

**The original documents are located in Box 47, folder “President - Medals Medal of Freedom - Rubinstein, Artur (1)” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rubinstein  
22 Square L'Avenue Foch  
80 Avenue Foch  
Paris 75116 France

Elena (Medical School at Columbia)  
Ava  
Johnny (acting)  
Judy (Johnny's wife)

Secretary:

Mrs. J. N. Clemans  
The Drake Hotel  
Park Avenue at 56th Street  
New York, New York 10022

(212) 421-0900



Medal of  
Freedom

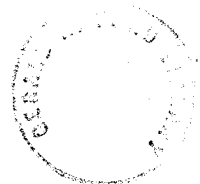
Monday 2/9/76

2:45 Mrs. Buchen said she has just come from a big luncheon with Beverly Sills and a large group of people.

One of the men came up and said that Artur Rubenstein will be 90 on March 6th<sup>??</sup>. He has received honors from governments all over the world. Has been an American citizen since the 40's and is so devoted and loyal to this country. They feel it would be a wonderful thing if the President could award him the Medal of Freedom.

Mrs. Buchen feels we should contact whoever is in charge of these medals and recommend to them that Rubenstein be given the Medal of Freedom on his 90th birthday.

Thought perhaps we could also get word to Mrs. Ford and work it from both sides of the White House...the President's team and the First Lady's team.



*Presidential  
Medal of Freedom*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 10, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DICK CHENEY  
ROBERT HARTMANN  
JACK MARSH

FROM:

PHIL BUCHEN

*P.W.B.*

SUBJECT:

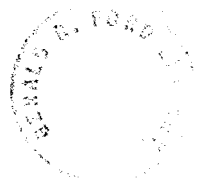
Award of Presidential Medal  
of Freedom to Artur Rubinstein

I have been asked to propose Artur Rubinstein as a candidate for the above award. As you may know, he has had a long and spectacular career as a pianist. He was born in Poland on January 28, 1886, and became an American citizen in 1946. He has earned a worldwide reputation and has been the recipient of numerous decorations from other countries including the Commander of the Legion of Honor (France); Officer of the Order of Santiago (Portugal); Cross of Alfonso XII (Spain); Commander of the Crown and Officer, Order of Leopold I (Belgium); Polonia Restituta (Poland); and Commander of the Chilean Republic.

He has given concerts to raise money for many worthy causes and he undertook a concert tour of the Soviet Union in 1964 as part of the U. S.-Soviet Cultural Exchange Program.

Mr. Rubinstein is scheduled to be in Washington on March 6 which might offer a suitable occasion for the award of the medal, if we can determine well in advance of that time that he should receive one.

On the general subject of awarding this medal, I understand that the proposed Executive Order to



establish an advisory committee to screen suggestions is still being long delayed after many months. Also, in that connection, there have been some proposals pending to honor a group of Americans with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in connection with the celebration for our Bicentennial year and to do so on or close to July 4. The thought was to select people who have made the most distinctive contributions in the arts, sciences and community endeavors at which time we could include others.

In any event, I urge prompt concurrence in the Rubinstein suggestion either by itself or in connection with a Bicentennial awards ceremony.

cc: Robin West

11  
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NEW YORK

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**THE H. W. WILSON COMPANY**

**NEW YORK, N. Y.**

## Rubinstein Signs New Disk Contract

Artur Rubinstein has signed a new five-year recording contract with RCA Records.

The 89-year-old pianist, who has just finished re-recording all five Beethoven concertos, has been an RCA artist since 1940; his records released on RCA in this country in the nineteen-thirties were made by the Gramophone Company, Ltd., of Britain. Mr. Rubinstein is the top best-selling classical pianist on records, with over eight million disks sold.

