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December 22 1974

Satyajit Ray
1/1 Bishop Lefroy Rd
Flat 9
Calcutta 20
INDIA

Dear Mr. Ray:

Your letter also took quite a time to reach me, so I wonder if it is really possible to continue communication by mail. Can you give me your phone number? You have called me once or twice but I suddenly realize that I do not have your phone number?

We could certainly arrange a compact and profitable tour for you in mostly West Coast Universities in April or May, if you can let me know very soon a definite period when you could come over. And if *DISTANT THUNDER* or one of the films you've made since would be available, somehow, to accompany you. As far as I know, *CINEMA 5* in New York still has not received material on *DISTANT THUNDER*. Of course, even if one of your very recent films would not be available, we could schedule you to appear with one of your older classics.

But there is another possibility, which might prove less tiring for you, with fewer airports and college hotels to deal with. This would be an arrangement whereby we would invite you, together with other co-sponsoring departments of the University of California at Berkeley, to reside here for 3-4 weeks, either this summer for some kind of special workshop/artist-in-residence situation, or next fall (October or November would be best) for a special Regents' Lecturer appointment which obliges you to give two or three public lectures and to be available for a few seminar discussion periods with interested students -- again over a 3-4 week period. During either of these periods, we would present a number of your films at the Archive: and you could make one or two short trips, if you like, to major Universities on the West Coast for a one-day program of presenting one of your films. But in the most part, you would be in Berkeley, which I think you would enjoy. And either way, in the summer or in the fall, you would make a sufficient amount of money from the basic lecturer or artist-in-residence fee, and from film showings here and one or two elsewhere, to cover your first class round trip ticket Calcutta-SF-Calcutta, your expenses here, and then some. I imagine that we could offer about \$3,000.00 from Berkeley alone: and that we could easily arrange two \$1,000.00 appearances in major Universities within one hours flying time from SF. So at least \$5,000.00 overall -- which surely would leave you with some extra money to take back.

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So let me know if we should speed ahead with the original idea of eight or ten or 12 one night stands around the West during the Spring: or if the second proposal of a 3 or 4 week residence in Berkeley in the summer or fall seems more attractive. In either case, I must get started on the arrangements very, very soon.

Perhaps you could call me collect in early January, if this letter reaches you by then??

With all best wishes for the new year,

Yours Truly,

Tom Luda,

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