ANTON NEL

Dear Bobby and Lucy:

I am so happy that I was asked to contribute to your commemorative book, since I feel that I never can express enough how important the two of you have been in shaping my life as it is now.

In 1967 I was a newcomer to the country—with some talent and a lot of hope—really needing someone/something to give me a push in the proper direction. Enter the two of you and the Naumburg Foundation, and suddenly, thanks to you, I'm leading a wonderfully balanced life in music I never thought was possible!

Bobby, I will always remember the special interest you took in my piano playing. The times I coached with you before my New York recitals were among the greatest and most insightful lessons I ever had.

I will also forever cherish the times we played together. Our concerts, especially those with the Bartók Sonatas, were among the highlights of my musical life. I learned so much from you over the years, and to this day, there is still a musical fire that burns within you that inspires us all.

Again, thank you for all you've done for us, and for music.

Love,