Give A Happy Time Via  
The Fresh Air Fund



DECEMBER 12, 1975

EXHIBIT: "THE EUROPEAN VISION OF AMERICA" (LAY)  
(INSERTS IN TAPE LIBRARY)

BRIEF ENCOUNTER WITH ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN (NELSON)  
(VOICED PIECE AND INSERTS IN TAPE LIBRARY)

NOTE TO EDITORS: SPOTLIGHT NO. 65 SEGMENT "CHINESE  
ART IN THE 18TH CENTURY" (BICENTENNIAL PROGRAM)  
WILL APPEAR IN SPOTLIGHT NO. 66 AS "THE ART OF ASIA  
IN THE 18TH CENTURY"

ANNCR: AND NOW, THE VOICE OF AMERICA PRESENTS SPOTLIGHT ...  
A WEEKLY PROGRAM OF NEWS AND VIEWS ON PEOPLE AND  
EVENTS IN THE WORLD OF ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT. YOUR  
HOST IS \_\_\_\_\_

NARR: TODAY, WE TAKE YOU FIRST TO THE NATIONAL GALLERY IN  
WASHINGTON, D.C. FOR THE OPENING OF THIS INSTITUTION'S  
FIRST BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION WHICH GIVES AMERICANS A  
UNIQUE VIEW OF THEMSELVES AS SEEN THROUGH THE EYES  
OF OTHERS. THEN, FROM NEW YORK, WE HAVE AN ACCOUNT  
OF A MEETING WITH THE ALMOST AGELESS, ALMOST LEGENDARY,  
INTERNATIONAL VIRTUOSO OF THE PIANO, ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN.

THE EUROPEAN VISION OF AMERICA (LAY) 3-2498

NARR: THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART IN WASHINGTON, D.C. HAS  
OPENED ITS BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION WITH AN EXHIBITION  
THAT ILLUSTRATES THE STORY OF AMERICA -- BUT NOT  
THE WAY AMERICANS HAVE SEEN IT. IT IS CALLED "THE  
EUROPEAN VISION OF AMERICA" AND TRACES, THROUGH FIVE  
CENTURIES, THE WAY EUROPEANS HAVE SEEN AND DEPICTED  
THIS CONTINENT AND ITS INHABITANTS.



VOICE:  
(CONT)

THIS EXHIBITION DOES NOT TELL US MUCH ABOUT THE REALITIES OF AMERICAN HISTORY BUT AS A MIRROR OF EUROPEAN ATTITUDES IT DEMONSTRATES, IN A WEALTH OF STRIKING AND DRAMATIC IMAGES, MANY OF THE REALITIES THAT INFLUENCED THE FLUCTUATING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE OLD WORLD AND THE NEW.

AFTER ITS SHOWING AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY IN WASHINGTON, "THE EUROPEAN VISION OF AMERICA" WILL BE SEEN AT THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART AND IN THE GRAND PALAIS IN PARIS.

X X X X

BRIEF ENCOUNTER WITH ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN (NELSON) 3-2498

NARR: "GREAT PERFORMANCES," A TELEVISION SERIES PRESENTING THE BEST IN SERIOUS MUSIC, DRAMA AND THE DANCE, WILL FOCUS ON THE ARTISTRY OF PIANIST ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN IN A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM. RECENTLY MISTER RUBINSTEIN, TOGETHER WITH A SMALL GROUP OF FRIENDS AND REPORTERS, WATCHED A PREVIEW OF THE BROADCAST. VOA'S HERBERT NELSON ATTENDED THE SCREENING AND HERE IS HIS STORY...

VOICE: AMAZING!- THIS WORD, FOLLOWED BY AN EXCLAMATION MARK, BEST DESCRIBES ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN, THE ARTIST AND THE MAN. WATCHING HIM AT THE PIANO AS THE CAMERA MOVES IN FOR A CLOSE-UP OF HIS HANDS GETTING READY TO TOUCH THE KEYS - ONE WONDERS HOW THESE WRINKLED, ALMOST ARTHRITIC-LOOKING, HANDS CAN GET A SINGLE TONE OUT OF THE INSTRUMENT. BUT THEN HE STARTS PLAYING AND HIS FINGERS DANCE ACROSS THE KEYBOARD WITH AN ELAN THAT SEEMS AGELESS. THERE'S BOTH POWER AND GENTLENESS IN THESE



VOICE: <sup>D</sup><sub>P</sub>  
(CONT) <sub>T</sub>

HANDS TO MAKE THE CHORDS RESPOND ACCORDINGLY. / AMAZING!  
IT'S THE ONE WORD THAT COMES TO MIND. AND THIS REACTION  
WAS SHARED BY HOWARD TAUDMAN, THE FORMER MUSIC CRITIC  
OF THE NEW YORK TIMES AND A LONG-TIME FRIEND OF THE  
PIANIST...

