

2. CORRESPONDENCE, 1945-1980

CARROLL SIMMS
TEXAS STATE UNIV^{TY}
HOUSTON TEXAS.
U. S. A.

8 BALFERN GROVE
CHISWICK
LONDON, W9.
ENGLAND.
Dec 20/58.

My dear Carroll -

This is the time for Carols! So I greet you once again & wish you all good cheer & seasonal Good wishes.

How are you getting on these days? I do hope well & are strong to serve the art world, be all remember you with pleasure - are you still as fertile in design as I knew you? It would be nice to see you again but distance forbids, I know. I still do my little bit every day but now half a week suffices. As the years take their toll. But it is nice to be occupied forgetting

How time passes! We had a
wasty ~~week~~ summer this year
Chilly & cheerless — not so
good for cheery people like myself.
However with care we win through.
I hope your job is a pleasant
one & keeps you in affluence.
This Sputnik business is
getting fantastic — with the
president talking back to
you all from outer space!
What an accomplishment
to round off the year? Hail
Columbia!

Bill Aimer & Len & the Water
Shop send greetings & are
all well. But it's a queer
place Morris-Singer's, truly.

Well. Carroll I hope you'll
spend Xmas with your family
& enjoy the fun of Yuletide!
Kind regards your friend
Joseph Jay.

Thursday - midnight

Dear Carroll,

Just a tiny note...have been trying to "catch up" on correspondence - have written Carol and Kim that we saw you, your magnificent work - and your very beautiful Mother...such a real pleasure.

Carol's address:

Mrs. G. Kimball Plochmann
University Court
813 S. University Avenue
Carbondale, Illinois

Most sincerely,

Elizabeth
Gassan.

300 PINEWOLD LANE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77027

Sept 30

Dear Carroll -

Thank you for your
most interesting + welcome
letter. So happy you are there.

Isn't it just what the
Summer Gallery here is having
a show?

Your friend -
Lore Queen

HAMPTON INSTITUTE
FINANCIAL AID BUREAU

July 11, 1945

Mr. Carroll H. Simms
391 Tecumseh Street
Toledo, Ohio

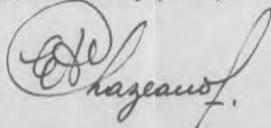
My dear Mr. Simms:

It gives me much pleasure to inform you that, after considering carefully your application, the Financial Aid Committee has awarded you Scholarship Aid of \$ 75.00 for the college year 1945-46.

You understand, I am sure, that in order to continue in the enjoyment of this scholarship throughout the year, it will be necessary for you to maintain a superior scholastic record. This scholarship is not transferable and is not available for use elsewhere.

With all good wishes for a pleasant and profitable summer, I am

Most cordially yours,



C. A. Chazeaud, Secretary
Financial Aid Bureau

CAC:S.

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
FOUNDED BY EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR OTTO WITTMANN, JR., ASST. DIRECTOR
MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO 2, OHIO

January 20, 1949

Mr. Carroll H. Simms
Cranbrook Academy of Art
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Dear Carroll:

Thank you for your letter of January 17.
Mrs. McKelvy did tell me that she and Mrs. Ayers came
up to see your work last Wednesday, and both of them
seemed very pleased with it. I hope that I may have
a chance to come sometime also.

I am enclosing herewith a check for \$50.00.
I don't know whether this will be enough or not, but
be sure to let me know if it is not. Certainly, if
you are going to do sculpture, you have to have material
to work with and it is very understandable that as you
go on you will need more kinds of material.

I believe also that there will be a bill
for tuition soon. If it is agreeable to Cranbrook,
please just mail the bill to me and I will pay it
directly from here.

My very best wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,

Otto Wittmann
Assistant Director

OW:LL

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
FOUNDED BY EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

BLAKE-MORE GODWIN, DIRECTOR OTTO WITTMANN, JR. ASST. DIRECTOR
MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE

TOLEDO 2, OHIO

October 12, 1949

Mr. Carroll Simms
Cranbrook Academy of Art
Bloomfield Hills
Michigan

Dear Carroll,

Thank you for your letter of October 11 together with the attached expense account. I enclose here-with our check for \$100.00 to apply against future expense accounts.

You should not consider it "an awkward duty" to ask for additional funds. So long as your expense account is presented in as businesslike a fashion as it is, and the expenses thereon reasonable and pertinent to the purpose of the scholarship, it is simply a businesslike way of handling the scholarship. We are doing you no favor by sending this money but simply carrying out an obligation which was made at the time it was decided to give you a scholarship. So don't hesitate to submit your expense accounts promptly - in fact, I would much prefer if you would get back to sending me your expense account on the last day of each month. It will be a bit more regular, and will allow us to send you your check closer to the first of the month. This simplifies our book-keeping.

Congratulations on getting your sculpture in the Syracuse show. That is a pretty good show I think, and a good one in which to be represented. I wish you great luck with your scholarship application. You will have a lot of stiff competition but we'll keep hoping.

Sincerely yours,

Otto Wittmann
Assistant Director

OW:FL

Enc.

MRS. C. LOCKHART MCKELVY
EAST RIVER ROAD
PERRYSBURG, OHIO

Dear Carroll -

We were sorry to miss you
yesterday - but we went up on
such short notice we had no
chance to warn you. Zoltan Sepeshy's
show came down last night and
we wanted to combine that with
seeing yours.

Carroll, I think your head
is splendid - strong and beau -

tifully finished - I think it's
the best thing you've done -
the ayers liked it immensely,
too.

aren't the grounds beautiful,
now? - with all the fountains
flaying (to say nothing of 600
garden club women - surging
around).

You have done awfully
well by all of us - and we're
proud of you
may sixteenth

Sincerely yours,
Margaret W. Kelly



Mr. Carroll Sumner
Cranbrooks Academy of Fine Arts
3 Loomfield Hills
Nashua, N.H.

W
AMERICAN ARTIST
G

WATSON-GUPTILL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 24 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

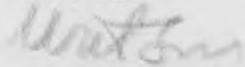
The Editors and Publishers of

A M E R I C A N A R T I S T

M A G A Z I N E

note with pleasure the announcement of the honor that
has recently been conferred upon you. They congratulate
you and wish you continued success.

Cordially,



Ernest W. Watson
Editor-in-Chief

AMERICAN ARTIST

WATSON-GUPTILL PUBLICATIONS, INC.

24 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.



Mr. Carroll H. Simms
Texas Southern University
Box 344
Houston 4, Texas

wayne v. andersen 1231 bonita avenue
berkeley 9 california

20 October 1956

Dear Mr. Simms,

I am currently engaged in the compilation of a projected publication on new sculpture in the United States. I do not feel that there is at the present time an adequate publication on this subject available to the public. This is a serious lack, in view of the notable sculpture being produced.

The initial selection of sculptors to be represented was made at my request by several museums and galleries. You were recommended for inclusion and I am happy to extend you this invitation to submit photographs of your recent work.

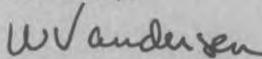
Photos should be unmounted, preferably 8x10 or 5x7 and should contain the following entries on the reverse:

Sculptor and address,
Title,
Medium,
Size,
Date,
Collection (if possible).

All photographs will be returned.

With my compliments and best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely,



Wayne V. Andersen

From: - Mr. JOSEPH JAY,
8 BALFERN GROVE,
CHISWICK, LONDON, W.4,
ENGLAND.

To
CARROLL SIMMS, Esq.
TALEDO - OHIO - U.S.A.

Sept 1st 1956.

Dear Carroll -

Bill Armer kindly gave me this address of your mother, which I understand will find you - So that I could write to enquire if you got back home safe & sound. We all hope you are safe but as to sound not even a little squeak from you! Why is this?

I asked Horace Berne, if he had heard anything & he is just as puzzled about your Silence. Amongst your many accomplishments you did learn to write at School? So we look forward to hearing from you. It only to ensure that you did have a happy time among us. or was it un-happy? If so, you hid it very successfully! We have had our annual holiday, but the weather was nearly all rain & cold winds. our worst Summer for many years. So you haven't missed much by not staying longer.

Just after you left I finished that contemporary figure of Christ. It really looks good & in tone & rigidity

2/
Solid in appearance as a casting. Your
Coventry friends have passed it - as A. 1.
So that you need have no anxiety on
that score. I have received many con-
gratulations, on your behalf, as well, from
other Sculptors. Some quite famous! So
when it is fixed up you may yet hear
more directly.

I hope you are prospering & back now into
harbour in more familiar surroundings.
Having got back to work ourselves we often
speak of you, missing your impressive
bulk perhaps & ready smile. What a
"booy"!

Did you notice that I didn't ask
you for your address or gave you mine
when I made that loan? I only hoped
that it would help you on your carefree
way. Did it?

Do let us hear from you soon & I
will pass on the good news of how
the band was on the platform as your
train steamed in & they had flagged
the town in welcome on the prodigal's
return from the far country!

Trusting you are well —

Kind regards I am

Yours faithfully

Joseph Day

8 BALFERN GROVE
CHISWICK, LONDON, W. 4 -
Dec 16/1957.

My dear Carroll

Your name is so reminiscent of Xmas - tuneful & joyous!
I thank you for your delightful letter, sparkling with its asides, & the bonhomie of comradeship from your Sojourn among us. You see, we did like you & it is nice to feel you remember it. I passed on your good wishes to all at Morris Singer's. It does us all good to mix in a friendly way - then we know more of the mind of the Great Designer in making so many diverse types of mankind. Even the 17 Stoner & the little bloke that bashes metal about.
I share with you the satisfaction you feel over the Coventry job. I am glad it was a success, & a good "art" job too. I see another Roosevelt Statue is being cast here for America. So the good work goes on.

