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11th. October 2004

Mr. James Boyle
Chair, Cultural Commission
The Cultural Commission
Broughton High School
Carrington Road
Edinburgh
EC4 1EG

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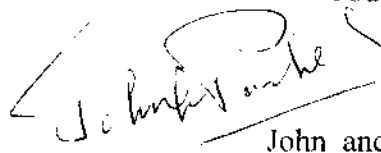
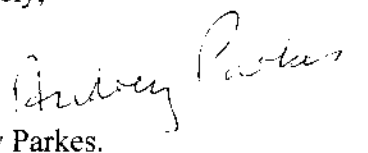
Dear Mr. Boyle

Since moving to Aberdeen in December 2003 we have greatly enjoyed many cultural facilities and hope they will continue to be supported. The concerts in the Music Hall, given by SNO, SCO and BBC SO, have all been of a high standard. The city Art Gallery and Maritime Museum have been a source of great pleasure with everything beautifully exhibited, pleasant Staff and thrilling displays. The Library is enjoyable, the staff welcoming and we look forward to the Theatre reopening.

Previously living in England we have been 'Friends of Scottish Opera' over many years. We first saw their productions in Wolverhampton and later in Newcastle and Sunderland when we lived in Cumbria. We have seen their 'Opera go Round' productions in Dumfries, Selkirk, Galashiels and Crawford John etc. as well as full scale opera's in Glasgow and Edinburgh. The recent production of 'The Ring' was of course world class.

Now living permanently in Aberdeen we feel sad at the apparently drastic cuts proposed for the Company. Scottish Opera has shown itself to be a beacon of excellence, for all to enjoy, and it would seem wrong that financial restrictions causing stringent cuts should be imposed in the face of such enterprise.

Yours sincerely,

John and Audrey Parkes.