

15th March 2008

London

Dear Mr Bouchard,

I am writing to you with the intention of proving myself to be the best candidate for the vacant Artefact Storage position at the Magnus Institute. I'm sure my reputation precedes me, as I have made quite a stir during my career thus far, but to refresh your memory, I shall lay out my most significant credentials. Please consult my attached curriculum vitae for further details.

I studied History of Art at the University of Oxford, Merton College, from 1995 to 1998. I showed a great aptitude for my studies, and was awarded the Bronwyn Griffith scholarship, among other accolades. After graduating with a first-class degree, I carried on my studies at Durham, with an MA in the same subject. My particular research interests focused on decorative objects which carry rich histories and inspire outlandish tales.

It is natural, then, that during my MA studies, I stumbled across an auction house in Durham with a reputation for sourcing intriguing items. After graduating with my Master's degree, I soon became an employee there myself. After a few months of working at the auction house, I got talking to one of the auctioneers who said she'd had a disturbing experience a few years ago. She mentioned that she had sold an intricately designed Art Nouveau locket to a wealthy gentleman, and part of its morbid appeal was that it was owned by an infamous murderer, Lucille Leclerc, who was arrested in Paris in 1902. The auctioneer went on to say that, a few days later, she was awoken by a loud knocking at her door in the middle of the night. Upon answering it, she was greeted by the same man who had bought the locket. He rushed at her in a terrible rage, clutching the locket in his right hand. The auctioneer managed to survive this terrible assault with only minor injuries, thanks to a neighbour who heard the commotion, but when the assailant was later searched by the police, the locket was nowhere to be seen.

This story became my obsession, and I tried to find any records I could which related to the locket. I later condensed my extensive research into a book, which you may already know, called *The Rage-Filled Locket: A Troubling History*. I have been booked on many

speaking engagements to talk about my work, and always appreciate the opportunity to share the gruesome tale.

However, now I tire of a life in the public eye, and would relish the chance to study and care for the artefacts in the Institute's possession. As an employee of the Magnus Institute, I would bring my immense experience and knowledge, as well as a wealth of contacts in auction houses across the country.

Thank you for your time, and I'm sure I shall be hearing from you soon.

Yours,

Phillip Porter-Green

JM:

Dear Lord. All this fuss over jotting down the tale of one Slaughterous trinket of Salesa's? You absolute self-righteous fool. Artefact Storage would eat you alive. I would enjoy watching, but I'd rather not go through this tedious hiring process twice in one year. If he's so very sure he'll be hearing from me, though, perhaps an interview anyway. It might be fun to show him just how "tiresome" a life in the public Eye can truly be.....