

January 7
1974

Dear Lee:-

I hope you had a good rest in California and I suppose that you are now back in New York. I am, of course, anxious to hear how my show went, how many platins were sold and any others. I have heard various comments from several people, but naturally word from you is what I want to hear.

How badly hit are we all going to be by shortages of materials? I am thinking of what I have ahead of in work. This big show for here (at least it will begin here) next December, and then the possibility of the portfolio for you and Mr. Berley. I have ^{done} a lot of thinking about this and am ready to tackle it provided I can space it along a little, but there are a good many things I need to know about the whole deal. I have always been interested in the portfolio idea. I did a small portfolio of four good gravure prints of some of my early Mesa Verde things many years ago. I sold them all, have one or two left is all. But with my creaking bones perhaps this is what I had better be settling in to doing. I see that Ansel is doing just this too.

If we are going to be faced with shortages such as paper, perhaps I should order sufficient for this portfolio we talked about. I believe that I told you I had an East Street Gallery archival print washer on order since last April. It has just come and I have not yet gotten it set up. I am going to do some re-arranging of my work rooms to give me more efficient working space etc. and want to get at this soon. At the present moment we are buried deep in snow and settling in on a big job seems a good idea. I doubt that I will be going over to the Canyon again before early Spring and then try to finish it up.

Will you be sending me a contract on this portfolio, for one question, and do you wish the negatives destroyed when the job is done? Do I mount them and how if I do? What sort of introduction or what and who would write it? These are some of the things I need to know.

Lilliane de Cock Morgan is to come out soon
to select work they want for a monograph

Lillane DeCock Morgan is coming out soon to make the selection for the monograph that Morgan & Morgan are going to do to coincide with the opening of my retrospective next December and then I will make these prints at the same time that I do larger ones for the show. I am busy clearing the decks to get at all this.

I have been trying to make you some prints of the things I did of you and the Burleys when you were here. I should have had a cable release but mine were in my camera case by my print cabinet buried under prints and I hoped I could hold the camera still on a tripod. I didn't quite! Thanks for your prints. I am glad to have them and to have the one of Mr. Lartigue. I was most pleased that he was there and do thank him for me.

Ofcourse you must be busy with all you have to do at the New Year, but I do hope to hear from you before too long.

With best wishes for Happy New Year, which we can all hope will be better than what we are given to believe,

Yours,

P.S. - Peter Berrnell has finally made his selection of the 14 platinum prints I sent him a year ago. He is keeping four. The remaining ten will be back soon as he didn't want to get them into the Christmas rush. I shall hold these for my retrospective show.

L.