The Royal Opera HRH The Prince of Wales, KG, KT, GCB



The Royal Ballet PRESIDENT HRH The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, cr, gcvo

Royal Opera House Development Appeal

COVENT GARDEN, LONDON WC2E 7QA · TELEPHONE: 01-240 1200 · CABLES: AMIDST, LONDON WC2

JOINT CHAIRMEN

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Drogheda, KG, KBE - Sir Claus Moser, KCB, CBE, FBA EXECUTIVE VICE-CHAIRMAN: Sir Joseph Lockwood VICE-CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Sir Marcus Sieff, OBE HONORARY APPEAL TREASURER: The Rt. Hon. Lord O'Brien of Lothbury, GBE, PC

18th February 1980

Dear Prime Minister

We are writing to you in our capacity of joint chairmen of the Royal Opera House Development Appeal to ask whether you would be willing to grant us a few minutes of your very busy time.

We wish to inform you about the present state of the development project, which is crucial to our survival, and to seek your help and advice regarding our efforts to ensure the completion of the first phase of the programme.

Our request to see you is made with the full knowledge of Mr. Norman. St. John-Stevas, and we earnestly hope that something may be possible in the near future.

We of course recognise that in relation to the great affairs of State with which you have to contend Covent Garden must rank pretty low, but nevertheless we submit that the Royal Opera House is one of the most internationally famous of all British institutions, and that its future survival is a matter of national importance.

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The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P., 10 Downing Street, London, S.W.1.