It is cold here now again which plays the devil with my chest. But I keep going & I shall look forward to the day you sail on your next visit. It will be a red-letter day just to renew the glad yesterdays. I expect you have settled down to a pleasant time in Texas - the great big state - half the size of Vancouver!
There are so many places in England that housed great men - some are preserved & some - well, there must be room made for the living & we hope many more great men. Dickens lived in so many places - London, Rochester, Broadstairs etc. So we must cherish him in our memory, a very useful Valhalla I might add. Your list sounds first class men too - Holmes, Emerson, Longfellow etc., literary giants whose books I've read with profit & enjoyment. Well - its good bye once again with best wishes for a Happy Xmas & a bright & successful New Year.

Yours faithfully
Joseph Day

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
AIR LETTER
AÉROGRAMME

CHISWICK
17 DEC
1957
W.A.



CARROLL H. SIMMS, Esq.
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
HOUSTON
TEXAS
U. S. A.

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address: MR. J. JAY
8 BALFERN GROVE - CHISWICK
LONDON W.4. - ENGLAND

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

To open cut here

Dear James -

Hope these

letters help your

Case -

Best always -

Paul B. Owen



**THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF TEXAS**

AUSTIN 11, TEXAS

October 28, 1959

**WILL WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Mrs. Jane Blaffer Owen
Robert Lee Blaffer Trust
300 Pinewold
Houston 27, Texas

Dear Mrs. Owen:

Thanks for yours of October 15th. I apologize for not having answered sooner but I have been out of the State on the trial of the Tidelands case.

I agree with you that Mr. Dee's conduct in this matter is reprehensible and hope that we can do something to correct it. This office does represent Dr. Nabrit and the school. We will be glad to take an interest in it. We will go into it, if the school desires.

Please give John and Camilla my regards.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Will Wilson".

WILL WILSON

WW/fb

September 12, 1963

Sir Basil Spence
No. 1 Canonbury Place
London N. 1
England

The head of the Sculpture Department of Texas Southern University for Negroes, Carroll Simms, executed a figure of our Lord for the first of the new churches you designed for Coventry after the war. It was my pleasure to have a small part in this, and to visit both this church and your great Cathedral this Summer. I know of no finer expression of the indomitable spirit of the English people than the resurrection of Coventry, and I know you are proud to have been the Architect.

Carroll Simms would very much appreciate receiving a copy of The Architectural Forum which he tells me -- I have not seen it -- was issued a few years ago on Coventry and which contains a photograph of his figure of Christ. If an issue is still available, would you please be so kind as to send him a copy at his home address: 3707 Wheeler, Houston, Texas. This would be of great advantage to him in obtaining future commissions, as you can readily see, and, of course, serve as a record of one of the great privileges of his career. If there are no copies left, a photostatic reproduction of the page with his sculpture would be welcome.

Believe me, Sincerely,

Mrs. Kenneth D. Owen

Mrs. Owen's personal address:

300 Pinevold Lane
Houston, Texas 77027

ROBERT LEE BLAFFER TRUST



Carroll L. Ames
3531 Blodgett
City



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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34th STREET and CONVENTION AVENUE • PHILADELPHIA 4, PA.

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COMMERCIAL MUSEUM DIVISION

August 29, 1960

Mr. Carroll H. Simms
Texas Southern University
P. O. Box 174
Houston 4, Texas

Dear Mr. Simms:

During the course of the week I expect to ship to you by Railway Express (prepaid) the two paintings (wrapped together) which you entered in the competition "The American Negro Artist Looks at Africa" which was sponsored by the American Society for African Culture.

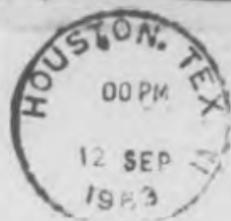
It was a pleasure to be able to arrange to borrow the paintings which were assembled by AMSAC, and to have you represented in our galleries. The exhibit was well received by our visitors and by the art critics in this area. I am including a copy of one of the write ups of the show for your records.

Cordially,

Jean M. Dempewolf
Assistant Curator

g
enclosure

cc: Mr. Harry Ferleger, Executive Director



300 PINEWOLD, HOUSTON 27, TEXAS

Carole Simms

3707 Wheeler

Houston

Didn't Miss Turn
out beaut. jelly?

Glad the Currying Bush
is here.

Writing in Basil Spence

Today → All the best -
Love
Jane Owen



May 26, 1964

Mr. Carroll H. Simms
3707 Wheeler
Houston, Texas

Dear Mr. Simms:

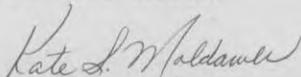
This is to gratefully acknowledge your gift of the welded bronze, "Cactus," valued at \$200.00, which you donated to the Museum's Annual Benefit Auction. It was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Masterson.

The Museum deeply appreciates your generosity which, I assure you, added immeasurably to the success of the evening.

The Board of Directors and the Auction Committee value your interest and support, the donation of your time and talent.

We are happy to count you as one of our supporters.)

With best wishes,



Mrs. Marc Moldawer
Auction Chairman

ASNLH

The Association for The Study of Negro Life and History, Inc.

Founded September 9, 1915. By Carter G. Woodson

THE JOURNAL OF NEGRO HISTORY
THE NEGRO HISTORY BULLETIN

1638 NINTH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

Telephone 462-0313

42 Perry Street
New York, New York
10014

5 January 1967

Professor Carroll Simms
Art Department
Texas Southern University
Houston, Texas

Professor Simms:

The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History is sponsoring a series of volumes on the Negro, one of which I am editing, an anthology entitled: THE AMERICAN NEGRO IN MUSIC AND ART. One of the features of the art section is a gallery which will include (1) two or more works of an artist-black & white and color, (2) a full biographical sketch, (3) a photograph of the artist, and (4) any statements the artist cares to make concerning his work.

I would like to receive all four items from you as soon as possible, as the deadline for the book is very near. All material will be returned promptly.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Lindsay Patterson
Lindsay Patterson
Editor

LERROY G. DENMAN, JR.
GILBERT H. DENMAN, JR.

DENMAN, FRANKLIN & DENMAN
LAWYERS
OFFICES IN SAN ANTONIO LOAN AND TRUST BUILDING
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78205

CABLE ADDRESS
"DENMAN" SAN ANTONIO

January 30, 1968

Mr. Carroll H. Sims
3707 Wheeler Street
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Mr. Sims:

Thank you very much for your bibliography and the photographs of your "African Queen Mother" which we are counting on exhibiting at HemisFair. Please let me know as soon as possible the insurance value to place on this piece and also your desires for a base for it. Is it weighted sufficiently at the bottom so it can't tip over, or can it be bolted down in some way? We would like data to get the bases arranged before the sculpture arrives. I presume this is now in Houston. Several other objects are coming from there, including a Calder and a Picasso from the Museum. We will be in touch with you soon about shipping instructions. I anticipate that these items will be brought over about March 10th.

I notice my friend Jane Owen has collected some of your work. Is your work in the collections of any museum?

With best regards, I am

Sincerely,



gmd jr-ma

11 February 1968

Dear Cook,

This gentleman is a University teacher and artist from America. He is here, in Nigeria, studying some of our native art. I will be very pleased if you will help him to see some of our Benin Traditional Art. - The Chief's House - on Sakpoba Road - off East Circular - on the way to Maria Conetti School

Also, if you could take him to Agun Street for him to see and meet - Chief Edo Kpolo - the mighty To In Boxes Chief. If he could meet your friend the Carver who Carved the ~~old~~ Slave for me and others.

If he has the chance - I think he will enjoy seeing those village down the road from my school - the one's in the bush - and the Shrine there.

He will be going to the Palace to see the Oba - maybe you can go with him and explain some of the things

there

The doctor and I are fine. I think I will have some very good news for you soon. We do wish you would visit us, at least for a few days.

How is your wife and children. How is Mary - is she still in England. I hope you were able to recover some of your things which were taken.

Greetings to your wife

Love

Althea Akiwowo

Sender: Mrs Althea B. Akiwowo
Ibadan

Mr. John Omakoro
3 Awo Street
Benin City

THE SOUTHERN FELLOWSHIPS FUND

795 PEACHTREE STREET, N.E., SUITE 484

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30308

SAMUEL M. NABRIT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 22, 1968

Mr. Carroll H. Simms
Art Department
Texas Southern University
Houston, Texas 77004

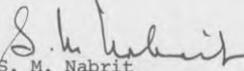
Dear Mr. Simms:

You may accept up to \$2,000 from Texas Southern through Title III funds along with our fellowship.

I am indeed happy to know that the "African Queen Mother" is progressing so well. Congratulations.

If you have any other questions or need assistance, please feel free to call on me at anytime.

Sincerely yours,


S. M. Nabrit
Executive Director



EMBASSY OF NIGERIA
1333 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

Ref: 200/1/31

26th April, 1968.

Mr. C.H. Simms,
Texas Southern University,
Houston,
TEXAS.

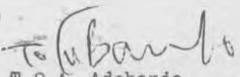
Dear Mr. Simms,

Thank you for your letter of 22nd April, 1968. Please find enclosed the brochure "Nigeria" which gives you, among other things, information on art and culture in Nigeria.

There are museums in Lagos, Ife, Benin, Kano and Jos. The Information Services in Lagos and Ibadan will be able to give you more information when you get to Nigeria.

Your other requests have been passed to the appropriate authorities and you will be hearing direct from them.

Yours sincerely,


T.O.A. Adebajo
For Ambassador



May 13, 1968

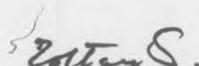
Dear Carroll:

As I promised - I wrote a note to Solomon Wangboje, whose address in New York is: 102 Christopher, New York, New York, 10014.

