

7 West St.

W. Sydney

22/6/40.

My dear Paul:

Your delighteful letter and enclosure
was most welcome - My wife is
very angry with me (and rightly)
because I have not yet thanked you
- as I do now - for your splendid
letter on my behalf to Fisher.
I do hope they'll take the work.
What a reputation you have! - I
thought mine was fairly big - but
you Jack me out completely =
If we ever meet (at the for grant)
I shall insist on having the Bokowsky
Sonata. I have never yet heard it
played in its entirety. Fragments
from the master himself - some
of the middle part by Gershwins
and a few pages from

Pachman, who had not the
patience to work it all through.
The 3rd Improvptⁿ is beautiful, but
I would hardly add it to my list.
I am rather prejudiced against this
particular form - which being used
in nearly all his light pieces -
I mean the third section an exact
replica of the first. When Godowsky
used this form he always varied
the third part with some exquisite
little contrapuntal change - or
something or other - lovely.
Appropos of the Dale Sonata - Just
about the time Dale was with you
my wife went in for Mrs L. A. B
Egan. She was examined by
Dale himself at his house, and
played the variations from his
Sonata. She passed with

3
Flying colours and Dale played
most of his work to her after the
exam. His new plays now.

Send me, my dear friend, one
of his work. Get it, if you
possibly can. You will be
amazed.

Now I want to talk about that
Lobonky Mass which I sent you.
It has twice been suggested by
musicians that this Mass is too
perfect to be an original and
is probably the work of a copyist.
If this idea has occurred to you,
please disabuse your mind of it.
This Mass was completed in my
flat and in my presence, and
I remember the occasion as if it
were yesterday: It was on one

4

of those evenings which the master had invited me to spend with him. He was to call for me at my flat at 7 pm but he arrived at 6.30 instead, as he wanted to finish off the dros. He put in 3 or 4 bars and nearly all the figning and then handed it to me.

I remember this evening (one of hundreds we spent together) for several reasons.

Some idiot had advised him to try a Greek restaurant in Soho, and we were both nearly poisoned.

After the first course (which, I remember consisted of cold herrings smeared with strawberry jam!) he said in his gruff voice, "not so pleasant, eh?" My reply which served to amuse him, and which he was always quoting, was

"As far as I am concerned, the only
question is how soon I am going
to be sick" he finished up at the
Piccadilly Grill.

Now the reason for all this is as
follows.

You have done, and are doing more
than anyone living for the memory
of this great and beloved genius,
and I feel that you should possess
this little MS.

Please accept it with my love -

your friend.

Archie Robertson -

A lovely poem - I did see it
before.

Yours. Yours ever good to us.