

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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UNIVERSITY PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 16802

Department of Philosophy

April 7, 1965

Dear Jose,

Thanks very much for writing about the Yale Press matter. I am almost frightened to make any suggestions now that I actually have the opportunity. Although I met Desjardins once years ago at a convention, and know vaguely that he is interested in the dramatic form of Platonic dialogue, I honestly have no conception what his reaction would be to my work. If you know this man (I am under the impression that he is at Haverford), perhaps I'd better leave it to your judgement.

If I could, I would of course suggest Lee Strauss. But his name appears frequently in the footnotes and I plan to dedicate the book to him, so that probably isn't a good idea. Among professional classicists in this country, I believe William Arrowsmith of Texas and David Grene of Chicago are the most open. Both have objections to Straussian "esotericism" (of which I fear I am an adept), but both know my work; I was a student of Grene's and he is a very honorable man. Also, both these men are well-known and presumably their word would carry some weight. I might also mention Alain Renoir, chairman of comparative literature at Berkeley, since my book would also be addressed to people in that field, and Renoir admires my work. In philosophy, I suggest Maurice Natanson, this year still at Berkeley; Aren Gurwitsch at the New School; Weiss, Brumbaugh, and Bernstein at Yale. I have had some correspondence with Henry G. Wols of Queens College in New York and Edward Lee at Johns Hopkins, but they are not very well known -- Lee doesn't even have his doctorate. If Mrs. Isay is willing to send the manuscript to Europe, I would get a fair reading from Jeanne Hersch at the University of Geneva, M. F. Sciacca in Geneva, to mention only two fairly well known people with interests in Greek philosophy. I think I could also suggest James Edie at Northwestern.

I feel somewhat constrained in the case of the Plato book, more so than I would with the book on philosophy and history. Perhaps I had better leave it at that. If you know of anyone I don't, who is not prejudiced against the kind of close textual analysis that Strauss does, and is open to an "imaginative" but closely-argued interpretation of the Symposium, please go ahead and recommend him. I rely on your judgement.

Many, many thanks for your help in this difficult matter. I'll hope for the best.

As ever,

Stanley

(over)

18-4-64.

1406 7:50

I have been thinking of you very much lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but I have managed to find some time to write to you. I have been thinking of you very much lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but I have managed to find some time to write to you.

and, may thank you for your help in this difficult matter. I'll
have you to hear.

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