THE BEINECKE RARE BOOK AND MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY

YALE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

P.O. Box 208240, New Haven, Connecticut 06520-8240

October 29, 2004

Dear Ivan Doig,

It was a pleasure to meet you and your wife last weekend at the Hugo House's celebration of the work of James Welch. The weekend's events were truly remarkable and I congratulate you and your fellow participants on a stimulating, moving, and memorable tribute.

I am sending along a copy of a catalog from a recent exhibition here at the library with the compliments of the curator/author, my colleague George Miles. I hope you'll enjoy it.

Cheers,

Nancy

Nancy Kuhl
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26 Nov. '04

Nancy Kuhl
Assistant Curator, Yale Collection of American Literature
The Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Yale University Library
PO Box 208240
New Haven CN 06520-8240

Dear Nancy Kuhl--

What a lovely rascally thing you did, trotting home from the Jim Welch event and hijacking a copy of the book of Swan's art for me. I've just written George Miles thanking him to the skies for the inscribed copy, but I know who the true instigator was. So, thank you, ever so much. If anything brings you back to Seattle, feel free to give Carol and me a call for a meal, a drink, whatever. I'd be interested in your assessment of the Hugo House event. Bill Kittredge and Annick Smith were here for dinner the night after, and in our own postlude we concluded that Jim in his literary tastes (Vittorini prime among them) was a French intellectual and getting Frencher all the time. How much we all miss him.

Best wishes,

26 Nov. '04

George Miles
Curator, Yale Collection of Western Americana
The Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Yale University Library
PO Box 208240
New Haven CN 06520-8240

Dear Mr. Miles--

Talk about unexpected rewards--your book of Swan's artwork came as a lovely surprise. It set me to musing whether I would have done *Winter Brothers* any differently if all that art had been available to me. I think I conclude--for the book's sake--that I'm glad I concentrated on Swan's diaries; but personally, damn, I'd like to have seen the art at the time.

I enjoyed meeting Nancy Kuhl when she was in Seattle recently, and told her I possibly hold the record for deferred results on Beinecke research. In 1968 I visited the library and drew on the Carl Van Vechten collection for letters written to him by the singer Taylor Gordon, from my hometown in Montana. The article I subsequently wrote never made it into print, but I revisited those shaky old copies of letters looking for Harlem turns of phrase when I was working on my last book, *Prairie Nocturne.* Good archival holdings never rust, I believe it proves, and I'm glad you have the Swan art. The book is a beauty, by the way, and thanks for the generous inscription.

Sincerely,

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10/28/04

Dear Mr. Daig.

One of the unexpected rewards of writing this book was to be introduced to your work through Winter Brothers. Since finishing it I've been variously steadily through your work and thoroughly enjoying it. I hope you'll find Swan's pictures interesting and a small offer of thanks for all the help that you provided — however indirectly — to the project.

Best wishes,

George Miles

Curator, Yale Collection of Western Americana