

Dear Bernth -

Our letters crossed... I went to Roma, Lesotho,
last week, & there was Chris Danton doing
the same to his list of queries from you...

Yes, Martin died (of a heart-attack) on arrival
home, poor guy, & what a wretched end.

His death is a real setback for the Bosman
story, as we all had high hopes he'd clear
up the really messy record once and for all.

Alas.

I have a vague hope Al Wertheim will get me
over to the U.S. in your summer, 1995.

Looking forward to the new S.A.





Mongane Wally Serote

Siphosiso Sepamla

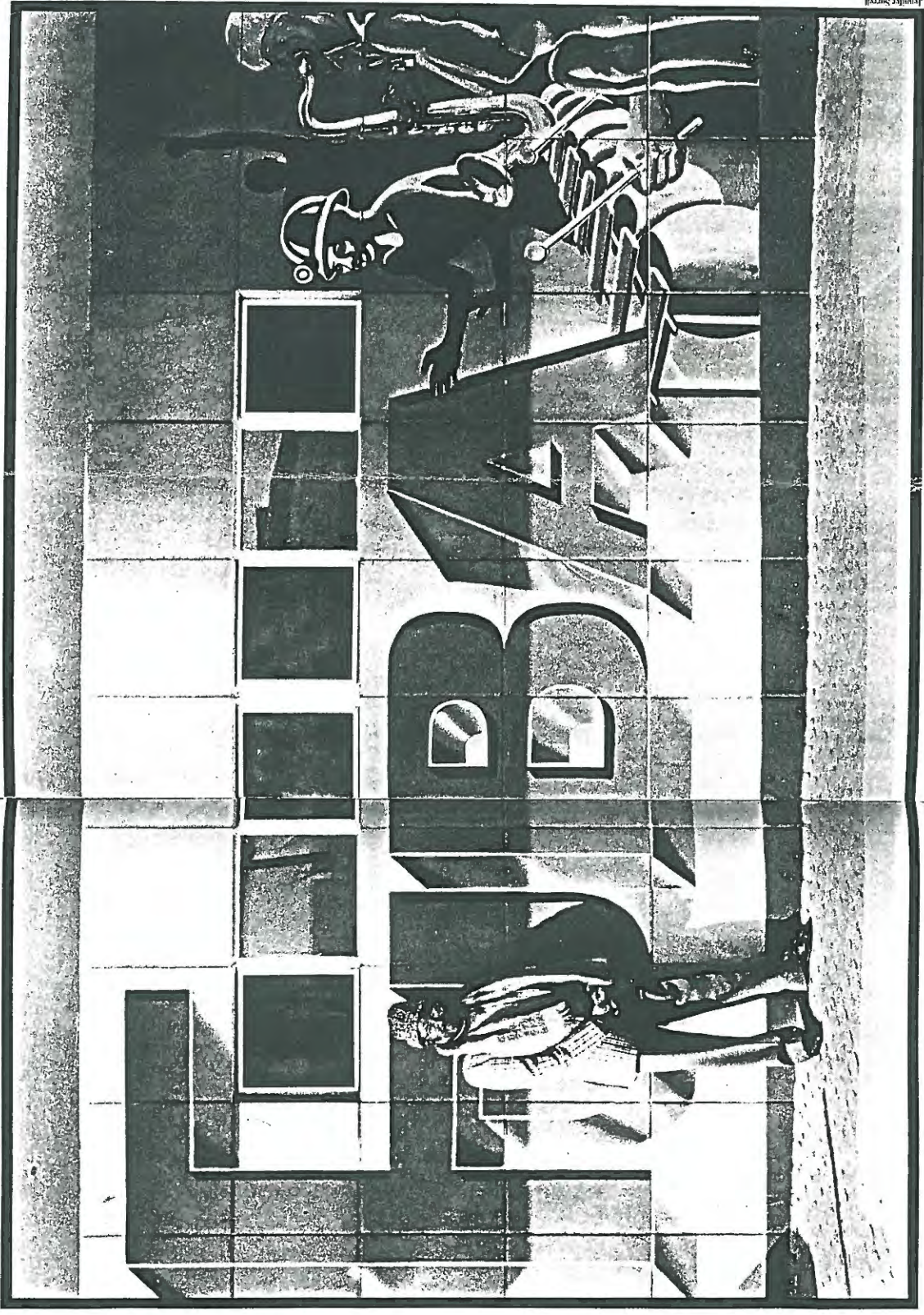
Second African Writers' Conference
Stockholm, 1986

photo by Anna Rutherford

African Voices

(Dangaroo, 1989)

photo by
Jennifer Sorrell
Editor
ADA
P.O. Box 16093
Vlaeberg
8018, S.A.



