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September 23 1974

Satyajit Ray
1/1 Bishop Lefroy Road Flat 9
Calcutta 20, INDIA

Dear Mr. Ray:

The next thing I heard from Lall after the call I cabled you about is enclosed-- a rather ridiculous and insulting letter saying the whole thing is off.

After I cabled you, I checked back with Cinema 5 and they denied having told Lall they'd get a print within a week. They are still waiting for word from Bhattacharyna, and they don't know when it will come.

If you can find out from Bhattacharyna that Cinema 5 will have a print soon, and if you still want to try for a tour as we discussed starting October 30 here, I'd be willing to make a lot of phone calls and try to reconstitute a two week tour from October 30 through mid-November. I think I could probably get about 10 dates in this period at \$1,000.00 guarantee each place (against a % of the receipts at each place, so that if some places have a lot of seats and charge money, and make thousands, you get more. This should bring in enough to cover first class air, and leave you something to take back.

I think DISTANT THUNDER would be important to have as the film for your tour (unless your newer film would be ready).

I would also like to show ABHIJAN here around the time of your visit. In one of your letters to me, you indicated that the NFT screened an unsubtitled original print of ABHIJAN. But I then heard from Ken Wlaschin of the NFT that they had a subtitled print! See enclosed. If this is true, we would be able to borrow it, and show it for the first time in America. We could then have two evening programs with you around the end of October, and aside from the extra opportunities for discussion, etc. this would mean, it would also mean that we could raise more money for you in Berkeley. If we show ABHIJAN (which I plan to do anyway -- at worst, if you decide not to make a try for a reconstituted tour or if DISTANT THUNDER won't come through in time, it could be substituted in the October 30 slot announced in our October calendar as Tentatively Satyajit Ray in Person with DISTANT THUNDER) I would like to show it with your short, THE INNER EYE, which has never shown in this country. Do you know how we could obtain a copy?

Well, I think you should be relieved to be rid of Mr. Lall. I think you would have had a dreadful time on his Canadian tour. We can plug you in to much more live situations, sooner or later.

Which half of K-O-P does the Indian producer have with subtitled?

Hope to hear from you, by phone or letter, soon. All Best Regards,