Summary

Creator: Wagner, Wieland, 1917-1966

Title: Letter, Bayreuth, to Winifred Wagner

Date: 1944 Dec. 22

Source: Gift, Stein, Ernest, 1991

Abstract: Wieland Wagner, grandson of Richard Wagner, was involved in various aspects of production of his grandfather's operas at Bayreuth. The recipient was his mother, Winifred Wagner, Richard's daughter-in-law. English translation of letter beginning "Dear Mama" about Hitler's request for a 1945 Bayreuth Festival. Wieland asks for more autonomy for himself and his brother Wolfgang in the productions and disputes Winifred Wagner's choice of Heinz Tietjen as artistic director. Translated from the German by Lt. Joseph Stein who was attached to G-5 Intelligence of General Patton's army during World War II.

Access: Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in the NYPL's online catalog for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult: https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials

Preferred citation: Letter, Bayreuth, to Winifred Wagner, Music Division, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Wieland Wagner, grandson of Richard Wagner, was involved in various aspects of production of his grandfather's operas at Bayreuth. The recipient was his mother, Winifred Wagner, Richard's daughter-in-law.

Scope and Content Note

English translation of letter beginning "Dear Mama" about Hitler's request for a 1945 Bayreuth Festival. Wieland asks for more autonomy for himself and his brother Wolfgang in the productions and disputes
Winifred Wagner's choice of Heinz Tietjen as artistic director. Translated from the German by Lt. Joseph Stein who was attached to G-5 Intelligence of General Patton's army during World War II.

**Key Terms**

**Genre/Physical Characteristic**
Letters (correspondence)

**Subjects**
Opera -- Production and direction

**Occupations**
Opera producers and directors

**Names**
Wagner, Wieland, 1917-1966
Hitler, Adolf, 1889-1945
Stein, Joseph
Tietjen, Heinz, 1881-1967
Wagner, Winifred
Wagner, Wolfgang, 1919-
Bayreuther Festspiele