Please contact him at your convenience and let me know whether or not you were able to make connections .

Needless to say - it was very good to see you at Joe's emporium and I trust that ten thousand years are not going to pass by before our paths cross again.

With ever continued affections -


Zoltan Sepeshy

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN · NIGERIA

INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

TELEPHONE: (IBADAN 21051 - 63 EXT. 46) CABLES & TELEGRAMS: UNIVERSITY IBADAN

Director: ROBERT G. ARMSTRONG, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.A.I.

From: THURSTAN SHAW, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.
Research Professor of Archaeology



Arch. 3/18

Carroll H. Simms
Division of Fine Arts
Texas Southern University
Houston
Texas

37 Hawthorne Rd
Stapleford
Cambridge

9 August 1968

Dear Mr Simms,

Your letter of June 24th has just reached me after being forwarded from Nigeria to me here in U.K. where I am on leave.

I will do all I can to try to further your desire to use your Southern Fellowship to study some aspect of African art and culture. I fear we have no chance to offer you an assistantship, but I am writing to Ibadan to ask them to send you the necessary form to apply for Associate membership of the Institute of African Studies, which will be of assistance to you in fixing up your entry and residence requirements and give you a base from which to work. We shall be happy to give you the run of our collections and to advise you about others. You would have a good chance of finding accommodation in the Ford flats at Ibadan, and if you wanted to do so, you should ask the Secretary of the Institute about it. On your original submission, I see you proposed to live in Benin.

With your grant made in February, I fear you have left things rather late if you hope to start work in Nigeria on September 1st. As I have international conferences to go to on the way, I myself shall not be back in Nigeria until October 7th.

Yours sincerely,

C. Thurstan Shaw

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
AIR LETTER
AÉROGRAMME

AUSTIN
AUG 15 N
P M
AUG 1968

U.S. ARMY RESERVE
607
190


Carroll D. Simms

Division of Fine Art

~~Division of~~
FINE ART DEPT.
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIV.

~~HOUSTON,~~
HOUSTON,

~~HOUSTON,~~
Texas

U.S.A.

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address:

INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN
NIGERIA

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OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

Form approved by the Postmaster General, No. 71995/2E

IMPERIAL AIR MAIL
AÉROGRAMMES

HOUSTON, TEXAS
AUG 15 1968

Candl: This came to Austin, and I forwarded it - thought I would pay HELLO - Wm Radford Thomas - come to see me

Dear Carroll,

It was wonderful to have known that you are actually in Nigeria now. It is really nice of you to have written despite your busy schedule. Also your continued interest in the African Program at T.S.U. and any help you can give is greatly appreciated.

I had such a wonderful time at the get together at your house and especially getting you to your plane. It was really fun. I am very proud of the art work that you were very kind in giving me. I will always remember my great artist friend by it.

I am writing to the people you have suggested in your letter concerning the Art collection.

I also need your help in another matter. I need a Hausa speaker who can come to T.S.U. and work on his M.A. (preferably) or his B.A. and at the same time help in teaching Hausa. It would be nice if we can do this in exchange for a student from T.S.U. who will go to the University of Ibadan and study in its institute of African Studies. In other words I will be willing to give the Hausa student a full scholarship. The Hausa student can study any subject offered at T.S.U. I plan investigate the possibilities for such an exchange and let me know your suggestions.

Also, please let me know about how much money do you think we will have to spend in order to get a modest collection of African Art.

I really miss you Ken and I miss the nice times we had together. - Hope

when you get back we will strengthen our friendship.

Friends like you are hard to find and I would never let you go as my friend.

I hope to take a cruise with you

SECOND FOLD

Mr. Cornell H. Summers
Institute of African Studies
University of Ibadan,
Ibadan, Nigeria

JOHN F. KENNEDY
U.S.A.



Al. K. B. Baker

Box 263 T.S.

Houston, Tex 77004

AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

when you get back if you promise to be patient with me.

I also remember you each time I pass the new humanities building. Your magnificent African Queen is in the front.

Unfortunately I have not heard from any of the people I met through you. I tried to call Al + Connie but was not successful in getting them.

Please write soon and keep healthy.

As Ever,

Albi

FIRST FOLD

Ali K. Baksi

Box 263 T.S.U.

Houston, Tex 77004



PA AIR MAIL



Mr. Carroll M. Simms
Institute of African Studies
University of Ibadan,
Ibadan, Nigeria

• AÉROGRAMME • PAR AVION

NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, NIGERIA



Director:
H. M. A. ONITIRI
B.Sc. (Econ.), M.A., Ph.D

PRIVATE MAIL BAG No. 5, U.I.
TELEGRAMS: NISER IBADAN
TELEPHONE: 21651

12th November, 1968.

Oba Adesoji Aderemi,
The Oni of Ife,
Ile-Ife.

Kabiyesi,

The purpose of this letter is to introduce to you Mr. Carroll H. Simms, an American Sculptor of African origin. He is a lecturer at the Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas, U.S.A. There is a spirit of rediscovery of traditional African cultures among the black people of America. The general feeling is that such rediscovery will lead to a positive identity of our kith and kin who have been separated from Africa for centuries. One of the most involved in this process of rediscovery is Mr. Carroll Simms who is in Nigeria on a 9-month scholarship to study at first hand and from Nigerians themselves outside the sphere of the University and written texts, the truly traditional sculptures of Ife and Benin.

Your Excellency will find Mr. Simms a sensitive and highly perceptive creative worker; as well as someone who has genuinely identified himself with Africans and Africa.

Please help introduce Mr. Simms to all traditional artists who can be of the greatest help to him.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Akinsola Akiwowo,
Senior Research Fellow.

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
HOUSTON, TEXAS

November 4, 1968

AFRICAN AREA LANGUAGES

Dr. Ekpo Eyo, Director
The Nigerian Museum
Lagos, Nigeria

Dear Dr. Eyo:

The African Studies Program at Texas Southern University is extremely interested in acquiring a collection of African sculpture. Your assistance in this regard will be greatly appreciated.

Mr. Carrell H. Simms, one of our Art professors, is presently at the University of Ibadan. He is hoping to see you and to discuss this matter further. We hope it is not too much of an imposition to ask you to give him your advice.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Sincerely Yours,

Ali K. Bakri

Ali K. Bakri, Director
African Language and Area Center

AKB:jf
encl.

12th November, 1968.

Mrs. Iwinfunke Alarape (Susan Wenger),
Oshogbo.

Dear Mrs. Iwinfunke Alarape,

I believe that you have given up hearing from me about the 'Itupa Olojumerindinlogun' which I asked the black-smith to make for me. I am still keenly interested in the structure and as soon as I can find the money, I will send it to you to help me give it to the black-smith concerned.

Today, however, I am consulting you about another matter. The bearer, Mr. Carroll H. Simms, is an Afro-American Sculptor from Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas, U.S.A., who is on a 9-month grant to acquaint himself at first hand with all forms of Yoruba sculpture. I have asked him to see you in the belief that from the conversation between the two of you will emerge one of the most fruitful experiences for Mr. Simms that he can hope to get during his short stay in Nigeria.

I send my warm regards to Ayan, your step-daughter who was a joy to see as a dancer and a young and growing person. My due regards also to your husband.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Akinsola Akiwoko,
Senior Research Fellow.

6th December, 68.

The Curator,
Ife Museum,
Ife.

Prof. Carol Simms

Please allow Prof. Carol Simms of the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, to take photographs in the Museum.

I have been made to understand that this will not entail the removal of objects from the display cases.

E. AIG-IMOUKHUEDE (MRS)
for Director,
Department of Antiquities.

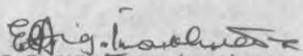
Ref. No. TF. 460/135A
Department of Antiquities,
Lagos.

6th December, 1968.

Copy to:

Prof. Carol Simms,
Institute of African Studies,
University of Ibadan,
Ibadan.

Above for your information.


E. AIG-IMOUKHUEDE (MRS)
for Director,
Department of Antiquities.

CRANBROOK ACADEMY OF ART
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN 48013

December 9, 1968

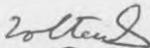
Dear Friend Carroll:

Were you to know how deeply I love ethnic pottery (in this case American-Hungarian ethnicism) - then you would know how I love the beautiful bowl you sent me. I am not aware of any reason why you should have sent it to me but in this instance I am not looking for reasons. It is and will remain a most "valuable" item in my collection.

I am surprised to find your address on the box as being that in Houston. I thought you were on your way to exotic parts of the globe--Nigeria. At any rate - my sentimental thanks for this gift.

I was sorry to have missed you at the terminal moments of your last visit. I tried to get in touch with you but did not succeed. I shall eagerly look forward to your next visit to Birmingham.

With most genuine good wishes for your creative future.



Zoltan Sepeshy

Mr. Carroll Simms
c/o 4825 Mayflower
Houston, Texas 77033

Dr. Abinsola Akiwoye.
Nigerian Institute of Social & Econ. Research
P. M. B. 5 IBADAN.
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN,
IBADAN, NIGERIA.

Dear Simms,

Dec 20, 1968

The bearer is Mr Adeniji.

He is from Iwo. He is very knowledgeable in Yoruba culture. He is also one of my mentors in Yoruba folklore.

He will work for you and you can arrange to pay him according to the terms which both of you may agree to

16 shillings
+ 8 pence

Sincerely
Abinsola Akiwoye

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN · NIGERIA

INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

TELEPHONE: IBADAN 21051-63 EXT. 48 CABLES & TELEGRAMS: UNIVERSITY IBADAN

Ag. Director: ROBERT G. ARMSTRONG, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.A.I.



PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

28th December, 1968

Mr. Carroll H. Simms,
c/o Institute of African Studies,
University of Ibadan,
IBADAN.

