

Friday 6 August 1993

Brian McLaren Corvallis OR 97333

Greetings =====

* * * * trying to get the electric typewriter to behave. I think this ribbon dried out--doesn't do as well as a new one should.

Having to make tests and comparisons, because sooner or later something important to get xeroxes of when other people need to read it.

Of course on a daisywheel machine like this, loss of impression force when making carbons.

I guess if I get to turning out letters on the Atari, I will have to print twice in order to have file copies.

Found out just the other day that Serial Printers may be plugged into the MODEM output jack and the EPSON affair is a Serial printer, so no need to run all over town for an adaptor as I feared. I. e. the Manual allows this shortcut, but nothing on either the printer or the Atari keyboard unit to say that any printer could be plugged into a MODEM jack! Buried, in the middle of the Manual so it took a long time to find it, and that was strictly ACCIDENT.

People will just have to be patient with me about learning the Atari word processor, since I have had such a horrid hassle moving so many things all around the house and the back yard all alone for nearly the entire month of July.

My near-neighbor, Doren Garcia, moved to Los Angeles--he has to do it piecemeal, so more letters back and forth to L A besides having to write Brink. They are about four miles from each other, in crummy ex-factory parts of L A 1/2 mile east of Main Street downtown L A.

I am very familiar with those parts of Los Angeles because all the bus lines I had to ride to go anywhere and get back home while I lived in Los Angeles area more than thirty years total.

If you count Glendale as merely part of Los Angeles, please add nine more years of constantly densifying and worsening SMOG.

This morning getting up before Imitation Six O'Clock a m to put

out the rubbish and also: to remove one of the 3 x 5 card drawers from its stack next to the desk, and put it in the front room ON THE BOTTOM of one of the stacks of cassette-drawer-boxes. It is heavy and could not be ON TOP or it would have crushed said boxes. Now I can accommodate the 6 homeless new cassettes that accumulated in July. That will reach Cassette Number 440. So I will almost get to Cassette Number 500 before having to get more cassette drawers, if I can find any.

Ooooooles of cassette carrying cases and various boxes to put cassettes into now, but they are NOT DRAWERS, can't be pulled out and shoved back in.

Meanwhile there was a correspondent of rather conservative bent whom I had to copy a couple of cassettes and send them--my early piano recitals and a 12-minute cassette on which I performed the organ prelude and then copied both of David Hill's just-intonation versions of the same piece, done in the City of Orange ten years ago before he got lucky and moved to Tallahassee Florida to be at the University where they have a Platypus.

Glasiers very busy on account of having moved to the smaller place 1 block away around the corner--less than half the square-footage, 1923 Alameda Terrace instead of 3932 Alameda PLACE.

Went through some music paper boxes--found some that I had offset printed 20 years ago--ruled the lines and got 500 very reasonable. Searching of course for that extra batch of transcriptions from the 17-tone organ-playing about 1964-65.

Well if it's going to slip and misbehaviorize that bad might as well finish on the old reliable mechanical typewriter that doesn't have super-duper counfounding confusing maniputlations to carry out I was saying that I had to search through the blank-music-paper boxes to see if the 17-tone transcripts had inadvertently been put in there. Nope. Nothing but blank standard old fashioned music paper with staves on it.

Enough to last me beyond my expected life span, so I will be giving some away soon.

From recent piano-tunings and meeting more acquaintances, the Awful Truth: Those who can afford good pianos and to keep them tuned once a year, DO NOT READ SHEET MUSIC AT ALL and do not take lessons in how to read staff notation.

Yes, they play the pianos, but not from sight reading nor from practicing written music.

Knock on the door 9 AM: Panhandlers touring Polk Avenue. Needless to say they didn't get any.

OK: I moved all the boxes and replaced them in their new order then took the newly received cassettes out of the temporary box and put them in the 3 x 5 metal card-drawer. In the new location at the bottom of the stack of cassette-drawer-boxes and my left shoulder hurts liv lifting all that stuff.

I guess what I will have to do if there are ar. any more Conservatives who p want piano cassettes from me, is to play the Piano Samples on the Mirage and record them on a new cassette. Instead of palming off recordings 30 and 20 years old, which is all I have from real pianos, except that recording-studio deal some time back where the studio was excellent, but the piano was not only out of tune, but the action was almost worn out.

Samples would have been better.

High notes above High C: set the Roland to the piano effedct and shift it up another octave and modify with the Tweaking box. Good piano samples on the Mirage are low pitch of course.

But let's hope--very little demand from the old-timers for piano recordings anyhow.

Went up to 40th street last week to see how they are tera tearing up the naborhood to put in the new Freeway in a trough depressed bell street level, and to see what had happened to the old piano store up there--signs of the times: a cheapo electronic organ where a grand piano used to be in the front window. Couldn't see that day whether the sheet music dept. is all closed--that was the annoujncemen t closing up the sneet music dept. and going exclusively piano. Well evidently now not--there's that 20-year-old organ thing.

Now to assemble the folders of master-sheets for xeroxing and see if I can get all the stuff to be copied, ready by 1 PM. If not no point going. I don't have so much xeroxing now, because I have sent out certain things to enough people.

If I put one of the small amplifiers in the r front room, I can playback cassettes such as the extra 17-tone and then do it over on the Mirage bit by bit, or play back the 17-tone reel that was made in 1967 and the other one made back in 1964.

Probably better than trying to re-read my transcription scribbles if I do find them at all.

yours