



Los Angeles College Faculty Guild

Local 1521, American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO • 3356 Barham Boulevard • Los Angeles, CA 90068
Phone (323) 851-1521 • Fax (323) 851-0443 • www.aft1521.org • email office@aft1521.org

April 4, 2002

Ian Ruskin
3456 Barry Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90066

Dear Ian,

Your presentation on Harry Bridges was a superb window into a rather lost episode of important American history. Those who saw it at Valley College were not only entertained and spellbound, but had a rare glimpse of an American all too often left untold. This is a production that must be seen by many of the younger folk of our country if they want to understand their lives today. The eight-hour day, Social Security, seniority, mandatory breaks, and safer working conditions are all taken for granted by the current crop of workers. That these, and many other benefits given to our workforce today were paid for by long hours, brutal treatment and often jail sentences by a courageous handful of labor leaders is nowhere in our history books. We need this kind of presentation to open up a dialog and make history live for the current generation, as well as those of us old enough to remember.

Thanks again for the wonderful evening and for sharing your talents with us. You made Harry Bridges come alive. He was right there in our living room and we all received a great gift.

Your truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pat Allen". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Pat Allen
Los Angeles College Faculty Guild