

Copy for Bob

(CONFIDENTIAL)

April 27, 1973

Shrimati T. Balasarasvati
16 Ramanathan Chettli St.
Kilpauk, Madras 10
India

Dear Bala-Ma,

I am happy to hear via Luise that you did receive my letter and that you and Lakshmi are well and looking forward to this year's activities with ASEA. We, too, are eagerly looking forward to your arrival and participation in our programs. I am also relieved to hear that you do not much care for the master-class presentation and would prefer the lecture-demonstration method. It makes my job simpler in explaining to people what ASEA can offer this fall.

There are a few regrettable conditions this year that are necessarily different from previous years. The most crucial being the fact of the per-diem expense payments (for hotel & food) during periods in which you will not be participating in ASEA programs. As you may have heard Bala, budget problems this year are extremely difficult and are causing endless problems - both in terms of what we must spend in order to put our programs into action and in terms of what other universities can afford to give us. There have been a great deal of interest expressed by numerous universities and institutions for your appearance, but many of them just do not have sufficient funds to allow for a program of your quality this year. Additionally, we are faced with a frustrating problem in scheduling - i.e. the bulk of September (from September 1 thru 25, with the exception of September 6, 7 and 8 during which ASEA will co-sponsor your lecture demonstration and dance concert, together with a concert by Ranga and Viswa, at the University of California in Berkeley) is totally unusable in terms of the tour since most institutions in the west coast are not in session at that time and east coast institutions are desirous of having you appear in October.

Therefore, the only solution seems to me to be that since ASEA cannot afford to give you per diem payments for the periods in which there would be absolutely no income, that perhaps you would not be averse to taking in one or two private students who could pay you directly through arrangements made directly between you and them as private tuition. The two women I have in mind are Luise and Medha. What would you think of this plan Bala? I am sure Luise and Medha would be delighted - and you, too, might welcome this opportunity to devote special time only to them.

If you were to find the above possibility agreeable, it would enable us to begin your official fall tour on September 26 through October. The three-days presentation at UC Berkeley mentioned above (September 6, 7, 8) will be a special period in which we would offer you a lump sum payment of \$600 for 1 lecture-demonstration and 1 dance concert.

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The reason I am so concerned that you thoroughly understand our position in the matter of the fall tour is that should you feel strongly that you cannot afford to stay on in the U.S. for the tour after summer school is over if there is to be no income for you during those weeks in which you would not be directly involved in either the summer school or the fall tour, and you really did not wish to teach anyone during those periods - and that you would then desire to return to India earlier - then though that would be a real tragedy for us, we would certainly have to respect your feelings in the matter.

If, however, you do agree that the plan I present at this time is acceptable to you, your schedule would go like this:

- a. Summer School (June 18 thru August 17)
- b. Vacation without pay (August 18 thru September 5) during which you will be guests of Sam & Luise, wherever you choose - i.e. Lake Tahoe, Walnut Creek, in a motel or small apartment in Berkeley, etc.
- c. Lecture Demonstration (September 6) and Dance Concert (September 8) at University of California in Berkeley.
- d. Your own time to do as you wish (September 10 thru September 25) - possibly arrange privately with Luise & Medha on a non-ASEA project basis.
- e. Fall Tour (September 26 thru October 27) of the U.S. & possibly Canada.

Please think this all over very carefully. If you find no objections to it and if you agree, please sign the attached preliminary agreement and return to me at ASEA. If you have any questions you'd like to ask before signing this agreement, please write to me soonest.

My sincere best wishes to you and Lakshmi.

With Love,

Yoko Tahara

Assoc. Director, Program & Planning

P.S. I have not, of course, committed you to the above suggestion with Luise & Medha at this point, so please take this only as a constructive suggestion as a way to utilize those weeks in September during which there are no concerts or lecture-demonstrations.

Yoko

Bob - Please note the preliminary & not final nature of this inquiry about agreement so you needn't have been angry.

YT/pm

Encl.