

January 6, 1978

Mr. Irving Penn
P.O.B. 934
FDR Station
New York, New York 10012

Dear Mr. Penn;

It was very nice, indeed, to have a chat with you on the telephone, and the ferric oxalate solution followed very quickly. Almost the same day, Mr. Charles Reynolds was here and he has been using the same solution for his hand-coated silverprints. He informed me that he had run tests and found that the ferric oxalate, when kept in solution keeps indefinitely. Your solution also gives the percentage, which is a big help.

I am just ready to start some platins and I am most anxious to get under way. Eleanor Caponigro has told me of the large-size prints you have been making, which astounded me. I have never made anything larger than 11 x 14, but you spur me on to perhaps doing a few larger ones. At the moment, I have a contract with Witkin Gallery in New York for 15 portfolios of 6 different images in hand-coated platinum. This I must accomplish before I plunge into other things.

I do hope something will bring you this way some of these days. Santa Fe is becoming a great photographic center, much to everybodys' surprise. There is great interest all about us. The chances are that it will be sometime, if ever, that I get to New York again., as I am very lame these days, as well as the "incredible age of 86" which I hardly believe. Traveling, I think is a little

too difficult to undertake. Thankyou again
for the ferric oxalate and I will try to
have an extra print to send you when I am
really underway. With every good wish for
the New Year.

Very truly yours,

Laura Gilpin

LGsbm

too difficult to undertake. Thankyou again
for