

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM

June 16th 1951

UENO PARK,
TOKYO, JAPAN

Prof. Wallace S. Baldinger
School of Architecture and Allied Arts
University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon

Dear Professor Baldinger:

I owe you a thousand and one apologies for this delay in writing to you. My days in San Francisco, after leaving you, were consumed in writing a report to Washington, D.C. and I was able to accomplish only a small portion of work I planned on board the ship on way home due mainly to the unpleasant weather we encountered. When I got home I wanted to ascertain a few things in order to give you a definite answer to the tempting proposition you made to me.

My wife was delighted with the idea. She is anxious to teach Chanoyu and ikebana. Miss Hamada, my wife's pupil in Chanoyu and an able teacher in ikebana, wanted to come along to be a companion and assistant to my wife. I spoke about it to the Director, who thought the plan could be worked out satisfactorily.

But there are some work I got to do meanwhile: some important translations and the writing of English notes for the Shosoin Catalogue Vol XVI. Besides, my London publisher wants me to prepare a book on ikebana. And I want some time for study to further prepare myself for teaching, etc. etc. The more I think of it, the more I feel that it is too much to plan for. I have decided to wait for another chance, and to apply myself arduously to my work and study so as to be ready when another opportunity comes.

When I got to Berkeley soon after I left Eugene, I was invited to give a course of lectures in the First Summer Session at the University of California. I was very much tempted to accept the invitation, but I had to decline it as there were a few things which required my immediate attention.

I want to thank you most heartily for the great kindness you have shown me and my colleagues when we visited Eugene. Such a reception! Such a climax in our tour, I shall never forget it. Thank you for the envelop you handed to me just before we parted. With gratitude I accepted it and with it I acquired nice things which gladdened the hearts of those dear to me.

Again with thanks,

Sincerely,

Jiro Hamada

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My wife was delighted with the idea. She is anxious to teach Ochanov and Ikebana. My wife's pupil in Oregon and an able teacher in Ikebana, wanted to come along to be a companion and assistant to my wife. I spoke about it to the Director, who thought the plan could be worked out satisfactorily.

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W. S. Baldinger

