

Thursday, April 21, 1955

Dear Mrs. Dorr:

Enclosed are several letters pertaining to "The Singing Earth." I hope you will think that the initiative I have used is proper.

This morning I called the Museum and asked for your friend, Mr. Kleiner. He would not be in today so I was referred to Miss Akermark.

About six weeks ago when we rented a projector to show "The Dorr way" -- which incidentally was in perfect condition -- we also ran "The Singing Earth." The sound track seems to be a bit deteriorated. Ken was using the projector. He has had some experience with the use of films and thought perhaps it had dried out considerably. I believe he put some damp blotters in it later to attempt to give it some moisture. Because of the condition of the sound track, I thought it advisable to attempt to get the Museum's copy of the film.

Am I right about the pre-print materials? Miss Akermark said she also did not think there were any available. Could they be made available if the USIA thinks they need them? You might drop me a note about this in case they request them before you return.

I hope your trip is materializing as you had planned and that you are having an enjoyable time. If I can help you by doing anything here, please let me know. We have been having grey, murky weather for the past few days.

Sincerely,

Enclosures (copy of original let. from USIA, copy of let. to Miss Akermark and copy of reply to USIA let.)

Mrs. John V. N. Dorr  
La Posada de Santa Fe  
330 East Palace Avenue  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

AIRMAIL



April 21, 1955

Miss M. Akermark  
Film Library  
Museum of Modern Art  
11 West 53rd Street  
New York, New York

Dear Miss Akermark:

Thanks for your help this morning on the telephone regarding the film "The Singing Earth." As I explained to you, Mrs. Dorr is presently in New Mexico and will not return until about the first of May.

The enclosed correspondence with the United States Information Agency in Washington, D. C., I believe, is self-explanatory. Would you be so kind as to send Miss Sanford the film directly when it returns to your library the middle of next week? This would be very helpful as we have no facilities for mailing film.

Again, thanks for helping us in this matter.

Sincerely,

Eugene S. Troy  
Asst. to Dr. Dorr

Enclosures



April 21, 1955

Miss Becky Sanford  
Chief, Acquisitions Branch  
Motion Picture Service  
United States Information Agency  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Sanford:

Thanks for your letter of April 5, addressed to Mrs. Dorr at 1040 Park Avenue. Her new address in New York City is 30 East 37th Street, so there was considerable delay in our receiving your letter, which finally arrived but yesterday. Mrs. Dorr is presently in New Mexico and will not return until approximately May 1, so I am answering your letter.

Mrs. Dorr has a copy of the film The Singing Earth but the quality of the sound track has deteriorated somewhat noticeably. For this reason I have asked the Museum of Modern Art, who has the only other available film, to send it directly to you. Upon inquiry at the Museum, I am told that it will not return from rental until the middle of next week, at which time it will be sent to you. If possible, we should appreciate your returning it to them in not more than two weeks from the date of your receipt of it.

Pre-print materials are not available, I believe. I would have to check with Mrs. Dorr as to whether they could be made available some time in the future if you feel that they are needed.

Your interest in the film is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Eugene S. Troy  
Asst. to Dr. Dorr





UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

WASHINGTON

RECEIVED

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J.V.N.D.

April 5, 1955

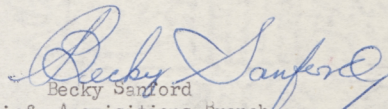
Dear Mrs. Dorr:

Several years ago this Agency - while a part of the State Department - had occasion to review your dance film based on Walt Whitman's poetry, entitled Singing Earth. We would like to enquire if a preview print of this film is still available, and if so, may we borrow it for review. We can return the print to you within two weeks from receipt, unless you indicate that you will need it sooner.

As a matter of interest, so that we may have this information in our files, could you also tell us if there are pre-print materials available, and if so, in what laboratory they are stored?

Your assistance in this matter would be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

  
Becky Sanford  
Chief, Acquisitions Branch  
Motion Picture Service

Mrs. Nell Dorr,  
1040 Park Avenue,  
New York, N. Y.