

September 6, 1964

Dear Mr. Edwards,

I've truly been meaning to write you for some time now but like most lazy people I kept putting it off for another time. My stay here in Japan has been a truly exceptional one, the country itself is quite boring and the people are really very dull; there is seldom any show of emotions unless a person is drunk and then they only seem to appear normal under our system of judgement. Yet with all these handicaps I have been able to improve my work and maintain my sanity. There is little desire on my part to remain in this land of 'rock and roll' so as soon as my ship arrives from Hong Kong I will be on my way to a land where the people do not simulate the characters in Orwell's 1984. That will be this coming October 12th. Until such time I will remain here in Japan, printing and photographing.

Often since I've been here I have recalled the times I visited you and received an endless amount of information and guidance; your comments in the photographic field helped me in more ways than I could possibly put in words. Since you know I have no formal training as a photographer I relied very heavily on your point of view to give me new ideas and to see, or better stated, become aware of the many ways in which I could improve. You have truly given me much of the awareness that I have acquired over the past 3 years. Your conversations were always stimulating and the fact that your door was never closed truly left an impression of you not being just a person to do a form of business with but made me feel as though here was a friend. I will always be proud of the fact that I knew 'Hugh Edwards' a friend to those aspirants of photography. Thank you a thousand times over for all that you have done for this lowly creature that presently tries to put to words emotions that live within his heart. If ever someone has been indebted to another it is I to you.

I dislike making this letter sound so terrible mushy but the truth remains the same; I have never been able to express myself in words as this letter proves but I just couldn't let another day go by without at least letting you know my feelings. In a man's lifetime seldom does he ^{meet} someone so devoted to his work and to his beliefs as you are and indeed I have been heartily impressed. There were times when I visited you that prior to my arrival someone had left you in a state of frustration, these moments had always hurt me, yet all I could say was, 'don't let those people upset you Mr. Edwards there not worth it', but nonetheless you, in all your sincerity, would be deeply involved in the occurrences of some worthless photographer. I hope that now all is well and things are as happy for you as they are for me. If I

This space is also for correspondence.

ここにも通信文を記載することができます

c/o American Express
Robert Wilson
14,3-Chome Marunouchi
Chiyoda-Ku Tokyo
Japan



AEROGRAMME

Mr. Hugh Edwards
Curator of Photography
Art Institute of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
U.S.A.

PAR AVION
航空

この郵便物には何物も封入又は添附できません
Nothing may be contained in or attached to this letter.

折込線

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September 9, 1964.

Mr. Robert Wilson,
c/o American Express,
14, 3-Chome Maronouchi,
Chiyoda-Ku,
Tokyo,
Japan/

Dear Bob:

Your letter has just reached me and this is only a note to try and thank you. It is seldom anyone has the goodness and consideration to write such a letter and someday I will tell you why it meant so much just at this time. It is a life saver which you have unconsciously thrown out, so I am rescued again and your welcome words give me much to go on for many weeks to come.

I was in Kentucky for a month with my father (86) and my aunt (93). It was rather strenuous but I could not have gone elsewhere and had any peace of mind. I become more attached to these people every year. I want to tell you all about this alsoe when we have another talk. Jimmy stops by and I suppose he has written you about the portfolio of Illinois photographers which is being published by the teachers of Illinois. I was asked to suggest names and did and of course you were one. If Jimmy does not hear from you I hope you will not object to our including one of your prints. I trust I can do something better for you in the future.

I am sorry this has to be so short. We are hanging the Marc Riboud show which I have been so anxious to have for a long time. The pictures are magnificent and I believe you would like them as much as I do. David Rowinski has quit and I have Jim Marchael - who used to work at Gamma - helping me temporarily. He is much more understanding and such a welcome help that I wish he could stay here from now on.

I'll read your letter many times - so thanks again. I think of you often and will think of you more. Take care of yourself and when you are ready be sure to come back. All good wishes now.

Sincerely,