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June 15, 1999

Batuz Foundation Sachsen Altzella 01683 Nossen GERMANY

Dear Batuz,

My recent visit to Altzella and the Batuz Foundation was a great delight. Your concept of a Société Imaginaire is brilliant. This was made especially clear to me by my conversations with the young artists from Uruguay who arrived a day before my departure. It is such a powerful experience for them! You have brought them halfway around the world, to a culture that they would never experience otherwise, and you have given them a tranquil place in which to work and a provocative cross-fertilization with young artists from Europe. They were so enthusiastic, and so proud of their work, as well they should be. If this is a typical example of what you are able to do, you are providing a service that the world has long needed.

Your sponsorship of our meetings concerning the Dieste Symposium was invaluable to all of us who participated. I made many close friends during these sessions among both the South Americans and the Europeans. Meeting you and talking with you about your aspirations was a highlight for me; there's nothing more satisfying than conversation with one whose mind knows no boundaries. And your warm hospitality—the good German farmhouse cooking, and waking in the morning to the crowing of a rooster and the sun coming into my room through the tapered jambs in the thick stone walls—made it an unforgettable experience.

I thank you warmly, and I salute your vision and your courage. "Tu idea de crear una Société Imaginaire es loca...por eso es valido."

With best regards,

Edward Allen