

20 March 1997

Dear Vicki,

Although our financial relationship with PAFW was not part of our Crisis last week, nor did Scott and I write it to be - one of the reasons behind Scott's decision to withdraw from the theater ^{work} project was prompted by the feeling that ^{we} ~~they~~ should be endure the frustration of ~~the~~ project from which there has been so little economic benefit. In fact, exactly the opposite, for laborers ^{on} the Theater, often fruitless, were draining ~~the~~ time and energy from other more remunerative projects.

Next March 27th will mark the thirtieth year that Scott and I have been ~~engaged~~ ^{fully} engaged in one or more aspects of the Theater's design ~~process~~. During this time we have produced all the works of art listed below. ~~These works represent only a portion of the time spent to produce this art represents only a portion of the time spent on research, sketching, and the working out of designs. Literally thousands of hours.~~

For our commitment to the theater we have so far realized \$50,000. Split two ways over three years, this amounts to approximately \$3,000 per artist per year. It takes me about one month to paint a picture in that price range. Scott half that time. ^{With} our regular work we have a 95% sales rate. We would be rich if painting for money were our goal. Much of our time over the year is spent ^{now} on our researches and scholarship, ~~the~~ ^{and} ~~partially~~ would not be possible without the successful sales of our work to subsidize them. ^{It is not hard to see how to do that} These other projects, very important to us, have been substantially shielded because of our Theater ^{commitments}.

That we have not been better paid for our work has not really been the fault of PAFW, since we until only recently have not sent a bill. How

Patti means to do well
not for Eds apt
could not get other artists
to do this for the 16

Mon.
Voss
no guaranteed sales

to charge for our services has never really been clear to us from the ^{very} beginning. In those lovely days three years ago we ~~truly~~ did not know just how much work was going to be required. We did not know at that time that we were going to have to subject our ideas to the approval of many a process that has been very time-consuming and has resulted in many fruitless efforts. Scott and I really don't think anybody ^{on the beginning matter} knew just how long and how much work it would take. Except for our portrait Commission Scott and I have been remarkably free from the pressures of other people's opinions.

The fact that Morton Voro's Angels literally consumed the entire art budget and that ~~fact~~ that we had not yet ~~discovered~~ a design program that would appeal to all, ~~prevented~~ ^{prevented} Scott and me not to put any financial premium on P.A.F.W. Our other ^{two} Commissions ~~have~~ literally subsidized our theater work.

Our Contract with P.A.F.W. in no way requires the Theater to purchase the paintings and/or models ~~produced~~ ^{created} in our design work. P.A.F.W. ~~purchases~~ ^{only} our designs and our time. Actually only the designs. Many of the works created in this design process will be of limited commercial value to us, and therefore offer little opportunity for making money. ^{Moreover,} Vicki in the next few weeks we should try to work out some sort of reasonable and equitable reimbursement for all the the work we have done over the last three years - a time which we, without complaint - have made ourselves available at a moment's notice to meet any task the Theater requested of us. ~~That fact~~ You pointed out the other day that Scott and I have probably been taken a little too much for granted because we have never been "a squeaky wheel."

Our current financial position ~~is~~ is such that

if we can not receive payment for the bill
we submitted ^{to PAEW.} over a month ago, we are
going to have to work on some of the commissions
that have been put on the back burner. We
have had a lot of pressure from a very good client to
finish a large landscape painting for their house
in Maine. It is a 4,000 Commission, and quite
probably we need the money. Our client is aware
of our theater commitments and has been waiting
for more than a year for the picture. ~~and we have~~
Portrait Commission, Our client has waited for 3 years.

Accompanying this letter is a list of art works
produced ~~in~~ in the course of our design work
over the last three years. As I said, they only
represent a part of the thousands of hours
that we have spent on Theater work, hours that
have been lost to our other work. #

I have placed an approximate value on each,
if each were offered for sale to the public. The
total amount of their works is \$247,900.00. ~~and~~
we have ^{also} spent about \$7,500 on supplies and
research materials. This gives us a total of
\$255,400. I honestly believe that we have put
an equal value of ^{time} into our efforts.

If all our designs are eventually accepted
and ~~placed in and~~ implemented, their
impact will not only ~~to be~~ make this
building unique and create a ^{very} special
setting for the arts to be performed there, their
~~philosophical impact~~ ^{philosophical} ~~impact~~ ^{contribution} will be for
more important than ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~angles~~ ^{angles} which will
only be seen briefly as people arrive for
performances.

I, in no way, wish to detract from
Morton Davis magnificent contribution, but it
is the art, not the sculpture, that will ~~make~~
make the audience feel as though they have
entered a special place. ~~If~~ ^{the} people ~~have~~ ^{will} never
ever to know that we were paid only 50,000

Original
of our art
work

255,400 = 266,900
715.00

for all that work - especially when they
see ~~the~~ it framed and mounted at the Kimbell
Museum - they are going to think that
Scott and I were idiots. I have no idea
what they will think of R.F.W.

When people here see ~~the~~ our studies and
paintings, framed and ~~being~~ mounted at the Kimbell
Art Museum, they would be amazed
to know how little we were paid for this work.

mention
out for
Ed Ross
Agreement