and Mr. Steichen never liked my work. As far as I could make out he was not sympathetic to any Clarence H. White students.

In the mean time, and since you were here, the Peter

Farbs have been here. I told them of both shows, and they are certainly ~~are~~ going to show one of them. They had to wait to see how the schedule for their photographic galleries was lined up before they could reach a decision. I should hear from them before too long, I imagine.

I dont believe that I have ever told you that some of the work in your show, has been shown in Washington, but years ago. In 1933 I had a show of all the first series I did in Yucatan at the Library of Congress. Then about twelve years ago, I had a miscellaneous show at the National Arts Club. This had both some Yucatan and some Navaho. But I imagine your audience is not only much larger, but also much more extensive. And I trust that there is enough new work to overcome any feeling of repetition.

Do you wish me to write the Owings? Nat asked me for a figure on the whole show and told him \$5000. I want to drop them a note today anyway to tell them that the final color plates for the book were very fine and that I am delighted. They have contributed nine of the color plates. They have been very wonderful to me and I am deeply touched by it.

To return to your offer of help here from students or the Museum staff, if by October I see that it will be necessary, I will notify Jim or Dr. Kite. Dont you worry, we will be ready on time.

The book is on schedule and will be out in early November. After eighteen years work on this project it is a pretty nice feeling to know that the final wind up is near. I am feeling confident of a good printing job and I hope the book will be favorably received.

With kindest regards,