

Berlin, November 26th, 2019

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the
Executive Committee and Board of Directors,

it is clear that you are meeting on the third of
December and I plan to attend that meeting by
telephone from Germany. I am writing this email to
inform you of my grave concerns over the future of
the GTMF, the misrepresentation of my opinion
regarding the three dismissed musicians and the
mischaracterization of the position and sentiments
of such an overwhelming number of our musicians.
Furthermore, most importantly, most personally, I
distance myself completely from the mendacious
and destructive courses of action of Andrew Todd,
our President and CEO of the GTMF. This will

forearm all of you in order that the discussion at the Board meeting may be fully and frankly focused and that you are fully informed.

To date, 236 musicians of our GTMF orchestra, in reaction to the shocking dismissal of three of their esteemed and beloved colleagues, have informed you and the management that, without the reinstatement of the three colleagues and the holding of those responsible for this action accountable, they will not participate in the 2020 GTMF Festival.

The implications for the 2020 season and beyond are catastrophic.

The solidarity shown by our remarkable and idealistic musicians is as moving as it is a dramatic cry for change.

Unless this self-inflicted crisis is resolved soon, there will be no orchestra on the stage of the Walk

Festival Hall on the opening night of 2020.

Through communication over the past five weeks with Chris Hartley and Andrew Todd, not to mention correspondence with you, our esteemed Board, I have made my position, my full-throated opposition to the proposed non re invitations perfectly clear.

How upsetting to learn subsequently that members of our Executive Committee were informed that I was in support of the decision to dismiss Ms Linfante, Ms Ross and Mr de Gomar.

Besides being completely untrue and an egregious misrepresentation of my true feelings, it constitutes a profoundly sad reflection of the machinations that at present inform our organization.

Even as Chris Hartley and members of the Executive Committee countenanced and endorsed the course of action, the decision to fire these

players rests fully on the shoulders of our President and CEO, Andrew Todd. It is no secret that over the past couple of years Andrew and I have had our considerable differences. It may come nonetheless as a surprise to you all that Andrew has over the last two years actively and verifiably undermined me, seeking support covertly within the orchestra and doubtless amongst the Board for my dismissal. The future of this storied, precious Festival lies in your hands. Decades of glorious music, glorious bonds, alchemy, glorious musicians, glorious musical experiences, glorious mutual respect and trust could soon be a mere memory. In its own, quintessentially Jackson Hole way, the finest classical music summer festival in the country as we know it will possibly cease to exist.

I fully support the Musicians of the Grand Teton Music Festival in their quest for truth, justice, and

accountability. They are the festival and deserve better.

A Music Director without an orchestra is an oxymoron . My music directorship without this beloved, phenomenal, huge orchestra, my orchestra, is as inconceivable as it is unimaginable and painful.

Ladies and Gentlemen, as it currently stands, without an orchestra in 2020, without strong Board leadership, without an imminent resolution, it is well nigh impossible for me to imagine my role at the helm of the 2020 Grand Teton Music Festival.

I am acutely aware of never before having written such difficult words.

sincerely, respectfully,

Donald