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Mann, Erika

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18. März 1963

Mr. Leonardo Bercovici
Via Cecilia Metella 10
Rom

Dear Mr. Bercovici, -

thanks for your letter of March 12. I am forwarding it to my friend Curt Bois, a first rate actor, - one of the very few who still belonged to the great time of the German theatre, played leading parts under Max Reinhardt etc. Bois is equally good in English as in German and first approached me with regard to a film version of "Tristan" without knowing of the existence of your play. I happened to know of it because my parents attended either a dress rehearsal or one of the two New York performances. They liked the play.

As for the planed film I had to tell Bois that The Estate could not at present authorize any such venture. Negotiations concerning a "Magic Mountain"-film are about concluded, that is a contract is about to be signed, and we could not permit another Thomas Mann-film with a sanatorium as a background to be prepared simultaneously. Which is why Bois is now thinking of doing a play. wherein he would act the part of Spinell.

Whether or not the whole thing can wait until your ship comes in, I don't know. However, Bois will surely get in touch with you.

With renewed thanks for your helpfulness

sincerely yours