Sipho Sepamla seen in front of the giant mural painted by the students of the FUBA Academy.

ADA Magazine
#4 (1987)
pp. 18+19



17th September 1993

Beruth Lindfors
Department of English
University of Texas at Austin
Par 108
Austin.
Texas 78712 1164

Dear Beth Lindfors.

Herewith the photograph of
Sipho Sepanla. - the only one I have.
I do hope that Rashid Lombard responded
to the request. I checked with him
& he said he thought that they had
been sent off.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Sorrell



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January 25, 1994

Stephen Gray
P.O. Box 80
Crowl Mines 2025 South Africa

Dear Stephen,

Your excellent essay for the Dictionary of Literary Biography on Sipho Sepamla contains a number of references the full bibliographical details of which the copy editors of DLB volumes are likely to hound me for, so let me solicit them from you now, before the hurly-burly of book production begins in earnest. Can you send me author, title, issue numbers, date, and page numbers of the following publications: the interviews with Sepamla in

1. Drum, 8 March 1973 (p. 2 of your ms.)
2. Brenda Vilmot profile in Pretoria News, 3 March 1987 (p.2)
3. Dat Schwartz, Rand Daily Mail, 23 November 1979 (p. 20)
4. Mfuno Ndebele, The Star, 24 January 1991 (p. 27)

That's all for now. If you can't retrieve the page numbers, send at least the title of the interview. If I need more data on other citations, I may have to hit you again in the coming months.

Not much news from here. The new term has just started, so things are in their usual unsettled state at the moment, but they are likely to improve once the students start reading and sweating over papers.

It was sad to hear of Martin Trump's death. He had looked quite frail when he was here in October, but he had had a bone marrow transplant and had hopes of getting better. He seemed to be in good spirits though and actually displayed some energy in the lectures he gave. He went on the Yale, Israel and London after leaving here. Perhaps all the traveling wore him down. His wife said he passed away less than 24 hours after arriving home. Sad, sad, sad.

Best wishes,

SEPAMLA

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Criticism

August 30, 1993

Sipho Sepamla
c/o Skotaville Publishers
SACHED
412 Hampstead House, 46 Biccard Street
P.O. Box 32483
Braamfontein, 2017, South Africa

Dear Sipho,

I don't know if my earlier letter reached you, so I am going to try sending this one through Skotaville Publishers.

Reinhard Sander and I are editing a new volume of the Dictionary of Literary Biography on "Twentieth-Century Caribbean and Black African Writers," and I am pleased to report that there will be a 6000-word essay in it on you and your work. We are now looking for appropriate illustrations, and I am writing to ask if you could send us photographs (old as well as new) and photocopies of a few manuscript pages that could be considered for inclusion. Any unique, rare or original materials sent will be returned as soon as the publisher has had a chance to make copies, and photographers will be paid a fee for whatever is selected for publication. Please direct all such materials to me at the address above. Thank you for your help.

Best wishes,

Bernth Lindfors

1. June 93

Dear Bernth,

Sorry about the slight lateness; cor, it's been a really long haul.

I hope it looks fresh, alert, readable and informative!

I think you should try and get the Jennifer Sorrell pic. which is really definitive. Also, George Hallett did one of him pre-1981 (very good) and it appears on the back of the South African Whirlwind. There is one by David Goldblatt on the back of Third Generation...

Also in Triquarterly, that bulky and ridiculous issue of 1987, No. 69, on pp. 67-70 there are some fine woodcuts illustrating Siphos famous "To Whom..." which would certainly be a fine addition to illustrate all this... by one Billy Mandindi.

Siphos doesn't even know I've been doing this, and I've resisted asking him as a longstanding friend to assist me! If you want to run it past him, and/or get other material you'll find him reliably at:

FUBA, P. O. Box 4202, Johannesburg, 2000;
and phone: Johannesburg 834.7125, usually from our late morning till 5.00 p.m. He will of course be at Northwestern for a full stint from later this year...