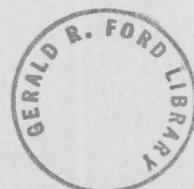
TAPE: CUT SIX -- TAUDMAN

"TO ME IT'S REMARKABLE THAT A MAN OF HIS AGE NOT ONLY  
CAN HANDLE THE PROBLEMS OF THE PIANO TECHNICALLY BUT GETS  
DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO THE HEART OF THE MUSIC. HE  
FEELS - CLOSE TO NINETY - THAT HE STILL IS LEARNING --  
AND I THINK THAT'S REMARKABLE."

VOICE: AS A MATTER OF FACT, ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN - LIKE SO MANY  
GREAT ARTISTS - IS SELDOM TOTALLY SATISFIED WITH HIS  
PLAYING. AFTER A PERFORMANCE OR A RECORDING SESSION  
HE OFTEN COMPLAINS: "I COULD HAVE PLAYED THIS PASSAGE  
BETTER, OR DONE THAT CADENCE MORE SWIFLY." AND BACK HE  
GOES TO HIS STUDIO TO REHEARSE OR, AS HE CALLS IT, TO  
LEARN. AND WHEN HE PREPARES A CONCERT HE CONTINUES TO  
STUDY HOW TO APPROACH MOST FAITHFULLY EACH PARTICULAR  
PIECE OF MUSIC. REFERRING TO THAT PROCESS HE TOLD ME...

TAPE: CUT SEVEN -- RUBINSTEIN:

"I COMPARE ALWAYS OUR LIVES A LITTLE BIT TO THE LIVES OF  
PAINTERS. IF YOU ASK FOR YOUR PORTRAIT BEING PAINTED BY  
TEN FAMOUS PAINTERS, YOUR FACE WILL BE DIFFERENT, AND  
THEY WILL SWEAR THAT THEY CAN SEE YOU ONLY IN THEIR OWN  
WAY. THAT HAPPENS TO, LET'S SAY, TEN PIANISTS WHO  
HAVE TO PLAY THE SAME BEETHOVEN SONATA. THE SONATA  
SPEAKS TO US DIFFERENTLY. I RECEIVE THE MESSAGE FROM  
THE BEETHOVEN SONATA DIFFERENTLY THAN MISTER HOROWITZ  
OR MISTER SERKIN OR MISTER RICHTER. YOU SEE, MY  
COMPARISON IS PRETTY GOOD."



VOICE: WE WERE ALL SITTING TOGETHER IN A SMALL BANQUET ROOM OF A HOTEL IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN. EACH OF US - WITH A DRINK OR A CUP OF COFFEE IN HAND - WAS WATCHING - TOGETHER WITH MISTER RUBINSTEIN - A PREVIEW OF HIS CHRISTMAS EVE SPECIAL ON CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION. WE WATCHED HIM PLAY SCHUBERT'S "IMPROMPTU NUMBER FOUR," BRAHMS' "INTERMEZZO NUMBER TWO," AND TWO WORKS OF HIS FAVORITE COMPOSER, CHOPIN: THE "SCHERZO IN B-FLAT MINOR" AND THE "CONCERTO FOR PIANO AND ORCHESTRA IN F-MINOR." HERE IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE PARTS FROM THE CONCERTO, THE SOFT, MELODIOUS ENDING OF THE FIRST MOVEMENT...

TAPE: CUT EIGHT -- MUSIC: ENDING FIRST MOVEMENT PIANO CONCERTO F-MINOR -- TIME: 24:00 FADE AT WILL.

