

Metzier-Dupont,
Trevaux & Merkel
Speichergasse 5
Bern
Switzerland
18th January 1949

My darling Nancy,

I'm so glad you approve of the apartment. Bayswater will suit you, I think; I can imagine you there, curled up in our little love-nest. I will do what I can to get across to you by Valentine's Day, I'm sure I can extend the business trip.

Now you will have no need to work for Mr Van Damm any more, either at the Theatre, or at the more private entertainments. I know that's how we met, and so I cannot disapprove of them, or your friends who work there, but I hope that now I am supporting you you'll take the chance to do something you truly want to do.

All my love,
Anton

Metzier-Dupont, Trevaux & Merkel

Speichergasse 5

Bern

Switzerland

20th April 1949

My darling Nancy,

I think you're right, you shouldn't put the Cézanne next to the Dalí. The upstairs might be best!

All my love,

Anton

P.S. Did you receive the package? I thought the lace would go well with the white dress.

Metzler-Dupont, Trevaux & Merkel

Speichergasse 5

Bern

Switzerland

30th November 1951

My darling Nancy,

But of course you must have the shop on Leinster Terrace! I think the gallery is a wonderful idea. Sent me the details and I will attend to it at once.

All my love,

Anton

Metzier-Dupont, Trevaux & Merkel
Speichergasse 5
Bern
Switzerland
1st March 1952

My darling Nancy,

I hope you'll be able to help me with a problem. After Marie-Claire's suicide attempt last year, I feel I need to do something to make sure it doesn't happen again. The trouble is that her last two exhibitions have failed so badly. I blame that French gallery-owner for encouraging her shamelessly. I suspect he and his wife want to get into her knickers, not to put too fine a point on it. My daughter is of such a fatalistic temperament, and I don't think will ever accept that her art is, well, not terribly good.

She has another exhibition arranged for the end of this month. I couldn't believe it when I found out.

So what I propose is to buy up the paintings from the exhibition - she'll be suitably cheered up by that. Obviously I'll do so anonymously (and I've talked this over with a handful of French gallery owners). Given that you have the shop now, perhaps you could be one of the buyers? To make it seem as if people as far away as England are interested?

I'll cover all the costs, of course!

All my love,

Anton

Metzler-Dupont, Trevaux & Merkel
Speichergasse 5
Bern
Switzerland

30th October 1953

Dear Nancy,

I am sorry we've come to this point in our relationship. I find what you're suggesting tantamount to blackmail, but very well. We shall part, as agreed. I shall keep up the payments on the apartment and the shop. In return, you will keep the details of the affair secret from everyone including my wife, and you'll never tell my daughter what I did for her.

Yours sincerely,

Anton

P.S. Keep the dresses.