Basic Detail Report

May 4th or 5th Dear Cliff..... Finally breaking my long silence to say hello before falling into the big salvation army mattress,...,and offer condolences, as I've seen in Artforum that you have s show scheduled this month. Billy and I just finished a two man show in Texas, which you might like to know was a complete bomb. Haps and I were even crazy enough to go down there, and we got the complete visiting artist treatment - i.e. "How many L.S.D. trips do you have to go on to make this kind of shit?" Even the art community didn't dig it, all five of them. We got good service on Continental airlines on the way back home. Then we did something smart! We drove through Utah and Arizona, through some of the most beautiful, amazing fairyland landscape that we've either seen or imagined - like going to another planet. We beat the other toutists by a full month and had a visual trust feastit "you foolish fairys, cried John" Haps reading a story to the kids. Kids shouting encouragements and side comments - they know all the stories by heart. "I've been working mym ass off by night and by day, making some slurps out of paper mache. Then in the fall when the leaves all fall down. I'll pack up the best ones to send out of town, and over the seven seas they will go; to Paris, Rome, London and Tokyo." Our house is getting settled in now. And we're trying to ignore all the good was news concerning our latest decision to blast out and neutralize some more fortunate Orientals. This letter is being kept short to wish you some good luck with your show and to let you know that we're thinking of you and hope everything is going right.

letter

Date

May 5, 1970

Primary Maker

H. C. (Horace Clifford) Westermann

Medium

Typewritten letter, handwritten letter, and enclosure with envelope, decorated with stamp detail

Description

[Ken:] He and Billy [Al Bengston] have just had a two-man show in Texas which bombed. They were amazed by scenery on a drive through Utah and Arizona. He is trying "to ignore all the good news concerning our latest decision to blast out and neutralize some more fortunate Orientals." Enclosed a poster for his show. [Happy:] She is feeling like "the Good year blimp." Inquires how HCW's house is coming.

Dimensions

a: typewritten letter: $11 \times 8 \ 1/2$ in. $(27.9 \times 21.6 \ cm)$ b-c: handwritten letter: $11 \times 8 \ 1/2$ in. $(27.9 \times 21.6 \ cm)$ d: enclosure: $11 \ 5/8 \times 27 \ 7/8$ in. $(29.5 \times 70.8 \ cm)$ e: envelope: $4 \ 1/8 \times 9 \ 7/16$ in. $(10.5 \times 24 \ cm)$