

November 22, 1957

Mrs. Louise T. Lawson
365 Hillside Avenue
Piedmont, California

Dear Mrw. Lawson,

Thank you for your letter of some days ago. I am sorry I am so long in answering. Also, thank you for the membership list which I received by mail some time ago.

As for the information which you seek, I was thinking that a demonstration of the symbolisms of oriental art in modern American homes and the authentic crafts contributing to contemporary decor would be a rather interesting subject matter. I could then demonstrate with brush and ink on the evolution of design symbols and explain their meaning, and show by illustration and samples how they are expressed in the decorative crafts.

If you think this would not be suitable, and can suggest a better topic, I could do so, by showing some films on shopping in Japan, or a crafts film such as woodworking and carpentering, or combine these. How much time would you like to devote to this lecture end of the program?

Our business was established soon after the last war ended, and has been the first to introduce contemporary crafts of Japan, with emphasis on folk art and folk pottery.

We have been awarded 32 Good Design Awards from the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and numerous awards and recognitions of merit from various museums and state art exhibition merit citations.

We import our things after they are designed and made by our own Japanese groups of craftsmen, or designed in San Francisco and made up over there. This necessitates our frequent trips to Japan, and once in three years, we take small groups with us to visit these groups of craftsmen, do sightseeing, shopping, and enjoy the various eating houses and theaters with those of our clientele who wish for a different kind of vacation trip to the Orient.

If there is anything else you would like to know, please phone me, and I am usually now back at my shop daily. Recently I have been awfully busy with visiting Japanese dignitaries.

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I hope this answers mostly all your questions, and am certainly looking forward to seeing your group and talking to them. Please let me know whether you wish a film, and whether you would rather that I talk about something else.

Would you also please phone me about two or three days in advance to tell me the exact time and location?

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