

Paris, 8th Dec. 1962.
(15 rue Paul Bert, Paris 11e)

My dear Krishen, My dear Renu.

Your letter - most anxiously awaited - was received this morning. Of course on arrival from Menton, Akbar showed me your letter & Renu's. We spent a week in south which did us good. Also the events followed & which help to see better. However fundamentally for me - and personally speaking - nothing has changed. I have the positive feeling that for most Indians here the war with China is cruel reality - but a sort of painful experience one has to undergo. Happily there are those who seemed most concerned. Again for me - it's not the Red China Army performance that defeats me, it's really our own helplessness. However, to be fair one must admit that everyone is prepared to join, if there is a lead. Unity has never been more complete. It seems more so at home, & may be this is the best part of this sad story.

Again for me, issues are, all too complex. ~~But~~ All we can do is to inquire constantly - try to understand. I do not think we can judge. Let the men who are chosen for the various jobs do what they think best. They are certainly better informed & more competent. We as painters will never cease to paint - we will never cease to be sensitive human beings. Least we shall never remain inactive or idle. Let's do our painting work most regularly & let's try to do supplementary work which is necessary under these present conditions. It is going to be a modest affair, but the "awareness" is priceless.

Things have grown since I wrote to you last. There are several plans. All are aimed to aid the Indian Red Cross. ① Indian students are collecting funds organising evening with dance & music & various items. ② Mehar - Bharonagary - Rajesh & we both are organising a dinner at Payer des Balths in

Monparnasse Sunday 16th. Decon Indian - Repas Gastronomique.
for 120 people. We are all participating. Jeanine & I are doing
hostess, selling tickets, doing the decoration. The Cook of the Indian
Ambassador is "le Chef 'cuisinier'". Indian girls will serve food.
The Ambassador, the Richons, the people from Cécile Dorsai & several
friends of India will attend. Marc Paup friend of the artists &
proprietor of the Payer des Artistes has given the restaurant for a day
free of charge. Akker has been leading the idea.

The second plan is a show of paintings. This will consist of
what is available locally of Indian painters who are prepared to
donate their works for sale. The entire sale proceeds will go to
the Indian Red Cross. We are ~~making~~ approaching French &
foreign artists living here to give a painting or a watercolor.
The sales will be held at the Ambassador's residence. The
unsold paintings will be returned to the artists. However the plan
is yet to be finalised & will depend on so many other factors.
I am so happy that you consent to give the two paintings I have of
yours. He plans to give one to Susan. Krishna Richon is willing
to give your canvas. But so many things have yet to be settled
I will write later.

Regarding a show on similar lines in New York, I fear
my last letter was not clear enough. I did not mean that we
could sell the paintings already sent to the Gal'63 & where the transport
has been paid by them. I meant that a part of it could go if the
Gal'63 and the artists agree. However the paintings have been cleared
through the customs & there can be no change: the sales must cover
back to France or to the other countries from where the paintings have
been sent. I am writing this letter to clear this point. I think it
will be best to organize a separate show let's say: if events demand
in February 63. in New York where we all can participate - of course
if we decide. The show for this ~~part~~ purpose if it does take
place will be in January. Friends think it should be earlier, but
we intend to invite Picasso & Chagall & various other important French
painters & hence time will be necessary. Hope it is readable. He is for dinner
The letter is a strange patch work. Without Mrs Coasner the
tomorrow. I shall write again. Thanks for news of the Gal'63. While affair is going to be worse.
Please keep us informed in detail.