University of Texas Press

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Stuart Gentling 4801 Harley Avenue Fort Worth, TX 76107

Re: The One Reed Year

Dear Stuart:



Thanks so much for your fax of 11 October. I was in California when it arrived and then in meetings here for two days, but at last can get back to real work. I think part of your letter is missing on my copy, but I got the bulk of it.

The conference sounds so exciting. I know you must be thrilled to have your work affirmed in such a public and high-level way, and I'm delighted that they have the good sense to consult with you. Of course, I greatly covet your behind-the-scenes look at the Aztec garments. I'm sure you'll paint them later, and we'll all get to see what they were like. I'll be on the edge of my seat watting for a full report!

I do see your wisdom in thinking of the book in two volumes. It's pricier that way, of course, but you're probably correct in thinking that it would be much more useful. We'll keep an open mind. It's too important a work to compromise.

I've passed along to Ellen your thoughts about the trim size for $Of\,Birds$. Our initial plans figured it two ways— 10×11 inches and $9 \, 7/8 \times 12+$ inches (the $Great\,Texas\,Birds$ size). Of course, we want to show the paintings to their best advantage, and either of the two formats would, I believe, work. But we'll certainly put your wishes into the final mix as we decide which way to go.

I was glad to hear about your connections with Laura Bush and with the Austin Museum of Art. Mrs. Bush is an honorary new member of our UT Press Advisory Council and keeps up, as best she can, with what we are doing here. We're also cultivating a relationship with the Museum. I want us to be THEIR publisher when they start their big push, so we're hoping to get in on the ground floor there, too. All those things will, I'm sure, come in to play as we do more art books in general and, specifically, with works like yours.

I do think we should go ahead and write contracts for both of your projects, just so that we can really plan for them and work hand-in-hand with complete confidence. I think I have a sound enough idea of *From Time to Time* to draw up an agreement, but I'll need more information, even though it will be highly speculative at this point, on *One Reed*. If you're amenable, of course.

I'm also determined to get up to Fort Worth at some point and treat myself to seeing your work (and collections!) first hand. Meanwhile, I will be thinking of you among your admirers in Mexico, dreaming of ancient cities. I'll look forward to hearing from you when you're back.

Regards,

Theresa J. May Assistant Director and Editor-in-Chief

p. 5. Bot; Vera Thornton me also new member of our advisory Courie and mire raving we weekend about your work!