All the best,

to you + Judy
Stephen

June 14, 1993

Stephen Gray
P.O. Box 86
Crown Mines 2025, South Africa

Dear Stephen,

This is a note to acknowledge with thanks your prompt delivery of the DLB entry on Siphso Sepamla. I am also grateful for the photos and book jacket. I'll write to Siphso and ask for more, including a few ms. pages. I'll try to get the Sorrell photo too, which I agree is a classic.

I'll be back in touch with you again as the book approaches the production stage. I'm still waiting for a few tardy essays to come in.

Hope all is going well for you. We're absolutely delighted with our new condo. Now, if only the damned house would sell....

Best wishes,

Bernth Lindfors

Feb. 24, 1993

Stephen Gray
P.O. Box 86
Crown Mines 2025
South Africa

Dear Stephen,

I am enclosing a list of entries on Siphso Sepamla taken from three successive volumes of my bibliography, Black African Literature in English. If some of these materials are not available to you, send me a list of the item numbers preceding the essays you need, and I'll try to supply as many as I can. Nothing published after 1986 is listed, but I am currently working on a 1987-1991 update of the bibliography and will send you a list of more recent scholarship soon.

I trust that your writing is going well. Please remember that our deadline is June 1st. Earlier submissions are of course welcome.

Sincerely yours,

Bernth Lindfors

P.S. Have been reading your various tributes to Rive while doing my bibliographical chores. They are nicely written pieces, capturing not only the spirit of the man but also the shock occasioned by his abrupt departure. Nils Burwitz did an excellent sketch of him (available at NELM) which I wish had been included in the next DLB volume, due out in April. It too captures some of his bumptiousness.

Feb. 21, 1993

Stephen Gray
P.O. Box 86
Crown Mines 2025
South Africa

Dear Stephen,

Just a note to remind you that I have not yet received your signed contract and address list. I'm enclosing an extra copy of each in case the originals have gone astray.

I'm off to London in mid-March. Will you be there then? If so, let's get together. I'll be staying at Fellowship House, 21 Mecklenburgh Square, WC1N 2AB (071-837-8888, ext. 4415).

Femi Osofisan got a fellowship to the writers' retreat in Illinois. I ran into him at the Northwestern University Library a couple of weeks ago. One of the great advantages of being at the commune is its proximity to Evanston and the riches of the Herskovits Library at Northwestern. Hope you get to both in the near future.

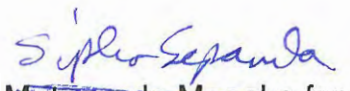
Best wishes,

Bernth Lindfors

November 15, 1993

Stephen Gray
P.O. Box 86
Crown Mines 2025
South Africa

Dear Stephen,

Thank you for agreeing to prepare an entry on  ~~Matsemela-Manaka~~ for the third volume of the Dictionary of Literary Biography's Twentieth-Century Caribbean and Black African Writers. Please note that the entry should run between 6000 and 6500 words instead of between 4000 and 5000 words as previously stated. The publisher has given us more space for each of the entries in this volume so you will be able to deal with your author in greater detail.

I am enclosing:

1. a memorandum of agreement which you should sign, address and date;
2. a contributor's questionnaire which you should fill out with your addresses, phone numbers, and fax number;
3. a contributor's style sheet;
4. a sample essay from the first volume in the series.

Please return items 1 and 2 to me at your earliest convenience. If any questions arise while you are preparing your entry for the volume, do not hesitate to contact me at the address above or by phone at 512-472-4712 (home) or 512-471-5522 (office) or by fax at 512-471-4909. Please keep in mind that our deadline is 1 June 1993.

Thanks again for offering to join us in this project.

Sincerely yours,

Bernth Lindfors

P.S. I'll be writing to NELM and to Siphiso asking for illustrations, but if you can find anything of interest, send it along. Originals will be returned.

The ALA Urchin Spine Amelioration Brigade stands ready to assist you in Guadeloupe, though some have expressed a preference to direct their stream of support at your upper rather than your nether extremities. Perhaps you could satisfy all by diving into the water this time.