VOICE: EVERYONE APPLAUDED, AND MISTER RUBINSTEIN THANKED US BY SAYING HOW GREAT IT WAS TO BE APPLAUDED WHILE JUST SITTING THERE AND DOING NOTHING BUT WATCHING HIS OWN PERFORMANCE. FROM THAT MOMENT ON THIS AMAZING MAN WOULD TALK, TELL STORIES AND NOT GET TIRED ANSWERING A BARRAGE OF QUESTIONS. TO CRITIC HOWARD TAUBMAN THIS WAS NOTHING NEW AND NOTHING ASTONISHING. HE HAD EXPERIENCED MANY SIMILAR OCCASIONS. AND HE TOLD ME ABOUT ONE OF THEM. SEVERAL YEARS AGO ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN WAS INVITED TO GIVE A MIDNIGHT CONCERT AT SOME FESTIVE GATHERING HERE IN NEW YORK...

TAPE: CUT NINE -- TAUBMAN:

"HE SAT DOWN AT THE PIANO AND PLAYED - PLAYED BRILLIANTLY FOR MAYBE AN HOUR. BY THIS TIME IT WAS ONE OR TWO IN THE MORNING. THEN HE AND I AND A SMALL GROUP OF FRIENDS WENT TO A VERY NICE RESTAURANT AND SAT THERE UNTIL DAWN, AND HE HELD THE FLOOR TELLING STORIES. AT THAT POINT HE WAS A YOUNG FELLOW IN HIS SEVENTIES."



VOICE: WELL, NOW ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN IS A YOUNG FELLOW OF EIGHTY-NINE, AND NOTHING IN HIS IN-BORN EXUBERANCE AND LOVE OF LIFE SEEMS TO HAVE CHANGED. HE IS GRATEFUL FOR EVERYTHING HE HAS FOUND IN THIS WORLD AND WITHIN HIMSELF...

TAPE: CUT TEN -- RUBINSTEIN:

"WHO CAN TAKE AWAY FROM YOU YOUR FEELINGS, YOUR LOVE, YOUR IMAGINATION? WHO CAN TAKE IT AWAY FROM YOU" AND THEN THERE ARE THE FLOWERS - AND THE WOMEN FOR THE MEN, AND THE MEN FOR THE WOMEN - AND THERE'S MUSIC, POETRY, BOOKS - AND THE BEST FRIENDS I HAVE ARE BOOKS - YOU KNOW."

VOICE: ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN PROBABLY CAN CONVINCE EVEN THE POOREST SOUL THAT LIFE IS JUST A BOWL OF CHERRIES. HIS KIND OF MUSIC-MAKING CERTAINLY CAN ACCOMPLISH THAT - AT LEAST FOR THE DURATION OF THE CONCERT. AND HIS ENTHUSIASTIC PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE CAN PROVE QUITE CONTAGIOUS WHEN HE TELLS YOU...

TAPE: CUT ELEVEN -- RUBINSTEIN:

"YOU MUST GRAB EVERYTHING BY THE HAIR AND ENJOY IT."

VOICE: I CERTAINLY DID ENJOY EVERY MOMENT OF MY BRIEF ENCOUNTER WITH ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN.

ANNCR: AND THAT BRINGS TO AN END OUR SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS FOR TODAY. LISTEN AGAIN (NEXT WEEK SAME TIME) WHEN THE VOICE OF AMERICA WILL PRESENT ANOTHER IN THIS SERIES OF NEWS AND VIEWS ON PEOPLE AND EVENTS IN THE WORLD OF ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT. THIS IS \_\_\_\_\_

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RC/PY/PBM



# Flowery and Forgetful, Lodz Cheers Rubinstein

By HENRI RAMM

Special to The New York Times

NEW YORK TIMES JUN 1  
LODZ, Poland, May 30—Arthur Rubinstein returned in triumph tonight to the grimy textile town where he was born more than 88 years ago and where he gave his first concert shortly thereafter, before he was 8.

The great pianist came to help the Lodz Philharmonic celebrate its founding 60 years ago, when he was already a virtuoso celebrated on several continents.

"Two of my uncles were on the first board of this orchestra," he said in a reflective

toward the public in embracing gestures.

