February 23, 1971

Mr. Walter Beissel
5372 Schleiden-Eifel
Langerscheider Weg 6, Germany

Dear Mr. Beissel,

I just received your letter, and hasten to tell you that the exercises I spoke about are very varied. There is nothing especially complicated about them. The whole thing is to make the usual five-finger exercise, accentuating at each repetition another finger, so as to obtain the finest articulation of all of them.

I was always incapable of doing it on a live piano, because the monotony of it bothered me to distraction. So my "great discovery" is simply that I found the way of doing it silently on any surface, like a table, a music sheet, or even my knee. I discovered that it does the same service as the actual exercise of the piano. There is nothing more to it. In your letter it sounded so much more important than it really is, but if you try it out and think it is profitable I will be very happy.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Rubinstein

ar/chc