Dear Mr. Simms,

Associate membership of the Institute

I write to offer you Associate Membership status of the Institute.

The conditions under which you are offered this status are as follows:

1. Residence in the country

The Institute is ready to accept responsibility to the Nigerian Immigration Authorities for any non-Nigerian Associate member who is visiting Nigeria. It reserves the right, however, to withdraw this guarantee if it is satisfied that the continued presence of the member is no longer in the best interest of the Institute and Nigeria.

2. Accommodation

The Institute does not guarantee accommodation for any of its Associate members, but it will assist any member to secure accommodation within or outside the University, provided this does not involve the Institute in any financial obligation for the accommodation provided.

3. Office accommodation

The Institute does not guarantee office accommodation for its Associate members, but whenever possible it may be provided.

4. Institute Research Grants

An Associate member may apply for financial assistance from the Institute but the Institute does not accept any financial obligation to an Associate member.

5. Institute Research Facilities

The Institute is ready to help Associates with their research projects in any ways feasible. It will offer advice on sources, arrange introductions to other research workers in Nigerian Universities and if necessary to appropriate officers of government or private institutions. In addition, the Institute will provide secretarial facilities where possible and has a small stock of research equipment - tape-recorders, cameras, camping sets, etc., which can be borrowed when available by Associate members.

6. General University Facilities

The Institute will help to secure access to the University Library and the National Archives for Associate members. It will assist in gaining any Associate the use of sports equipment, club properties, etc. provided that he satisfies and fulfills on his own merit such conditions as may exist for the use of the facilities in question. The Institute will also ensure that Associate members are kept informed of University activities likely to interest them.

7. Participation in Institute and University Activities

The Institute organises courses, conferences, symposia and seminars in addition to those organized by the Faculties and Departments of the University. An Associate member of the Institute may attend any of these provided it is not exclusively arranged for a particular set of people.

8. Supervision of Research

An Associate working for a higher degree must ask his supervisor to nominate one member of the staff of the University of Ibadan who will be responsible for academic supervision of his project while he is in Nigeria. The Institute will gladly tender advice on a suitable member of the University to approach. Those not working for a higher degree are expected to make contact with the appropriate Head of Department.

9. Institute Publications

An Associate member of the Institute is entitled to a copy of African Notes the journal of the Institute free of charge, and may obtain copies of other publications of the Institute at reduced prices if he buys direct from the Institute.

In return, the Institute expects to be able to publish in its journal or in any of its bulletins, after full consultation with the Associate member concerned, announcements or reports on his research project.

10. Publications by Associates

Associate members are expected to acknowledge assistance obtained from the Institute in every publication resulting directly or indirectly from research activities while in Association with the Institute and to deposit five copies of the publication with the Institute.

11. Correspondence

No Associate member may use the Institute's name in writing to any Institution or individual for information including questionnaires, reports, etc. except with the Institute's specific permission.

No Associate member may use the name of the Institute to purchase goods without first obtaining the permission of the Institute.

12. Tenure of Associate membership

The Institute reserves the right to withdraw at any moment the membership of the Institute of any Associate, if such a person fails to abide by any of the conditions stated above, or such other conditions as may be added by the Institute from time to time.

13. Definition of terms

Wherever it occurs, "the Institute" means, "the Director" of the Institute or such other person to whom he may delegate powers for a purpose.

I enclose herewith another copy of this letter. If you decide to accept Associate Membership status on the terms set out above, please sign the copy and return it to me at your earliest convenience. It would also be appreciated if you would indicate specifically the date you expect to be able to join the Institute.

Yours faithfully,

Robert S. Armstrong

Director

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

FOUNDED BY EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE TOLEDO 1, OHIO

OTTO WITTMANN, DIRECTOR

January 13, 1969

Mr. C. H. Simms
Institute of African Studies
University of Ibadan
Nigeria

Dear Carroll,

Thank you so much for your Christmas greetings from Nigeria in a form of a beautiful card - as well as greetings from your mother who telephoned here.

I am so glad that you have arrived safely and hope that you are finding your experience an interesting one - I do not see how it could help but be fascinating.

My very best wishes for your continuing success and for the success of your project.

We often think of you here. I enjoyed so much seeing you when you were here in the summer.

Sincerely,

Otto Wittmann

Director

OW:vd

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN · NIGERIA

INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN STUDIES

TELEPHONE: IBADAN 21051-63 EXT. 48 CABLES & TELEGRAMS: UNIVERSITY IBADAN

Director: ROBERT G. ARMSTRONG, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.A.I.

From: DOIG D. SIMMONDS, M.S.I.A.



April 2nd, 1969

Mr. Balogun
CUSTOMS a n d PASSAGE

Dear Sir,

At the request of Dr. Thurston Shaw and myself, the slides contained in this parcel were sent at the expense of the Art Department, Texas Southern University Houston, Texas, at which Mr. Carroll H. Simms is a professor of art for the purpose of giving a seminar at the Institute of African Studies, imparting to us some aspect of the meaning of Negro art expression in America.

I'd be grateful if you could kindly clear a parcel from the College post office. See attached. The original is lost and I think we should receive these items duty-free.

This is to certify that the contents of this parcel consists of one-hundred-fifty (150) colour slides for teaching purposes only.

Yours faithfully,

D. D. Simmonds

D. D. Simmonds
Curator
Institute of African Studies

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

25 November 1969

My dear Conall

Just a line to thank you for all your hospitality at Huston, and to say what a pleasure it was to see you again. I also found it a very valuable experience ~~for me~~ coming to your university and I enjoyed talking to the students.

I'm sorry if I was a bit bad-tempered on Friday evening, but I was terribly tired and after meeting Vivian in the morning was staying myself all the rest of the day on the prospect of seeing her again. I did in fact see her on Saturday morning and we just had breakfast together, and that was a pleasure.

I was sorry that on Saturday morning you seemed

a bit overawed by the presence of Dr Sheeler as
this made it more difficult to talk!

Please remember me to your friend Al (can't remember
his second name!) and his wife, it was a pleasure meeting
them, as well as your other friends.

Very best wishes, Can't wait and I look forward to
the day when I can welcome you in Nigeria again!

Yours ever
Thurstan

Thurstan Shaw
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201



Professor Carroll Simms
Art Department
Texas Southern University
Houston
Texas 77004

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201

Rec'd 3/2

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Arch. 2/16

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From Professor Thurstan Shaw
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

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operator 15

Professor Carroll H. Simms
Art Department
Texas Southern University
Houston
Texas 77004

Dear Carroll

You told me to write to you when I got to America about fixing up to come down to Houston -- so I am keeping my promise to do so!

I lecture at 9 o'clock Mondays through Thursdays, so can get away about 10 o'clock Thursdays, provided I am back here by Sunday evening. The dates of this kind which I can offer and which are not already taken up with something else are as follows:

November 13-16
.. 20-23
December 4-7

After that I shall be involved with exams., and then return to England about the middle of December. Back to Nigeria at the beginning of January.

If you want me to come and lecture, write and let me know which set of dates you would prefer; give atleast one alternative, as by the time you write one of the above dates might be taken up; and let me know about expenses, honorarium etc.

I have not written to any of the three ladies whose names you gave me, I'll leave it to you to arrange my contacts.

It will be great fun to see you again if it can be arranged!

Very best wishes

Yours ever

Shaw

Thurstan

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
CULLEN BOULEVARD
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77004

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT,
UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT

October 16, 1970

Professor Carroll Simms
Department of Art
Texas Southern University
3201 Wheeler
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Professor Simms:

The President's Committee for Art Acquisitions of the University of Houston has recently been considering the work of various sculptors who might wish to design a small fountain to be placed at the entrance to the John E. Hoff Tennis Courts on Cullen Boulevard between Holman and Elgin Streets.

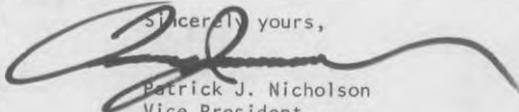
We have decided to invite you to accept this commission. In mind is a fountain approximately five to six feet in height, of bronze or steel. The available budget provides a total not to exceed \$6,000 for the fountain, including complete installation. We would hope to have this piece in place during the late winter or early spring, if possible.

The usual committee procedure is to issue a letter contract, and then to ask the artist to submit a few drawings indicating the general approach to the commission. The drawings are then examined by our members and sent on to one or more other committees as well as to President Philip G. Hoffman. We recognize that drawings can only indicate a final work, but do require them as part of what should be a fairly rapid review process.

We have been quite impressed with various examples of your work, and hope that you will be able to provide this sculpture for the beautification of the campus and for the enjoyment of our University community as well as the general public.

If you find that you can accept the commission, please call our mutual friend Professor Peter W. Guenther. He has been asked by the Committee to work out the details because of his broad professional knowledge and experience.

