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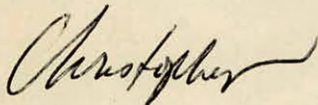
Juan Pablo Izquierdo  
c/o Carnegie Mellon University  
College of Fine Arts, Department of Music  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dear Maestro Izquierdo,

I have been meaning to write for quite some time, most recently to congratulate you on the April 13 performance of the Carnegie Mellon Philharmonic. Both the Mahler and Milhaud were incredible - the orchestra did not sound like a "student orchestra", but a strong, professional force lead by master. Bravissimo!

I hope your year has been a good one. I am doing well; gradually putting back the pieces of my life here in Pittsburgh. Lionel Party and The Juilliard School were wonderful - the courses were difficult but very good, and Lionel is a great teacher and performer. My scholarship and student loan covered tuition at The School, but living expenses had to be earned "as I went". I explored many options, and I have many long stories, but I simply could not earn enough to continue AND devote the necessary time to my studies, so I came back to Pittsburgh. I thought of you and of your work with Bernstein there often. Someday, perhaps I can return.

Best wishes and love to you and your family.



Christopher Connell