

Letter by Natalie Curtis to Ferruccio Busoni (New York, 24 March 1911)

March 24.
1911
33. West 64,
New York.

My dear Mr. Busoni,

On applying for tickets for your March April 5th concert I learn that the recital has been cancelled. I hope this decision does not mean that you are tired out with the long strain of much travelling and much playing, though I should think that such demands upon an artist-nature would be indeed ex hausting!

The world of art cannot afford to lose any of your strength and the doctrine of „conservation“ that we are now advocating so vigorously in all the practical issues of our national life should cer tainly be made to apply to the Herculean demands we make upon the musicians who come to teach us. I am deeply disappointed not to hear you again but I am still more sorry if the cause is fatigue on your part. Is there any hope that you will return another year? –

I send you some more Indian Songs simply hoping that they may help to pass some of the tedious hours of railway travel. I would have sent them before, only that I was called away to be aunt-in-command of my married sisters household in the country during my sister’s absence You have no doubt heard that Mrs. Rich is a grandmother and all is well?

With hearts greetings and
best wishes, your sincere friend
Natalie Curtis.