Sincerely yours,



Patrick J. Nicholson
Vice President,
University Development

Chairman
President's Committee for
Art Acquisitions



TEXAS COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

March 22, 1972

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San Antonio, Texas 78205

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Houston, Texas 77004

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San Angelo, Texas 76901

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Longview, Texas 75601

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Dallas, Texas 75205

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Austin, Texas 78705

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Lubbock, Texas 79410

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University of Texas Station
Austin, Texas 78712

MRS. ANA SOLIS RIDDEL
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Houston, Texas 77025

MRS. FAYEZ SAROFIM
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Houston, Texas 77005

MRS. PATSY DUNN SINGER
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Corpus Christi, Texas 78411

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Brownwood, Texas 76801

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Dallas, Texas 75201

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4510 Gaducous
Galveston, Texas 77550

RUSSELL R. WATERHOUSE
5500 Westside Drive
El Paso, Texas 79932

MAURICE D. COATS
Executive Director
818 Brown Building
Austin, Texas 78701
512 - 472-8237

PETER KNOCK
Assistant Director
818 Brown Building
Austin, Texas 78701

MRS. LILLIAN CASTILLE
Executive Secretary
818 Brown Building
Austin, Texas 78701

Mr. Carroll Simms
3169 Blodgett
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Mr. Simms:

As Chairman of the Texas Commission on the Arts and Humanities, I take great pleasure in appointing you to the Commission's Visual Arts Advisory Panel for a term ending February 1, 1974. As a member of this Panel, you will be asked to advise the Commission regarding some of the projects under consideration in this field. Descriptions of such projects will be forwarded to you for your study. We want you to be completely free to express your thoughts on the quality of the project, its concept or the qualifications of personnel for its execution. All comments will be held in strictest confidence. A compilation of remarks and comments will be given to the Commission for its use as it makes funding and other decisions, but they will not be credited to any individual member of the Panel unless the Panel member specifically so requests.

In addition to your recommendations on specific projects, we will welcome your inquiry or advice on any phase of Commission activity. Most Panel business will be conducted by mail from the Commission office. You will not be asked to attend any meetings unless some unusual specific need arises, because we have no funds for the expenses you would incur in attending meetings.

The Panel will have ten members, including yourself. I have enclosed a self-addressed stamped envelope for your response to this invitation. Please send us your reply as soon as possible so that we may announce these appointments.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gilbert M. Denman, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Gilbert M. Denman, Jr.

GMD, Jr. : dp

Enclosure



Barbara Jordan
Governor For A Day Committee

JUNE 10, 1972

May 22, 1972

Mr. Carroll Simms
Art Department
Texas Southern University
3201 Wheeler
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Mr. Simms:

State Senator Barbara Jordan of Houston, the first Black woman to serve as a state senator in Texas, thus making her the first Black woman to preside over a legislative body in the United States, will serve as Governor of the State of Texas, Saturday, June 10, 1972.

Senator Jordan was elected President Pro Tempore of the Texas Senate during the Special Called Session, March 28, 1972, by unanimous vote of her Senate colleagues.

During the day of June 10, we have planned to have as the theme of the day "Black Culture." Black culture exhibits will be displayed throughout the State Capitol Building. For that reason we want to extend the honor to you in having any art displays or exhibits from Texas Southern University Art Department including student exhibits.

Please contact us as soon as possible, so that we can complete arrangements. We will be looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William L. Lyons".

William L. Lyons
Activities Coordinator
Governor For A Day Committee

WLL:je.

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN · NIGERIA

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY

TELEPHONE: IBADAN 21051 EXT. 567/8, CABLES & TELEGRAMS: UNIVERSITY IBADAN



Professor and Head of Department
THURSTAN SHAW MA. PH.D. FSA.

Telephone: 21051 Ext. 694

YOUR REF.

OUR REF. Arch.7/2 DATE 14 June, 1972.

Professor Carroll Simms,
Art Department,
Texas Southern University,
Houston,
Texas 77004,
U.S.A.

Dear Carroll,

Thank you for your Christmas card. It was good to hear of you again.

A copy of Igbo-Ukwu is on its way to you with my very best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Thurstan.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
AIR LETTERS
AEROGRAMME
NIGERIA

NIGERIA
012
POSTAGE PAID
RN 721

Professor Carroll Simms,
Art Department,
Texas Southern University,
Houston,
Texas 77004,
U.S.A.

← Second fold here →

Sender's name and address

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY
14 JUN 1972
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

MISE
DE
MISE

IMPERIAL AIR MAIL
AEROGRAMMES

To open cut

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

BLACK CULTURAL RESEARCH PROJECT

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

November 9, 1973

Mr. Carroll Simms
Associate Professor
Art Department
Texas Southern University
3201 Wheeler
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Mr. Simms:

On behalf of the staff and the principal investigator, Dr. Lawrence Levine, of the UC Black Cultural Research Project (National Endowment for the Arts Expansion Arts Program), I wish to thank you for the cooperation in aiding us in our efforts to compile a Bibliographic Data Collection titled "The Contributions of Afro-Americans in the Visual Arts, 1700-1970."

The project is now completed and we hope in the near future to make the findings of the project available to the academic community. Thank you again for your cooperation. We are deeply grateful.

Sincerely,

Irene Sawyer

3525 16th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20010



Mr. Carroll Simms
Texas Southern University
Dept. Of Art
Houston, Texas

7-14-73

A REMINDER

Time is a commodity that slips by us - rapidly. It is now mid-July. Have you taken the time to respond to the inquiry package on Afro-American Sculptors? If not please do so now. July 30 is just around the corner. Your cooperation will help to make this venture a success. I await your response. Thank you.

Tritobia Benjamin



Boston Public Library

Boston, Massachusetts 02117

September 17, 1973

Mr. Carroll H. Simms
Texas Southern University
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Mr. Simms:

I hope that by now you have had a chance to see our recently published Afro-American Artists: A Bio-Bibliographical Directory.

Since you are so prominent in the field, we would be interested in learning any comments you might have about the work and any possible future supplemental volumes.

We feel it is important for us to be aware of the needs of the scholars, critics, artists, and authors for whom the work was intended; and since the book has involved such a very great investment in time and money, we would like to do everything we can to make it what it should be. I sincerely hope that this work makes enough of a contribution to the field that the Library can be persuaded to make another such commitment in the near future.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Theresa D. Cederholm
Fine Arts Department

Galveston County
Cultural Arts
Council, Inc.
Post Office Box 1105
Galveston, Texas 77550
AC 713 763-6439



Emily Whiteside, Executive Director

May 29, 1974

Dr. John Biggers, Chairman
Fine Arts Department
Texas Southern University
3338 Prospect Street
Houston, TX 77004

Dear John:

As you know from an earlier discussion, the Cultural Arts Council is presenting its third annual Festival on The Strand on August 23, 24, 25.

Especially important this year is the fact that the regional event which includes four states will become a National Bicentennial project. Festival USA on The Strand is partially supported by a matching grant from the National Endowment for the Arts Expansion Arts Division.

Many artists and craftspeople will be coming to Galveston to participate and the Endowment plans to film the Festival for national viewing.

The thrust of the project is to give broad visibility to outstanding community groups from Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas and to encourage young people to pursue goals similar to those of the artists.

We are going to need a great deal of professional assistance in preparing suitable and attractive exhibit space for the visual artists and craftspeople.

I have recently had a meeting with Carroll Simms and he has agreed to assist us in both the preparation of the schematics and the actual building of exhibition areas. He will do this on a contractual service basis.

Carroll can prepare the plans in June before his intended trip to Mexico and actually implement the plans along with Mignon Weisinger's help on his return shortly before the Festival.

We will actually need him here by August 15 which shortens his work trip to Mexico unless you could arrange for his earlier departure to Mexico.

Galveston - Texas City - La Marque - League City - Dickinson
Friendswood - Hitchcock - Erieville - Alta Loma - Arcadia - Algon
San Leon - Bayliff - Port Bolivar - Crystal Beach - High Island

I realize that he has a summer class session so my request to have him here on August 15th may not work.

We also would like to include a visual arts exhibit from Texas Southern and we'll be in touch with you soon regarding such a possibility.

At any rate, we would appreciate any consideration you can give us to help make this national arts event a success.

Sincerely,



Emily Whiteside

October 24, 1974



WHO'S WHO AMONG BLACK AMERICANS

EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS INC.
540 FRONTAGE ROAD
NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS 60093
(312) 446-9275

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ABC Network Television

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Pennsylvania

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Executive Director
NAACP
New York, New York

Herbert Wright
Director of Urban Affairs
Phillip Morris Company Incorporated
N. Miami Beach, Florida

Mr. Claude "Buddy" Young
Assistant to the Commissioner
National Football League
New York, New York

The Honorable Coleman A. Young
Mayor
City of Detroit

Dr. Carroll H. Simms
Associate Professor
Texas Southern University
3201 Wheeler
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Dr. Simms:

We are pleased to inform you that because of your leadership and achievements, you have been recommended to have your biography published in the first edition of WHO'S WHO AMONG BLACK AMERICANS, 1974-75. Please complete and return our biographical data form by November 25, 1974 in the enclosed postage paid envelope.

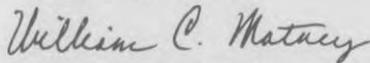
WHO'S WHO is being published to meet the reference needs of our nation's libraries, schools, media, government officials and research organizations. The publication will be the most comprehensive and professional compendium of Black leaders ever published. We wish to emphasize that there is no obligation to purchase the book. Your biography is to be published for the benefit of current and future historians.

In the past it has been relatively easy to identify the Super Blacks of national and celebrity status. These prominent individuals will, of course, be included in WHO'S WHO AMONG BLACK AMERICANS. In addition, however this publication will include the growing number of Blacks who have distinguished themselves in business, government, education, athletics, journalism, entertainment and community services. These successful Black leaders have not previously been identified or recognized for their accomplishments. This reference task is essential for present day communications and is equally essential to motivate and inform young Black students nationwide.

This long awaited publication has already received wide support and acclaim from many influential leaders of the Black community. WHO'S WHO AMONG BLACK AMERICANS will represent a landmark publishing achievement of significant educational value for everyone. We look forward to publishing your biography. Please return your completed form by November 25, 1974.

