



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Washington, D.C. 20560
U.S.A.

March 13, 1984

Mr. Gerard De Smaele
4, Rue des Combattants
6564 Fauroeuix
Belgium

Dear Mr. De Smaele:

Thank you for your letter informing me of the appearance of your second publication on the five string banjo. Realizing the truth of your assertion that the publication was prepared in the interest of scholarship to be shared rather than with the hope that it might be a commercial success, I am sharing your kind letter with my colleagues here at the Institution as well as at the Library of Congress.

I continue to admire the fine work which lies behind your 1983 publication issued by the Musee Instrumental de Bruxelles, and I think it likely that our colleagues will respond favorably to your suggestion.

I trust the bibliography on the five string banjo which you requested from the Archive of Folk Cultures will reach you soon.

Warm personal regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ralph Rinzler', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Ralph Rinzler
Assistant Secretary
for Public Service

cc: Alan Jabbour, Joe Hickerson, J. Scott O'Dell, Gary Sturm