

Department of Theater Studies
Room 402, Humanities Building
Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia 30322
October 12, 1982

Mr. Ron Short
Roadside Theatre
Box 743
Whitsburg, KY 41558

Dear Ron:

It was wonderful to experience "South of the Mountain" and then to meet you afterwards. Your director asked me if I would express on paper what I said in the wrap-up session. So, as best I can remember:

"Roadside Theatre made me understand for the first time how and why the Abbey Theatre--the inspiration of the folk drama, Little Theatre and university theatre movements--made the kind of impact it did upon North America. The art of Roadside Theatre is that rarest of all art, one in which craft conceals craft. In their authenticity they demonstrate the truth of Yeats's belief that 'the job of the artist is not to seek originality but passion.'"

If you can use any of this please feel free to do so. I enclose a little blurb on my own background so you can at least identify the horse's mouth that hath spoken.

I also hope that something can be worked out to facilitate the project we discussed. It would be exciting and valuable to bring you to Emory. Please encourage Donna Porterfield to send me some material as well as to contact me personally as soon as you have some idea of what your schedules are for next year.

Sincerely,



James W. Flannery

JWF:vd
Enc.