

April 19, 1995
991 Sandy Glen Ln.
Burley, ID 83318

Mr. John Schimmelman
Community Concerts
111 West 57th St. Suite 418
New York, New York 10019

Dear John:

Our Mini-Cassia Community Concert Association (Burley, Idaho) has just finished up the season with Aram Basmadjian's organ concert, (April 17) which also became the "bonus concert" for our new subscribers, as we recently switched over to a spring campaign from a fall campaign. There couldn't have been a finer way to introduce new folks to our Association, and the "old guys" had a real thrill, too.

Aram was a delightful performer and pleased his audience from the moment he entered the stage. Of course he was a talented and skilled organ virtuoso, we'd have expected that from a Community Concert associate. His playing was forceful and expressive, and clearly he loved what he was doing. With his back to the audience, his racing hands and flying feet sparked instant interest and appreciation. He opened with "The Star Spangled Banner," which was greeted with gasps of wonder at the magnificent sound and stunning performance; he continued on through the program with eloquent, expressive style.

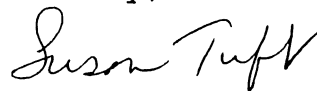
At least as impressive as his playing was how he handled the audience! He had our rapt attention with his "conversational" manner of delivery. Between each selection, he gave background on the piece and/or the composer, which was very informative and laced with humor. That endeared him to his listeners, making them feel that he cared about them, and wanted them to enjoy the pieces as much as he did.

In addition, he seems to have started from the premise that deep in the darkest places of our hearts was a tiny little fear that "organ concerts will be boring, but I'm here anyway because somehow it'll be good for me." And then he set out to prove us wrong, with flourish and enthusiasm, with jokes (all clean, important to our audience) and impish humor.

During the second half of the concert he gave us a "guided tour" of his Allen computerized organ, explaining keyboards, pedals, stops and pistons. Humor really was the hallmark of his style. His pleasant manner along with his infectious grin, combined with his amazing keyboard talent, will keep Aram Basmadjian in the hearts of his Burley fans forever.

Hope this is helpful.

Sincerely,



Susan Tuft, President
Mini-Cassia Community Concerts