

Letter from Heinz Henghes to Ezra Pound

10.5.1937

Milano

From a series of letters to Pound

www.henghes.org

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Source:

Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

10. 5. 37. XV.

Dear E.P.

1 I gather you are not interested to have statue. Sorry. If the reason is - not knowing can you live with it - I say why not try. If its-principle of keeping sculpture in house-flat etc. I say it doesn't seem to matter where or how a statue spends a minute part of its life-span. Even under ground a thousand years, it'll pop up again. So - if you want to do me a favor - change your mind & if you want to do me another one - let me know about it. Between now & the 25th will do.

2 Got idea of putting something in public place alright. Rapallo or elsewhere. But its not up to me to offer my own things to a city. Besides they'd want something big & important which would cost me money I ain't got. Besides they'd never accept anything decent anyway - or do you think Rapallo is likely to be the 1st city in the world to give space to a really good, modern sculpture?

3 Switzerland because its summer & there's a world exhib. in Paris. Was in Paris 3 weeks ago for 5 days. Prices are fantastic specially rents. Am exhibiting with the Union des Artistes Modernes at exhib. internationale (if Hitlerland ever gives me permission to do so which I doubt.) Am half contracted for exhib. in Zurich next winter. Going to Paris immediately after winter. Spoke

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to Brancusi while in Paris. Very pessimistic. That wouldn't stop me - but also spoke to several galleries & was so repelled by their disgusting commercial attitude that I felt it best to wait until I could have them a little more by the proverbial than I can now - I still have to depend on what I can sell to innocent bystanders. Paris galleries refusing to accept exhibitions more than 6 months ahead, because we don't know what might happen politically.

Saw Kandinsky - very nice & intelligent - told me his paintings sold everywhere except Paris. So until I get to where I can live in Paris & sell elsewhere I think I'll wait. Starving wastes so much of your time. I know from experience, Paris, New York & elsewhere & I have things to get off my chest first by translating them into nice stone blocks.

4. (Very important.) Don't call me "Hengis" The monicker is H*E*N*G*H*E*S.

Hope to get O.K. on sculpture - but will keep it for you - if not.

Sincerely

V/7

V. Borgonuovo 7.

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