MILTON BABBITT

Dear Bobby and Lucy,

It has been so long, and yet so short, since the Juilliard String Quartet played the complete string quartets of Bartók at Times Hall (!) with Shostakovich in the audience surrounded by bodyguards, and my program notes, without bodyguards. Since that time, the only fixed point has been you, and, of course, Lucy.

We have shared the colleagueship of so many extraordinary musicians, the transformation of the Juilliard School, and—even—the transformation of ourselves.

I miss, almost as much as our many formal collaborations, our informal encounters at Juilliard and wherever the trade winds blew us, and I shall treasure those performances that have so shaped our listening to and writing of chamber music.

With all my love and professional regard,