Sincerely yours,

WHO'S WHO AMONG
BLACK AMERICANS



William C. Matney
Editor

AKINSOLA AYODELE AKIWOVO

University of Ife,
Ile-Ife, WS

NIGERIA

October 9, 1974

Dear Uncle Summs,

Here is Unka Akin writing from Ile-Ife once again. I am happy to tell you that I arrived home with the Obas' gift all in one piece. It bothered me to think that it would be rough-handled by the people loading and unpacking. I paid the equivalent of \$249 for my two luggage for air freight. It was a good thing I asked that I be allowed to pay in Nigeria, and that I had my cheque book with me. Anyway, all is well that ends well.

By the way, you wrote on the card from Mexico that you had a present for Althea, me, Renke & Seiji! I didn't even read the message on the card carefully, until Althea asked me for the present! I looked foolish. Did you give me anything else beside the Obas' gift?

Under a separate letter I am sending you the draft of the letter you

asked for. I hope you find it satisfactory.

Listen, I thank you very much for your very delicious dinner that you yourself prepared for my send-off party! I truly enjoyed it. And thanks for including your friend, Mr. Washington along, and your former student who is a brilliant & exciting protégé of yours. Regards to Al Blair & Conne always.

I hope we will exchange letters more often. Now, it's me who wants to come to the US for a longer time; but I'll prefer another part of the US for a change. Best wishes always.

Yours sincerely
AKIN SOLA

Do not fold beyond this line

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
AIR LETTER
AEROGAMME



Professor Harold H. Simms,
Department of Arts
Texas Southern University
Wheeler Street
Houston, Texas 77004
USA

Second fold here

Sender's name and address.

With the Compliments of
Dr. Harold H. Simms
University of Ife, Ife - Ife
NIGERIA

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
BY ORDINARY MAIL.

UNIVERSITY OF IFE

ILE-IFE, NIGERIA.

Our Reference.....

Telegrams: 'IFEVARSITY IFE'

Your Reference.....

Telephone Ife 2291

4th December 1974

Professor CarrollH Simms,
Department of Art,
Texas Southern University,
Houston,
Texas 77004,
U.S.A.

Dear Uncle Simms,

I have just received your letter and noted that Leon Renfro has mailed his portfolio. I hope this gets to me very soon so I can submit the portfolio to the Department concerned.

On Saturday, November 30th, 1974 at about 5.40 p.m., I delivered to the Oba Akenzua II, Uku Akpolokpolo of Benin, your present - the bronze work - in the presence of Mrs. Norma T. Ojehomon who arranged the appointment, Mr. David A. Aweda, Assistant Lecturer in Sociology and Anthropology, University of Ife, who travelled to Benin City with me for the occasion, the secretary to the Oba, two of the Princesses who have just returned from London where they have been pursuing further studies, the husband of one of the newly returned Princesses, two of the grand children by the latter Princess, two or three pages, and two young princess aged about five to six years.

I made a short speech on your behalf and promised that His Excellency would receive from you a full statement about the work, its name, the symbolism and the meanings. I then presented your gift. Everyone present in the reception room - princesses and commoner - stood up as the Oba received it, assisted by his secretary. He then offered his right hand for me to shake, while thanking me.

He sat down, and we did the same. He lifted the heavy object as if it was a small light wooden carving. He inspected it in great detail. I could hear him whisper to himself "Very good! very good!" The inspection lasted for about five minutes.

I handed the photographs of the bronze work to him, and he looked at them against the object. He appeared satisfied. Then I gave him the letter you wrote to the Custom's official at Ikeja Airport. He read it carefully as if he was studying it. Finally, I asked the Secretary to read aloud the inscription you wrote on the small card that was tied to the duffle-bag. This he did slowly so that everyone could follow. After that reading, the Oba called upon his royal daughters and his son-in-law to inspect the bronze work. Then I delivered to the Oba the decision of the OBA (Organization of the Black Artists) of Houston to officially make him their patron and the Oba was pleased. I am writing to Mr. Alfred Blair whose name I gave to the Oba, about this royal consent. I hope I was right in saying the OBA of Houston, Texas, derived its impetus from you after you returned to the U.S.A. in 1969.

Now that the OBA has been linked with Benin, and Leon Renfro with Ife through this University. I feel my mission to TSU is accomplished. I am no longer interested in maintaining any link with your institution. I came to this decision because I can no longer believe that the promises made by some of your University officials could be kept without pressure being exerted by me at this end.

Yours,

Akinsola Akiworo
Akinsola Akiworo.

P.S I've just received the "Tailless Cow". It is just BEAUTIFUL! I am very grateful to you both.

Akinsola

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY & ANTHROPOLOGY

4th, December 74

Mr. Alfred Blair,
President,
Organisation of Black Artists,
Care 3861,
Blodgett Street,
Houston,
Texas 77004,
U.S.A.

Dear Al Blair,

This is to convey to you and the other members of the Organisation of Black Artists of Houston, the greetings of His Highness, Oba Akensua II, Uku Akpolokpolo of Benin, as well as his royal consent that you could elect him as Patron of your organisation.

You remember in 1972, before I left Houston, Texas, for Nigeria, you discussed with me such patronage. On November 30th, 1974, I was granted audience in the Oba's Palace by His Highness, and there I conveyed to him your desire. He accepted the honour conferred on him by your organization, and he reminded me, before I left, again to convey his acceptance to you.

To make it official, please write the Oba at once, stating your organization's resolution to make The Oba of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria; Patron. It will be a smashing idea if you sent the Oba of Benin a large group photograph of your organizations' members!

Your organization will have to meet to pass such a resolution, if not already done. When the patronage is fully established, your Organization may explore with His Highness the possibility of a group visit to Benin City at his invitation.

I wish you and the other members good luck in the New Year.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Akinshola Akiwode,
Reader Sociology & Acting Head.



Shoreline Art League

January 30, 1973

Dear Professor Simms -

Enclosed you will find the clippings from the three newspapers that they appeared in as I promised.

We certainly did enjoy your visit to our January meeting. I want to thank you again for taking time from your busy schedule to come down to La Porte. The members are still talking about how much they enjoyed your talk and demonstration. We hope that you will be able to work us into your busy schedule in the future.

Thanks again.

Mrs Leo House
Vice-President.

P.S. My son, Leo, made a tape recording of your lecture and is he proud of it. He has loaned it to several of the members who were ill and unable to attend the meeting. If you still have extra copies of the booklet you mentioned in your talk on formulas for mixing colors etc. available, I would appreciate a copy.

HL

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE BOX 1013, TOLEDO, OHIO 43697

OTTO WITTMANN, DIRECTOR

April 23, 1975

Mr. Carroll H. Simms
Department of Art
Texas Southern University
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Carroll,

What a delight to receive your letter of April 18!
Thank you so much for sending it.

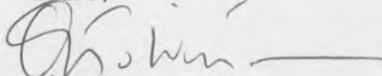
Your friendship means a great deal to me, and I often think about you and the fine career that you have made for yourself. All that any of us could do for you was to be a little bit supportive from time to time, but it was you who made your own great success.

I am really most grateful to you for taking the time to write, and I hope that when you are next up here visiting your family you will stop in to say hello. It would be very nice to see you again one day.

Best wishes,

OW:jg

Yours,


Director

3376 INWOOD DRIVE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77019

June 15, 1975

Dear Mr. Simms,

It was interesting how quickly Michael, Julie and I found the perfect setting for your two magnificent stone-ware vases. They are on a polished wrought-iron bench from England, placed under the arched window on our stair landing. You can

see them perfectly from the down-stairs
hall-way. Everytime I go up and down
the steps I stop to admire and enjoy
your special creations. The texture and
color of the bark has strong appeal
to the eye and spirit.

The beautiful books you and
Mr. Biggers brought to me are between
the boxes. Please bring you come to
see them when we return in October.
Sincerely yours, Susan McAllister



MAIN STREET '75

HOUSTON'S ARTISTIC SALUTE TO THE AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL

HONORARY CHAIRMEN:

Fred Hofheinz
Alexander McLanahan

CHAIRPERSON:

Mrs. Diane Smith

VICE CHAIRPERSONS:

Burton H. Fisher,
Activities
D. V. (Sonny) Flores,
Food & Drink Sales
David Glodt,
Publicity & P. R.
Mrs. George Isaacs,
Performing Arts
Joe C. Ross,
Logistics

PROJECT DIRECTORS:

Mrs. Elaine Morrison,
Art Galleries Exhibit
William E. Freckleton,
Community of Art
Mrs. Shirlee Devine,
Mile of Art
Mrs. Nan McCaughan,
Heritage Crafts
Mrs. Molly Parkerson,
& Mrs. Mary P. Temple,
Banner World
Mrs. Sandy Rudy,
Photo Center
Tom Morey & George R.
Bunker,
Art In Industry
Frank Haley,
Radio Arts
Steven J. Rudy &
Gordie White,
Children's Environ-
ment
Ivan Konig,
Hot Air Balloons
Ms. Jari Jennings,
T-Shirt Com-
memorative
Ms. Linda Shrum,
Poster Com-
memorative
Mrs. Ford Hubbard, Jr.,
Commemorative
Medallion
Mrs. Charles Hooks,
Area Gallery Liaison
Mrs. Harwood Taylor,
VIP Hospitality
Mrs. Ruth Denney,
HSPVA Area
Mrs. Sheila Smith,
Internal Trans-
portation
Mrs. Gina Cortinas, Chris
Cornell & Mrs. Jewell
Jackson,
Talent Coordination
Toby Mattox,
Production & Staging
Major Henry Meyers &
Mrs. Marsha Malev,
Parade & Spontaneous
Dr. & Mrs. Sidney Berger,
Performing Children's
World
Mrs. Harry Jukes,
Miller Theatre Program
Mrs. Bob Sine,
Celebrity Emcees
Frank Donnelly & Ed Massey,
Sound Systems
Vidal Briseno & Benjamin
Lednicky,
CAM Birthday Cake
Alf Davey,
Transportation & Parking
Mrs. John Combi,
Special Publicity

October 3, 1975

Mr. Carroll Simms
3861 Blodgett
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Mr. Simms:

Thank you for accepting our invitation to be one of our honored guests for the Saturday night, October 11, Main Street '75 festivities. Unless otherwise notified, we will anticipate you and one other with you for the occasion.

