

S.H. RAZA

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TÉL. 370-97-64

Paris, 22nd November 1982.

My dear Khورشid + Tokio,

There's an old saying - "The dearest ones are the most neglected." And it's so often true. Yet I wonder how can you reasonably present an exhibition of Indian Painters living abroad without your friend RAZA whom you have known all along in Chemoind since foundation?

Your letter dated 10th November makes up for the loss. I contacted Radha immediately + she confirms now that my 5 Serigraphies are flown over the same day + should have reached you on the 19th Nov. I admire the efficiency + fast action of Radha who has now acquired a fine perception + "savoir faire".

My album contains five serigraphies printed with utmost care + under my supervision. The edition is limited to 120 Copies, numbered from 1 to 120 + signed. The preface is by Mr. Pierre Gaudibert director of the Museum of Grenoble, one of the finest in France. I would that you sell the 5 serigraphies together for a price of RS 4500/- But if you must separately sell them, the price should be RS 1200/- each including frame. I hope Radha can send you one full portfolio or album which is like a binded book + looks nice. We are selling very well here. The album is being presented, after Bern, in Grenoble on the 9th December, + in Paris in January. I will try to send you more copies if you need later.

Please see that the serigraphies are most carefully framed. The cost can be deducted from the sale price or debited to my account. Also please let me have a copy of the article by Nadi Karki.

Now another important news from here. Akbar + Bal both visited FIAC - International Festival of Contemporary Art in Paris during October. It is one of the finest International exhibition in Paris + attracts considerable attention. In 1978 when I participated the Indian

Minister of Education, Dr. Aratah Chandra visited it & the President of FIAC Mr. Daniel Gervis took us round. It was decided that India should be represented by one or two galleries in the years to come. Though I did talk to you & Kekoo & Bal about it, no positive action was taken in this direction.

When Bal was here, he was not in good form & I was busy with the 'Bum exhibition'. But on return Akbar & I got together & thought we should try to make it. The inscriptions have to be done through a regular gallery from India & we thought we'll approach you first. We have to choose from our old friends - Husain, Krishen, Akbar, Tyeb, Ram, Gai, Bal & myself. May be just 3 or 4 will agree & we will take a stand accordingly. The rent of a stand at the FIAC is very expensive, but our plan is that the artists share the expenses as also that of transport, insurance & catalogue. The gallery chosen will not have to spend anything, but must agree to make the application & will not take any percentage on sales. This will be the first Indian gallery to show Contemporary Indian painting in France. We want to take a stand of at least 42 square meters or more depending on the artists acceptance as also FIAC's disponibility, as believe me it's very difficult to get in.

Akbar is coming to Bombay on the 29th Nov. & will contact you the next day to discuss the problem with you. The exhibition will be held in September or October 1983 at the Grand Palais in Paris. The applications must reach Paris to the Secretaire General before the 15th December '82.

Rashna was delighted to have this news. She too will see you in December. In the meantime please let me know if the prints reached you in time to include in the showing on 7th December. And please let me know how is Kekoo's health. How I regret not having gone to Ganeshpuri with him in '76. But time factor is important in every awareness.

I want to send a message to my teacher Shri Athawale, but Akbar will give you the precisions. Well my good friend this is all for today. Bob & I said you are fond but & deeply look forward to seeing you again. As ever -

P.S. Rashna has also sent an "Acquisitive" - black bricks on red ground, another print which is besides the album. The price is the same 1200/- with frame.