

Dear Mario;

23 Jan.

As I sit at my desk and see the Schöndel hanging from a beam in our entry hall, I think back to that wild day in San Paulo when we raced thru the Biennel and then shoved canvasses around your home till midnight and phoned Mira. How grateful we are for your help.

The Gershmann was damaged in shipping, but has been perfectly restored.

I have tried to order another from him directly, one that was in the Paris show -- but 2 months and no answer.

I have tried to get the "soccer field" Gershmann for a friend and am still -- 3 months--awaiting photos from John Bougiche, who I wrote <sup>to</sup> again last week.

Then...I am wondering where our Laura Beatriz drawing is. As I wrote before, when she sends it, let her take it out of the frame, roll it and put it in a STRONG cardboard mailing tube. If any labels from the Biennel were on back of the drawing, please, let her send them along.

Tod Catlin <sup>(CURATOR OF YALE UNIVERSITY OF NOV OF THE FOUNDATION FOR INTER-AMERICAN ARTS)</sup> was here a few weeks ago to see a new work we bought, a Matta (to celebrate my sale of a movie script -- for except for this, we have only young artists' from Latin America) and said he thought the Gershmann was the best of his work, that he had seen.

As you may know, the Brazilian section of the Biennel came in for a lot of criticism. There was a symposium here with the Times' critic, Hilton Kramer, who thought there was TOO MUCH work and mostly of low standards. I suggested that because of the near impossibility of the avant garde in Brazil finding a ready market -- a country where pseudo-primitives sell for more than original works of contemporary artists -- that giving so many young Brazilians a chance to be seen and have some stamp of authority on their works was vital. I doubt if I changed anyone's mind, but I did make them aware of the isolation and hard time confronting the young Brazilians.

I have asked John Bouciche to send me catalogs of his shows, but have received none. If someone can keep me somewhat aware of what is going on, I may be able to buy more works from Brazil both for myself and to order some for my collecting

friends. Since we came home, I have been the intermediary in the sale of some 11 paintings by Latin American artists -- Jorge Paez, Fernandez-Muro, Mishaan, Trujillo, etc. -- but no Brazilian, alas.

I have a friend who collects sculpture by young artists and the night I visited you, there was a boy from Pernambuco, who had work in the Biennel, who sold a piece to you. If you can get some black and white photos of a few of his works, (that could be shipped), stating size and price on the back of the photo, perhaps, I could get my friend to buy one of his carved sculptures.

Again, thank you for all your help and looking forward to our Beatriz soon...and when do YOU come north?

Gratefully,

Paul