He sat down again at the piano and, speaking in Polish, said what they wanted to hear: "I have been asked to play Chopin's 'Polonaise.'" There was no need to specify which of the many Polonaises he would dedicate to the occasion. It had to be the "Grand Polonaise," which in this intensely national-minded country expresses love of Poland even more than does the national anthem.

Sentiment for Town



PAGE 4  
70346  
L.A. Times  
AR

JANUARY 26, 1975

# Happiness Is . . . Artur Rubinstein at 87, 88 or 89

BY MARTIN BERNHEIMER

● "I am the happiest man I ever met in my life," beams Artur Rubinstein.

It is a sobering thought. Rubinstein, after all, has been meeting people all over the world, for 89 years. And most of the people with whom he has come into contact have been happy. Admittedly, they may not have felt that way before the encounter, but it is diffi-

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*L.A. Zine*

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Rubinstein the idol is, of course, bigger than life-size, but Rubinstein the man, as revealed by Rubinstein in a British TV documentary, is capable of a charming self-mockery.

## Music

# Happiness Is ... Rubinstein at 87, 88 or 89

*Continued from First Page*

courtesy of videotape. Accompanying Rubinstein on this visit was a representative of the International Piano-Master Competition held in Jerusalem for the first

agreed to come and talk to the students between concerts.

Ambassador, educational wing of the Worldwide Church of God, is not exactly a mecca of advanced mu-

just an antenna? He explains why no two people play the same music the same way. (No two bees make the same honey in the comb. You know why? Because each bee likes different flowers.)

# Rubinstein: A Focus on a Master

By Paul Hume

Artur Rubinstein has long had a special place in the world of musical performance. But how many people know him as a mimic of extraordinary talents, a man whose facial gestures rank

known love of women, wine and fine foods, Rubinstein has always loved travel. The film takes him from Isfahan to Persepolis, to Paris where he had several homes, to Brooklyn and to Central Park, to Beverly Hills, and to Jerusalem (and a troupe

To music students in Jerusalem he says, "I once adored Wagner. It was a kind of disease, like Wagneritis. I played it all the time on the piano, went to dinner with Wagnerian singers, went to every perform-

caust of World War II, Rubinstein cannot speak. Twice his mouth opens, but no words come out. Finally, with a soundless "Allons," he turns and walks away slowly. "Over 100 of my relatives were killed in those

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# About New York

The Happiest Man in the World

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By JOHN CORRY

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"I only regret that it is so late in the day," Arthur ~~Robinson~~ was saying, although he did not sound truly regretful at all. "Ah, 87—a large number," he said. "I should respond to it." He was talking about his 87th birthday, which was on Mon-

and beautiful women. He said that when he was 30, a singer introduced him to cigars and that because they were very fine cigars, he has never gotten over it. "It was like Chopin, like Brahms, a revelation," he said.

# Rubinstein the Actor

Newhouse News Service

NEW YORK — Someone once asked John Rubinstein, the young star of Broadway's hit musical "Pippin," how it felt "to have a genius for a father." His answer was: "How should I know? He's the only father I've ever had."

WSN

WORLD FAMOUS pianist Artur (Rubinstein), who started his own career at six in Warsaw, and was a soloist with the Berlin Symphony Orchestra at 13, wanted his son to be a conductor. (An older son, John says, "to the family shame, is a stock broker.") In the fifth grade, John decided he wanted to be an actor. His father pleaded: "Go to the conservatory first. Then if you want, be an actor."

1/20/74  
"Of course, I naturally didn't take father's advice," said the 27-year-old actor. "I did start taking piano lessons at four and continued to until I was 16. Then I up and quit. Now

'A Kid Who Can Write Music.' "

DESPITE HIS semi-abandonment of that endeavor, John Rubinstein is still "a kid who can write music." He and a friend, Tim McIntire, wrote the score for the Robert Redford film, "Jeremiah Johnson," and also for the new Dennis Hopper movie, "Kid Blue." The Winnipeg Ballet has commissioned him to write a ballet score, and he is also responsible for the musical score for the film, "The Candidate," which also starred Redford.

