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January 6, 1979.

Dear Eliot:-

I was at the METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART yesterday for a meeting of the Committee of Prints and Photographs. Prior to the meeting, I lunched with Weston Naef. He has been looking over all your books and selected the sort of prints he would like to include in the 1979 Exhibition. They are all beautiful close-ups of plants, ferns or trees. He selected these to exhibit the Board Committee which has jurisdiction to authorize Exhibitions. These would not necessarily be ones in the Show but to give the style that he has in mind. He has had color Xerox Copies made. However, he hopes that when he comes out to Santa Fe in February you will have chosen the sort that you would like to include. He hopes there will be many that have not previously been published so that the Show will come as a surprise and delight to the viewers.

I also revisited the Georgia O'Keeffe/ Alfred Stieglitz Exhibition. They have clocked as many as 1,700 hundred viewers per hour. The Public seems to have gone Art Mad. During the holidays the attendance has run 30,000 per day. Of course, there are currently several Blockbusters, Tutankhamen, The Splendors of Dresden, The Dendur Temple with a major new Egyptian Exhibition as well as the G.O'K/A.S. Show. There have been five books recently published relative to Tutankhamen. The two that Sally and I have liked especially is an earlier Tutankhamen published by The N.Y. Graphic Society in 1963 which covers the story of the Discovery with very fine illustrations. The second is Tom Hoving's "THE UNTOLD STORY". This is based on correspondence and other material in the Museum Archives. The January issue of READERS DIGEST devotes 50 pages to summary of this volume. The Trustees and some of the Museum Staff are very much upset because he published much material that was considered "Confidential", without proper authority. I heartily recommend that you read the excerpted story in the Digest.

Weston is terribly excited about your Exhibition. I suggested that you give a lecture somewhat similar to the talk you gave in Princeton on the "PROBLEMS OF COLOR PHOTOGRAPHY". The Princeton Faculty were most complimentary about your talk, - that it was at a high intellectual level. Just as you abhor the picture post card type, he wants this to be at a highly sophisticated level. But, the selection will be his with your hearty approval. So, I hope you'll have plenty of good suggestions. I wonder if you saw the Ansel Adams Show in 1974? It was quite unique. There were eight full sized Photo Murals in the Blumenthal Courtyard; a selection of 40 of his best National Park pictures, Old Faithful, etc. then in the final Print Dept. Gallery 40 of his original Polaroid prints, 4" by 5" mounted and framed. Since then we've had Edward Steichen 1896-1914 at the M.O.M.A., Selections from the Collection of Alfred Stieglitz and currently O'Keeffe/ Stieglitz. All of these BLACK & WHITE. So Weston is anxious to have a unique Show of Color Photography, subtle & original. Sally joins me in affectionate regards and all best wishes to Aline & you.

AS EVER, SINCERELY,

David