LEON BOTSTEIN

In honor of Robert Mann:

There are few authentic legends in any generation, in any endeavor. In our corner of the music world, Robert Mann is justly one of those legends. In an age when performance has been all too frequently defined by an irrelevant theatricality or an obsession with athleticism, Robert has upheld the idea of musicianship with his consummate sense of drama and elegant refinement as a violinist.

His leadership of the Juilliard String Quartet and the inspiration and guidance he has bestowed on generations of musicians has helped protect the field of chamber music from the worst of Hollywood influence, not that the string quartet could ever be so glamorous.

Robert is a man who is more than a violinist. He is an artist for whom repertoire new and old is a matter of life and death, an artist for whom the making of music is the making of meaning that can transform the lives of composers, listeners, and fellow performers.

May his influence spread and the humanist values of his art flourish. With deep admiration and appreciation, I am,

Sincerely,