Please plan to be at the northwest corner of Montrose and Bissonnet by 7:30 p.m. The cake-lighting ceremonies will be conducted from this location, which is just east of the Contemporary Arts Museum and north of the Museum of Fine Arts.

Following the ceremonies, you will be transported to the Miller Theatre performance, where reserved seats will await you. Then, you will be taken back to the Museum of Fine Arts for the VIP party for our honored guests and great volunteer workers.

If possible, you are asked to wear the enclosed identification name tags to assist us in easy recognition at the outdoor ceremonies, and to assure easier seating on the buses. Also, this identification should facilitate your parking in the nearby Presbyterian Church parking lot (after 6:30 p.m.) just north of Bissonnet and Main Street, or other convenient locations.

Again, thank you for honoring us at these events. We believe you will find Main Street '75 a truly unforgettablely delightful occasion.

Sincerely,

Charles T. Lansden, Director
Community Betterment Division
(for Main Street '75 Leadership)

CTL:hs
Enclosures



NORTH AMERICAN ZONE

CENTRAL OFFICE • HOWARD UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20059

202-636-7047

DIRECTORS

NORTHEAST
ELMA LEWIS
MAX ROACH

MIDWEST
EDWARD S. SPRIGGS

SOUTHEAST
SAMUEL L. EVANS

UPPER SOUTH
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LOWER SOUTH
CHARLES B. HOBSON
KALAMU YA SALAAM

MIDWEST
ABENA SEIWAA
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SOUTH WEST
JOHN M. HOWARD
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ADMINISTRATOR
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FAR WEST
SAMELLA S. LEWIS
ARTHUR MONROE

AT-LARGE
WOODIE KING, JR.
JOAN SANDLER
TERONE BENNETT, JR.
BERNICE REACON
HENRI UMBAGI KING
NATHAN HARE
RICHARD A. LONG

GENERAL COUNSEL
HAROLD O. BRADSHAW

TO: *Carol Sims (1)* October 10, 1975

Selected Artist, North American Zone

FROM: Jeff R. Donaldson, Chairman NAZ *Jeff R. Donaldson*

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S !

This constitutes the official notification of your selection to participate as a representative of North American Zone, in Festac '75 scheduled for 22 November through 20 December, 1975 in Lagos, Nigeria.

The following materials to be submitted to the International Secretariat are required to validate your participation as part of the NAZ delegation. Documentation must be submitted to the NAZ Office **NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15, 1975.**

1. Four passport pictures for all personnel
2. Complete visa forms 4: all personnel (attached) with \$3.00 per visa (including handling and mailing charges): US Postal Money Order made to North American Zone.
3. Information in your discipline following the outline on the attached list.*

More information regarding specifics of travel, housing schedules, etc., will follow later.

The caliber of the NAZ delegations of 3,000 is such that we can all feel proud. It is representative of the most competent, talented and committed people among us. The responsibility and accountability that the honor of selection imposes, we feel sure, will be taken seriously. In addition to artists, the contingent will include colloquium participants, technicians from a medical team to messengers, NAZ volunteers and essay contest winners.

*If this information was given to the Director in your region, please disregard this request.



The University Museums
Illinois State University
Bloomington-Normal 61761

Ewing Museum of Nations
Eyestone School Museum
Funk Gem and Mineral Museum
Hudelson Museum of Agriculture
Stevenson Memorial Room
University Historical Museum

May 4, 1976

Dear Carroll,

I hope you don't mind my using your first name...Call me Roslyn as do my friends. I received the photo today. Thanks.

Shortly after we talked the mail arrived bringing a letter (form letter) from Collier, Collier Macmillan in England to whom NY Graphic had forwarded my letter regarding rights to reproduce three photographs (including yours) in the book. Strange thing. They said (having x-ed out everything else that did not apply, I guess) that all records had been destroyed, thus they could not give permission, and that I should direct further enquiries to Dover c/o Studio books! This IS STRANGE???? Didn't you say Dover had died? I am sure you did. I wrote directly to Studio books, but I assume CCM is the parent company of this subsidiary book company. At any rate, I am glad to have your photograph. Fortunately it is not the same view as the one in the book (Dover's) so we are clear of any law suits on that. The other two pictures I wanted are Woodruff's Land of Many Moons and Simpson's Oriental Fable, both of which have been destroyed. How this happened, I don't know. But, since there is no one to give me permission for reproducing the pictures in Dover's book, I shall go ahead. They are very necessary to make a point in that chapter.

Thanks also for sending me Charlene's address. Who is this Vandersee? Is he the fellow who was in hospital administration or something? I introduced Charlene to her first husband and was sorry to see that broken up...Her ex is now married to another friend of mine, from home in Louisiana.

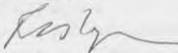
I did not particularly like living with/among the Yoruba and as soon as I have established residency here, I am going to file for divorce. But, Yoruba art I like, fortunately, or I would be in a lot of trouble with my teaching. I worked in the Federal Department of Antiquities in Lagos summer of '70, did field research in Abeokuta ('72, summer) and returned in Dec. '72 to marry my Yoruba. Stayed there until last March '75. I was curator of the Institute of African Studies collection in the University of Ibadan. I liked working there but that was not my main purpose in being in the country.... I don't miss Nigeria and do not intend to return (probably can't). But, I do want to go to other countries, Upper Volta and Senegal in particular. Maybe next year.

What were you doing in Nigeria? Study grant? The Mother Country
is a strange place.

Write again.

Take care,

Sincerely,



Roslyn A. Walker-Oni



JOHN E. CASTILLO, Director
Community Development

City of
HOUSTON

FRED HOFHEINZ, MAYOR
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77001

CITY COUNCILMEN*

LARRY MCKASKLE
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JIM WESTMORELAND
FRANK E. MANN
JOHNNY GOYEN

CONTROLLER

LIONEL J. CASTILLO

FOR RELEASE
January 6, 1977 or After

Contact: Mary Anne Piacentini
222-3242

The Community Development Division, Office of the Mayor of Houston is sponsoring a public sculpture competition to select an outdoor sculpture appropriate for placement at the site of the West End Multi-Service Center. The Center is located on Heights Boulevard just south of Interstate 10 between two Community Development target areas - West End/Cottage Grove and First and Sixth Wards.

Artists' submissions will be judged by William Agee, Director of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; James Harithas, Director of the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston; Carroll Simms, Professor of Sculpture at Texas Southern University; Phillip Oliver-Smith, Chairman of the Art Department at Rice University; and George Bunker, Chairman of the Art Department at the University of Houston. The three finalists will each receive commissions to produce maquettes of their award winning designs. These maquettes will be exhibited in the West End/Cottage Grove and First and Sixth Wards neighborhoods for review by area residents.

Final approval of the sculpture will rest with the Houston Municipal Arts Commission. Once the Municipal Arts Commission has approved one of the top three designs, the artist will be notified and awarded a commission to execute and install the award winning sculpture.

This competition is open to all artists working in Houston. The Community Development Division will insure that the work of all competitors will be considered equally without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

Persons attending classes on a full-time basis (50% or more time) are ineligible for this competition. There is no entry fee for competitors.

For more information and/or entry blanks and competition rules, please contact:

Ms. Mary Anne Piacentini
Office of the Mayor - Community Development Division
1125 Brazos - Fourth Floor
Houston, Texas 77002
713/ 222-3242 or 222-3146

THE PARISH OF ST. OSWALD - TILE HILL

Vicar: Rev. G. W. Garner

Telephone: 465072

The Vicarage
Jardine Crescent Tile Hill
Coventry CV4 9PL

14th July 1977

Dear Father,

Please find enclosed 2 prints of Mr. Simm's sculpture. And please accept my apologies for the delay in answering your requirements.

Yours faithfully,

Rev. G. W. Garner

xerox copy to each: Dr. John Biggers
Mr. Carroll Simms

MRS. S. M. MC ASHAN
3376 INWOOD DRIVE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77019

Dec 9, 1978

Dear Frank,

Thank you for sending me the
folded pages as a preview of "Black Art
in Houston". The book is a masterpiece,
a reward & recognition to Dr. Biggers
and Her-Simms, two geniuses.

It could never have been published
with such care to detail, fine printing,
substant reproductions, impressive history
and narrative, if you had not been so
personally involved. Your judgement,
experience, diplomacy created a wonderful
tribute to the Art Department of T.C.U.

All our best wishes for your
new life in North Carolina,

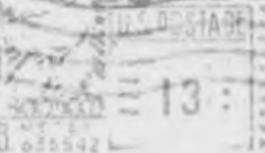
Cordially, Susan Mc Ashan



Anderson Clayton

P. O. Box 2538 Houston, Texas 77001

Mr. Carroll Simms
3861 Blodgett
Houston, Texas 77004





10

Mr Carroll Simms
Art Department
Texas Southern University
Houston Texas 77004

131 W. Kent
Peru, Ind. O.
July the 30th

Dear Carroll,

Your book is magnificent.
I have tried to write for since
your call, but actually, Carroll
I have not been well enough.
I have been going through a
series of tests - Tuesday the
first, is the last, thank' God.

I am enclosing these sheets
of yellow paper to prove
that I have tried! I have
shown you look to many
people and I want to get
some Toledo Blade (Mrs Bruce)
publicity for you, which it
deserves - and possibly a ^{personal} ~~personal~~
appearance. I shall write ~~the~~ Miss
Mc Ashen eventually.

