

13 September 1999

Joanna Hitchcock, Director
University of Texas Press
P.O. BOX 7819
Austin, Texas 78713-7819

Dear Joanna,

You probably know by now that I talked to Theresa on the 10th to inform her that Scott and I have decided to work with the University of Texas Press whould your book review committee decide to publish a trade edition of our "Of Birds and Texas."

We made our decision based on the quality of UT Press's productions, on the fact that we feel we would also get a far more personal treatment than with a large eastern publisher, and finally, if our book should prove successful, we will have established the kind of rapport with you that might lead to other projects.

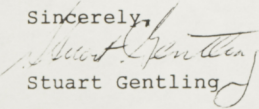
I am sending UT Press a new mock-up of our book containing all the old and new text i.e. new "Of Birds and Texas, Audubon and Us" which tells of the creation of our elephant folio and the almost surrealistic role that John James Audubon touched our lives and made our book possible. I have also decided that you should have a copy of our original elephant folio to help you in the presentation of our project to your review committee and other interested persons.

To help us in working with UT Press, I have asked Shannon Davies to be our agent to keep us mutually informed of each others' requirements and to facilitate the solutions of any problems that might arise. Her former connections with UT Press, I believe, will be invaluable for both of us. She already has had all our text put on disk, and we also have had all the illustrations rendered into transparencies for your use.

Finally, Joanna, I want to thank you for the wonderful nahuatl books UT Press sent us as well as the copy of Bob and Vera Thornton's marvelous warbler book. When I was in New York last July I really praised the book to the skies to the editors of Audubon Magazine and told them that they would be doing themselves a favor if they published something on it in their magazine. The quality of their photos is quite honestly unsurpassed, the poses of many warblers so Audubon-like. I only wish Scott and I had had that book when we painted warblers for our own folio.

Again, thank you for your consideration of our book and the rest of our work, I will wait to hear from you or Theresa as to how to proceed further.

Sincerely,


Stuart Gentling