

AZ-817-Thompson-ode.pdf

P. O. Box 47581
Phoenix, Az. 85068
Jan. 13, 1990

Dear Seymour,

You asked me how it feels to live in a Folk Art Environment. I am addicted to it! It gives me inspiration and solace. I have decided to hold an "Open House" each month this year in celebration of the Centennial of Thompson's birth, 1-1-91. It has been amusing, trying to convince some people that I do live here. Their reactions help me appreciate the uniqueness which has become my every day experience. I feel like making cut-outs of the "Space Needle" and some of the people and wearing them around my neck. Then my world would be visible to others, - to their awareness, as I carry it with me, inside.

A woman argued with me, insisting that I did not live there. Finally she said, "All right, which house do you live in?" I had to point to a roof line, not nearly as interesting as the little glass houses.

In a matter of months I should have the north side of my house completed. My mother used to live there until I changed the roof, which forced her to move next door. I plan to keep it as a separate unit; to be used as an office and for guests. I would be pleased if you would consider staying as my guest on some future trip to Phoenix. Then you will know exactly how it is to live in Thompson's Garden!

Tomorrow will be my first "Open House" for 1990. I had one in December, and only ten people came. I am finding it hard to get the energy to rake up the last few leaves and sweep the porch.

I submitted photographs to Arizona Highways Magazine yesterday. I should know if they like them in about a month. I would love it if they would print an article about Thompson in the Jan. 1, 1991 issue!

I am wondering about your photographs, which you took here. Are you pleased with them? I would love to see!

I am wondering, also about my SPACES shirt. Could there be a problem with the mail? I have received mail from you in my mail box in front of the house - but most of the mail that has been sent to me there has been returned to the sender. That is why I wonder about it.

I hope that 1990 will be a great year for you. I look forward to hearing about your show; even an announcement would answer many questions for me. I realize that you are very busy.

Sincerely,

Marion

P.S. Deborah Whitehurst, Exec. Director of Phx. Arts Comm. is aware of my problem with the road, and Councilman Paul Johnson, who is also Vice Mayor is scheduled to come over in about two weeks. I have over 150 signatures on my petition, and I hope to double that number with the "Open Houses". Thank you for the magnificent letter!

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