

## THREE LETTERS TO PAULHAN 1935-1936

Paris, November 9, 1935

Dear friend,

I am truly very happy that you like my latest works and that you appreciate the quality of pictorial matter, the perfection of which is an aspect on which my energy is centred and which I hold to be the only thing that confers a definite value to a painting, beyond modes and tastes that change in time.

I would like to offer you a small memento of my present production. I would have liked to give you the small Florentine landscape, the backdrop of the first act that I know you really liked. Unfortunately, it does not belong to me but, if you don't mind, I would pray you to accept another painting of the same quality and subject.

If you see Mr. Cassou, please tell him on my account to also keep this notable question of quality in mind for his article. I am not a man who takes things lightly and if I insist to such a degree it is because I am convinced more than ever of the importance of the question.

I would also like to speak to you about a certain unpublished manuscript that I have. A kind of novel, in the style of Hebdomeros<sup>2</sup> although possibly more subtle and constructed, as well as about numerous unpublished poems.

Do you think something could be done at N.R.F.?

My exhibition will stay open until the 16th.

If you again have time to pass by, I would be very happy to see you.

The day after tomorrow I am going to add another painting which I have just finished and that I think is particularly well-executed in the beauty of the matter, its fluidity and sureness of touch, depth of colour etc. It represents game, partridge, hare, pheasant...

Please forgive me if this letter is a bit long.

With my respectful greetings for Madame, believe me dear friend, my most devoted feelings.

Yours, Giorgio de Chirico

9 rue Brown Séquard

Exposition: 133 Boul. du Montparnasse.

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<sup>1</sup>The letters are kept at the Institut Mémoires de l'édition contemporaine (IMEC). We thank Claire Paulhan for making these letters available.

<sup>2</sup>The title of the novel is "Monsieur Dudron".

Paris, January 13th 1936

Dear friend,

I received your letter and am very happy that you liked my manuscript. There remains the fact that: the work required to arrange all the notes, make a selection, correct them and copy them, is a job which is fairly long and tiresome.

I did this for a part of my book in order to subject it to your judgement and I see, with great satisfaction, that this judgement is favourable. As I have told you, the rest has the same atmosphere. I would like to know if the N. R. F. is willing to publish this book. As far as I am concerned, I would prefer to relinquish my manuscript for a sum X, and in the event you wish to publish my book, you tell me what such sum would be. I am only under such a circumstance where, in exchange for my complete manuscript I would receive a sum X, that I would be able to suspend my work as a painter in order to dedicate myself to the analysis and the copying of my notes, otherwise, as it is a difficult task that takes a lot of time, I would prefer to wait.

I hope you would like to answer me in regard, and hope that you give me the pleasure of coming to my studio with your wife. I would also desire the pleasure of inviting you to lunch, if you like Italian cuisine I could prepare for you the best spaghetti eaten in Italy.

All my best to Madame and my cordial greetings to you and your son.

Yours, Giorgio de Chirico

9 rue Brown Séquard  
Paris XV

Paris, May 7th, 36

Dear friend,

Here are the 3 samples of the series of 34 drawings for the Calligramme lithographies.

If you find a buyer who is interested I would be very grateful and happy.

My best to Madame and my friendship for you.

Yours G. de Chirico

9 rue Brown Séquard  
Paris XV