Appreciatively and affectionately
(1912)

mother and her eyes.

Of course, for ten or, more
of this could have happened
with out your wonderful love
mother. You, inherited her

Soft voice, the poetic way of
expressing herself, but more
than that, an inner drive to be
"special", as she is to us.

Idene H. Myers

Mrs. Kenneth Dale Owen
300 Pinewold, Houston, Texas 77056

Oct 29th

Dear Carroll - I have wanted to
thank you for this most exciting book
until I could read it. & I have!
I am so grateful for knowing you better, &
for the references to your saintly mother &
grandfather in Arkansas. I never knew
that your interest was begun with
the functional art of quilt making -
IT'S all very fascinating & also very moving.
How much this must mean to your mother,
whom I remember well.

Have only recently returned

from the dedicatory Mother's Studies
for pottery, + where you must
teach a course an year before
long. I am sorry about your
planned visit during that dedicatory
week, but we were filled to the
brim with ^{unknown} people who had already
booked reservations, + those few
members of my family who were
able to come. Also, the final
touches on the new pottery had to
go on these last few days + I was
weeding, cleaning windows + shorting

Mrs. Kenneth Dale Owen
300 Pinewold, Houston, Texas 77056

Orders - Please come when
we can offer our main
product, which is peace. Let
me know your holiday times
& whether you'll be teaching
summer school.

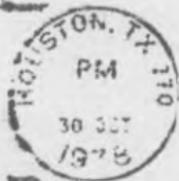
Again, my thanks for this
book, & all it represents in terms
of fulfillment & justice. I share
your justifiable pride.

Gratefully - Lane Owen

Jonah + the Whale is a
strong statement + beautifully
placed. Thank you for the
fine pictures.

Going back to the text as your
early life, I can understand
your deep dependence on a Heavenly
Father. This can be, as in your
testimony, a positive + beautiful
response to the absence of a
earthly father.

Mrs. Kenneth Dale Owen
300 Pinewold, Houston, Texas 77056



Carroll H. Simms

Texas Southern University

Department of ART

Houston 77004

WILLIAM M. McVEY, 18 PEPPER RIDGE ROAD, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44124

8 February 1979

Dear Carrell,

An invitation just came from the mayer of Houston - and so help me if it had been a week sooner, I'd have been in Houston now. Hew glad I am to find you again !! Leza and I have wendered where you were and thought of you many times. So it's just great to know not only where you are but that goes on, and it looks mighty good.

We are septagenarians, but busy as hell. Leza has lost her eyesight, but continues to work (with the help of talking books). I quit teaching 6 or 7 years ago, but am still modelling people. All you younger guys are too smart to do people so so they have to come to someone my age - and the workers my age are few.

I went back to Cranbrook last month, met the new director, who is a public relations type (maybe they need one), and met a few of the folks from our time, like Dick Thomas, Mrs. Sepeshy.

tell me, Carrell, about your Houston project and how you like teaching, whether you're married and how life is. Someday you might look up Frank McGuire, at 550 $\frac{1}{2}$ West Loop (s). He worked for me for a while (never studied, but graduated from Cleve. Inst., lived near) is a nice guy and a good sculpter. I'll tell him about you.

Proud of you, Carrell. Every good wish to you.

Sincerely,

The Old Teach

Thursday 2:30

*Int'l
ternational
Bank Building*

Elliotts

Dear Carroll

Congratulations

I will be with you, in
spirits February fourth.

I am so Proud for you.

Yours

Ethel Elliott

January 31, 1979



University of Houston

Central Campus
Houston, Texas 77004

Department of Art

February 26, 1979

Professor Carroll Simms
Texas Southern University
Art Department
3201 Wheeler Avenue
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Carroll:

What a beautiful gift you brought me!!! What kind and beautiful words -- which I truly did not deserve -- you wrote into that beautiful volume which contains so many fine reproductions of your works. I had no idea that such a lovely volume was in the making. It naturally made me very happy that Donald L. Weismann wrote the introduction since he is an old and good friend of mine, too. The works of John and the works of your students, some of which I fortunately saw at one time or another, are simply beautiful and I am truly delighted with this beautiful book.

If there is something which I regret in respect to my resignation from the chairmanship many years ago and the disassociation with the art acquisitions committee on our campus it is that fact that I have no "official reason" to come over to see you and John. Somehow, I have withdrawn on that little island on which we all live to a certain extent, but mine may just be surrounded with a little bit more water.

With what joy do I recall those cups of coffee in your house, that trip up to the foundry... and the times when I could just come over in order to find out what beautiful things you were doing then. Now to have this important and so very fine book in my hands, with your so very kind words, makes it an even greater treasure to me and my memories even clearer of our past visits.

Let me thank you very, very much for that great gift of yours and let us hope that somewhere, somehow there will come again the time when we can have a cup of coffee together and just sit and reminisce together and maybe even speculate a little bit into the future. With all of my very best wishes and again my expression of gratitude for all of your kindness, I am

Very truly yours,

Peter W. Guenther
Professor of Art History

PWG/igb

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART

MONROE STREET AT SCOTTWOOD AVENUE BOX 1013, TOLEDO, OHIO 43697

ROGER MANDLE, DIRECTOR

April 12, 1979

Mr. Carroll H. Simms
Post Office Box 10
Texas Southern University
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Carroll:

I have just returned from California and have found the beautiful book *Black Art* in Houston which you so kindly sent some time ago.

I am most grateful to you for sending the book and especially touched by your personal inscription. It means a great deal to me.

Since my retirement as Director of this Museum I have been dividing my time between Toledo which we still consider home and California where I am consulting with two museums in Los Angeles. My wife and I both enjoy this very much so far.

I am always glad to know more of your career and appreciate very much the book which you have sent.

Sincerely,



Otto Wittmann
Vice President

OW:pv

✓
*What a great job you and
Mr. Biggs have done. You should be
very proud!*

I'm proud to have the books on Texas Artists
Specialty of The
Jays on your creations.

Mrs. Kenneth Dale Owen
300 Pinewold, Houston, Texas 77056

Sept 24, 79

Dear Linn -

Thank you for
your dear fabric letter +
the enclosures about Clever Mason -
I am taking the letter to new
Harmony for an book store to
order the Shaker photos - I am
indeed grateful.

As a lover of Houston

International Science Center
+ your friend + early patron.
I hope Mrs. Letin is all you
shall need as you enter the
January to the Science Center.

I am also having my secretary
call Rev. Love, the Chaplain's
Director here. To expect your visit.

In haste but with admiration
+ friendship.

Gene Hoyer Owen
(Mrs. Ruth M. Dale)

* MR. SPENCE HAS JUST WRITTEN MRS. OWEN THAT HE CALLED THE LONDON OFFICE OF "ARCHITECTURAL FORUM" - stating they only deal with advertising in London. They suggested we write to the address listed below. Mrs. Word

September 25, 1963

~~"Architectural Forum"
Time and Life Building
Rockefeller Center
New York-2, New York~~

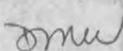
Gentlemen:

Mrs. Kenneth D. Owen of Houston has been in correspondence with Sir Basil Spence of London pertaining to obtaining an issue or a photostatic reproduction of the page containing a picture of a figure of Christ at St. Chad's at Tile Hill, Coventry.

This figure was sculptured by Carroll Simms, the head of the Sculpture Department of Texas Southern University for Negroes in Houston; and a copy of this would be of great advantage to him in obtaining future commissions and serve as a record of one of the great privileges of his career.

If either an issue or a photostatic reproduction is available, will you please be so kind as to send it to him at the following address: 3707 Wheeler, Houston, Texas. Any of your valued cooperation will be extremely appreciated.

Sincerely,



(Mrs) Dorothy M. Word, Sec.

MRS. KENNETH D. OWEN
300 Pinewold Lane
Houston, Texas 77027

B.E.E. Carroll Simms

12th November, 1968.

Oba Adetoyese Laoye II,
The Timi of Ede,
Ede.

Kabiyesi,

I am ashamed that I and my wife have not come to visit you since our last visit to the palace in 1966. At that time, the unfortunate crisis into which our nation had been plunged was beginning to gather some force, and I, on the other hand, was trying to resettle after the exodus from the East.

The purpose of this letter, however, is to introduce to you Mr. Carroll H. Simms, an American Sculptor of African origin. He is a lecturer at the Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas, U.S.A. There is a spirit of rediscovery of traditional African cultures among the black people of America. The general feeling is that such rediscovery will lead to a positive identity of our kith and kin who have been separated from Africa for centuries. One of the most involved in this process of rediscovery is Mr. Carroll Simms who is in Nigeria on a 9-month scholarship to study at first hand and from Nigerians themselves outside the sphere of the University and written texts, the truly traditional sculptures of Ife and Benin.

Your Excellency will find Mr. Simms a sensitive and highly perceptive creative worker; as well as someone who has genuinely identified himself with Africans and Africa.

Please help introduce Mr. Simms to all traditional artists who can be of the greatest help to him.

Emi ni owo yin ni toto,

Dr. Akinsola Akiwojo,
Senior Research Fellow.



The Senate of
The State of Texas
Austin 78711

GENE JONES
Harris & Fort Bend Counties
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711

February 8, 1980

Professor Carroll Simms
Texas Southern University
3201 Wheeler
Houston, Texas 77004

Dear Carroll:

I was happy to read of the acceptance of your work
"Guitar Solo" to be displayed in this city's Music
Hall.

Additional pleasure gained when I learned that your
colleague Professor John T. Biggers' mural was also
accepted by the City Council.

I would like to add my congratulations to the many
others you have received and look forward to viewing
your work in the near future.

If ever I may be of assistance to you, please do not
hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,

Gene
Gene Jones

GJ:cs