"Music plays an important part in my life," said the actor, whose current show at the Imperial Theater here recently passed its 500th performance. "But I guess I was determined not to be a pianist ... or a conductor either, for that matter. I feel my father should have gotten me out of the piano into something else. But it seems to have worked out very well. Until 'Pippin'

## Critics' Choice



Continued From G-1

### Etcetera



The Ice Capades — continuation. That great, corny, colorful American tradition, glides into the Capital Centre Tuesday for 18 performances through Feb. 3.

When spring comes, will there be gasoline? Never mind. The show goes on, starting Saturday at 1 p.m., when the Washington Recreational Vehicle, Sports, Camping & Travel Show opens in the National Guard Armory, for a 9-day run.

### Children

The mysteries of pirouette and pas de deux will be unraveled to 15,000 students as Arthur Mitchell and the Dance Theater of Harlem take over the Ford's Theater stage tomorrow for the next three weeks. Mitchell's joyous dance company and devotion to youngsters have

made his public school sessions a popular tradition.

The American Film Institute starts a new movie series, for children with "Mighty Joe Young," Saturday at 11:30 and 2 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Joe, a gorilla, escapes from a New York nightclub and shows a benevolent side by rescuing some children from a fire.

Jacqueline Trescott

cluding a show called, "A Much Too Intimate, Not Too

He thought I was okay. The best thing about the whole

Arthur Rubinstein

# Era of Gaiety, Good Music Recalled

By Herbert Kupferberg  
FROM NEW YORK CITY

In 1943, Alfred A. Knopf, the publisher, gave Arthur Rubinstein, the pianist, an advance of \$250 to write his memoirs. Now, 30 years later, Rubinstein has delivered an autobiography entitled *My Young Years*. It takes him only to the age of 30 and the year 1917, but it covers a multiplicity of adventures, amatory as well as artistic, and it provides a brilliant



try to teach them to be a little more patient."

"That is true," he says. "You sometimes talk to a 20-year-old boy and he is bitter because he is not on top already. I do think they should try to develop culturally as a person. They practice and practice and play and play, but in music, people should feel the whole impact of your personality, not just your playing. My own life proves this. I'm lazy and

# Rubinstein at 85: Still a Fresh Outlook

By DONAL HENAHAN

Artur Rubinstein massaged his right cheek with five legendarily sensitive fingers and squinted painfully. "I don't feel well," the pianist explained glumly. "I have a kind of sub-flu. I took the shots but I got it anyway. I'm not used to being sick."

Then, having briefly indulged himself, Mr. Rubinstein straightened in his chair, and beamed like a man who has gotten a dial tone. "But my morale is somehow stronger than ever. Why do I go on? It's beyond real understanding, a mission. Three days ago in Minneapolis I played two concertos—the Mozart D minor and the Schumann—with the Minnesota Orchestra. I have never felt more ill, and I never played better. The Governor was there and he read a—what do you call it—a proclamation. It was Artur Rubinstein Day in the state." It was exciting but Mr. Rubinstein said he felt more like checking into the Mayo Clinic than playing a concert.

## On Midwinter Tour

Mr. Rubinstein, who celebrates his 85th birthday today, was interviewed on the fly between concerts in his hotel room in Buffalo. He gave a recital there Wednesday night as part of a midwinter tour that would try the endurance of a 20-year-old pianist, let alone one who was born in 1882, according to his latest computation, just six months after the death of Franz Liszt. In the seven-day period before the interview, Mr. Rubinstein had performed in Ufa, Columbus, Ohio, Minneapolis and Pittsburgh.

For a musician who has been performing in public for 81 years (he took to the piano at age 3 and to the re-



The New York Times

Artur Rubinstein

blooded style and his obvious exuberance about music, no matter the level of performance. "As you know, I was always the champion of wrong notes but I don't care, because I need the impact of playing with the hands high off the keys."

Too many young painists now, however, put their noses into the keys and take no chances. "That is not how the great ones played," Mr. Rubinstein said with a snort, hilariously miming a pedantic performer, nose down, gingerly picking at the keys.

