



de eu
e M/ants

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

28 August 1984

Dear Sir Hugh,

When you and your colleagues came to see me about the Appeal on 19 June, I undertook to reflect further on your request for an additional Government contribution. I am sorry not to have come back to you on this before now.

I warmly support the objectives of the Appeal. The Royal Academy has a magnificent record in presenting exhibitions of the highest quality, and it is important that you should bring the building to a standard which enables you to maintain and enhance that record in future.

I know that you are trying hard to raise funds from the private sector, and that you believe that even a modest further contribution from the Government would encourage more donations.

My colleagues and I are willing to back that belief. We cannot provide an additional contribution this year, since the arts budget is already fully committed and we could only find money for your Appeal by taking it away from other institutions which have already been promised it. But we shall be ready to make a further contribution of £250,000 in 1985-86, thus doubling the amount we provided two years ago.

At the same time I hope that the Royal Academy will step up its own efforts to raise funds for the building part of the Appeal, both from the private sector and any other possible sources such as the Historic Buildings and

WKC

Monuments Commission, and our further contribution is promised on that understanding. I should be grateful if you could keep Grey Gowrie in touch with your progress.

Warm regards.

Yours sincerely

Raymond Dichte

Sir Hugh Casson, KCVO



ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS,
PICCADILLY, LONDON, W1V 0DS

Telephone: 01-734 9052
Cables: Royacad. London

pa
2/5
4/9

CF

PPS

Prime Minister (2)

August 31st, 1984

Dear Prime Minister

mt

I write to thank you for your most encouraging letter of August 28th. We are indeed grateful for so quick and generous a response to our problem. John Raisman, the Chairman of our Appeal Committee, will be told as soon as he returns from holiday and I will report the contents of your letter in confidence to our Council when it meets on October 2nd. We will be in touch during the next week with Grey Gowrie to decide upon the most convenient and appropriate time for some public announcement to be made. Meanwhile, we are treating the matter as confidential.

Yours sincerely & gratefully

I hope you

Sir Hugh Casson
President

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London. SW1



I hope you had a good Swiss holiday.

Arts + Amenities June 1984

Royal Academy Appeal