

August 28th

Dear Ian,

Thanks for your letter and tapes. I appreciate your prompt response.

1. Tapes were very interesting. Miss Frank wanted more of the choir music. Is possible to send the tapes of Imilonji Choir?
2. I got the pictures of probable replacements. It seems that there are nine replacements out of the cast twenty five. If we don't find right actors for the part of Mabaso and Mrs. Makatini ---I intend to try in New York. Please send me the complete resume of all the replacements. How about Tandi for the part of Mrs. Makatini. I remember she played shoemaker's wife in Ben Masina's production. I may have to change the interpretation --- she is a versatile actress. How tall is Syony and Gibson Mvubelo? Can you please ask Mishack to write me giving heights and measurement of all the replacements? I need someone from the choir to play the part of Police. I don't intend to use Obed for that part. Because it would be very difficult to hide his identity. I am nervous casting via correspondence. It would be embarrassing to bring them here and then decide not to use them. I intend to us chorus in a more imaginative and more restrained manner here than what I did in S.A. I must have proper physical balance in the company. If I don't get the visa then I shall ask you Alan and Leon to sit down and audition andmake a final decision. I don't know what to say now.
3. My purpose in coming to S.A. is not just recasting.....I have several minor and major changes in the script. I have been working on the script for past two weeks....I shall send notes to Alan as soon as I am finished. Somehow, I felt spectacular element of the play overshadowed the meat of the play. We can't survice on spectacle in New York. The play has to speak a language which heart and mind can respond. I want play to involve more in the N.Y. production. Would you write me a long letter giving your thoughts on the production and the play? I wish I had stayed in S.A. atleast a month after its opening. I want to focus more and more on characterization and restrain my tricks. I do fee that Sponono is a bril int play but I would like to turn into a masterpiece. Can you send me all available reviews of the play in different parts of .SA. I do have Johannesburg and Durban reviews. (Not all - just few)
4. I am not too happy with the music....I have few ideas to change certain chants....I am sending the copy of my memo to Miss Frank. I have discussed my ideas in detail.
5. Regarding Gideon, I have talked to Anny Laurie Williams. What arrangement you had made in South Africa. Please let us know immediately.
6. Can you send few copies of Sponono disc to me immediately. What was the total sale in S.A.? Was music very popular ---how popular compared to King Kong?

That's all for the moment,

affectionaly,

KRISHNA.

I hope your trip to Cape Town was fruitful.