

abruptly interrupted by a naked woman backing into the door and letting out hysterical shrieks. Never again did Gordon dare come into our house on the way home from the airport, even though I assured him that my mother would not be giving any repeat performances. He was not taking any chances.

New York's International Creative Management booked Gordon and me four concerts in Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall. This was to be the Big Time in the Big Apple; both of us were excited and apprehensive about how we would be received by the New York critics. Cal decided to smuggle himself into the luxurious Pierre Hotel, where Gordon's entourage was staying. It was the first and almost the last time that I took a boyfriend on tour. Whenever I sat down to practise the guitar, I felt guilty for neglecting Cal, who would stretch out on the bed and tell me my pieces sounded so good they did not require rehearsing. "Why don't you come over here and let me give you a cuddle instead of going over and over that same old music?" he would complain. If I decided to oblige, I immediately felt guilty for neglecting the guitar, which was, after all, the reason we were in New York. Cal's amorous demands were not allowing me enough rest; these conflicts left me feeling unfocused and distracted. I resolved that, in future, I must separate my personal and professional lives.

*Variety* gave us a great review, saying, "Liona made the guitar sound as if it were invented for her alone." Hopefully no other guitarists read *Variety*! During a couple of meetings with London Records, who had taken over the international distribution of my albums from Boot, I tried to convince them that the Lightfoot tour was exposing me to massive audiences. Why could they not make a stronger effort at record distribution in the cities where I would be appearing? It was all rather futile, as the ultra-classical executives at London had their heads so buried in operatic negotiations and symphonic scores that they neither knew nor cared who Lightfoot was. Regrettably, they missed a unique marketing and sales opportunity for my albums because of their narrow classical outlook. As