

41 West 53 St., New York 19, N.Y.

27 May 1946

Dear Eliot,

Congratulations on receiving the Guggenheim! We are delighted. On my return from a short trip in New England with Nancy and Paul Strand (he photographing, she gathering literary material for their book) I found a copy of the letter which Elodie Courter sent to you regarding the loan of some of your more recent photographs for a circulating exhibition, and I thought that I should explain to you what it is all about.

Before the reorganization of the department, Elodie and I had planned to make a series of small one-man shows (fifteen prints each) for circulation throughout the country. The theory was that museums could subscribe to as many of these units of fifteen prints as they could afford to, in money or in space. I should have had this in mind before I returned the prints of yours which we had on extended loan, and I should have asked if we could keep out a few. I didn't. Now I want to assure you that the project has nothing to do with the new reorganized department, and that the entire business will be handled by the circulating exhibitions. Theprints will not be shown in the Museum, and upon completion of the tour they will be returned to you. If you feel that you can lend ten prints (I think that it is planned to use five of the bird pictures already on hand) would you write Elodie? It will relieve a situation which is embarrassing, because the announcement was made some time back. Thanks very much.

All best wishes,

Braunmst

P.S. Your swell letter, having served its purpose, I am re-turning. Thank you very much for your support.