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March 25, 1968

Mr. Kenneth Ross
58 St. George's Square
Pimlico
London S W 1

Dear Mr. Ross, -

as I am in charge of The Estate's film business, my mother has turned over to me your letters of February 27th and March 12th respectively.

Concerning your communication of March 12, I have just written to

Miss Kay Brown
AFA
1301 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N. Y. 10019

Acting as our agent in the matter of DEATH IN VENICE, as in other contexts, Miss Brown closed a contract which authorized José Ferrer to produce DEATH IN VENICE as a film. Inasfar as José Ferrer - who came to see us here - was extremely enthusiastic whilst not being a rich producer, we sold the rights against payment of \$ 18 000 (eighteen thousand) plus a certain participation in all profits. Then Mr. Ferrer lost interest and ceded the rights to his business partner, a gentleman called Joe Besch. Subsequently, Mr. Besch failed to take any step apt to serve the realisation of the project.

In my opinion, Mr. Besch should be glad to part with the property. I fear, however, that he would wish to make an excessive profit. Hence I wrote Miss Brown and asked her to do everything in her considerable power to convince Mr. Besch to accede to our wish and to make it possible for you to acquire the rights in question.

If anybody, Miss Kay Brown would be the person to make Mr. Besch see some kind of light. I would not wish you to get involved with said gentleman.

Although I forwarded photostats of your letters to Miss Brown, I deem it advisable for you to get in touch with her. Perhaps you could also tell her the name of "your" producer. This might be helpful in her dealings with Mr. Besch.

With best wishes

yours very sincerely,



28/03/68

PS. Almost needless to add we never sold any T. M.- property for as little as \$ 18 000 plus percentage. Solely José Ferrer's enthusiasm and his apparent determination to go promptly into a highly promising production made us yield to his wishes.

22589 Henning