"They forget what art is for," Mr. Rubinstein said, his good humor suddenly waning. "We are given a short, horrible life—no god, no religion ever told us what it is

world. The people are wonderful."

Twenty-six years ago Alfred A. Knopf, the publisher, asked Mr. Rubinstein to write his autobiography. "I was flattered so I started right in. At 10 years old I stopped dead because I had become a nasty little brat." But after a lapse of many years, Mr. Rubinstein started work again and now has produced 760 typed pages that carry his career to 1916, the year he made a South American tour that gave him his first great international success.

## Autobiography Requested

"I stop the book there because the rest would only be a bore, a catalogue of concerts and so on. But I had a

FOK

*Medal of  
Freedom*

Monday 2/9/76

2:45 Mrs. Buchen said she has just come from a big luncheon with Beverly Sills and a large group of people.

One of the men came up and said that Artur Rubenstein will be 90 on March 6th<sup>??</sup>. He has received honors from governments all over the world. Has been an American citizen since the 40's and is so devoted and loyal to this country. They feel it would be a wonderful thing if the President could award him the Medal of Freedom.

Mrs. Buchen feels we should contact whoever is in charge of these medals and recommend to them that Rubenstein be given the Medal of Freedom on his 90th birthday.

Thought perhaps we could also get word to Mrs. Ford and work it from both sides of the White House...the President's team and the First Lady's team.



Tuesday 2/17/76

11:05 Mr. Marsh has no problem with the Medal of Freedom  
for Artur Rubinstein.



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 20, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHIL BUCHEN  
FROM: JIM CONNOR  
SUBJECT: Award of Presidential Medal of Freedom  
to Artur Rubinstein

Dick Cheney sent me your memo to him of February 10th re the above. I agree that Artur Rubinstein is a prime candidate for the Presidential Medal of Freedom. It appears, however, that it would not be possible to have the President give him the award when he is here on March 6th since we expect the President to be out of the city on that date. A more appropriate occasion would be the Honor America celebration in connection with the Bicentennial currently planned for July.

Staffing on the Executive Order for the advisory committee should be completed shortly. Once the committee is in place, the proposal for a number of awards will be presented to them and they will then make recommendations to the President. The Executive Order is being staffed by the Domestic Council and we have asked them a number of times to expedite it.

cc: Jack Marsh  
Bob Hartmann

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 10, 1976

RBC HAS SEEN

*Comm*  
*handle*

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DICK CHENEY ✓  
ROBERT HARTMANN  
JACK MARSH

FROM:

PHIL BUCHEN

*P.W.B.*

SUBJECT:

Award of Presidential Medal  
of Freedom to Artur Rubinstein

I have been asked to propose Artur Rubinstein as a candidate for the above award. As you may know, he has had a long and spectacular career as a pianist. He was born in Poland on January 28, 1886, and became an American citizen in 1946. He has earned a worldwide reputation and has been the recipient of numerous decorations from other countries including the Commander of the Legion of Honor (France); Officer of the Order of Santiago (Portugal); Cross of Alfonso XII (Spain); Commander of the Crown and Officer, Order of Leopold I (Belgium); Polonia Restituta (Poland); and Commander of the Chilean Republic.

He has given concerts to raise money for many worthy causes and he undertook a concert tour of the Soviet Union in 1964 as part of the U. S.-Soviet Cultural Exchange Program.

Mr. Rubinstein is scheduled to be in Washington on March 6 which might offer a suitable occasion for the award of the medal, if we can determine well in advance of that time that he should receive one.

(76)

On the general subject of awarding this medal, I understand that the proposed Executive Order to

RECEIVED  
FEB 11 1976

establish an advisory committee to screen suggestions is still being long delayed after many months. Also, in that connection, there have been some proposals pending to honor a group of Americans with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in connection with the celebration for our Bicentennial year and to do so on or close to July 4. The thought was to select people who have made the most distinctive contributions in the arts, sciences and community endeavors at which time we could include others.

In any event, I urge prompt concurrence in the Rubinstein suggestion either by itself or in connection with a Bicentennial awards ceremony.

cc: Robin West

