

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

NO ENCLOSURES
ALLOWED



M. L.H. SAHA

15 Rue Paul Bert.

Paris 11^e

France

↑
To open cut here

Sender's name and address:—

Handwritten signature

3B Mathara Rd

Nelchi

↑
Third fold here

←
Second

My dear Raza,

New Delhi

5th May 1964

Thank you for your letter. I feel awfully grateful for the postal system which keeps me in close touch with friends like you. Otherwise it is a question of facing a desert. I don't want to sound depressing but since I have returned I haven't encountered a single new idea — not that I am hunting for new ideas, I am perfectly content to be by myself & go on working. Nevertheless there is a need in me to see & talk to a few intelligent friends who share the same interest. Ram is back from Bombay & we met a couple of times. I am seeing Mrs Chopra today & find out how much interest she has in Art!! I've spoken to her over the phone. Kenu was in the same college as her. My parents know them — Small world isn't it. In my discussions with him it transpired that while he was in Bombay he never discussed painting with either Gai or Bal though he saw them every day. He said that they are both "touchy" about having their work discussed. My experience is quite to the contrary & I'm beginning to feel that the reservations which Ram has reflect his own attitude rather than theirs. I was almost embarrassed the other evening when he, Harkishan & I ~~went~~ & Kenu went to dine with Sham Lal. It didn't take long before the subject of conversation was painting. Ram almost went to sleep. Harkishan on the other hand spoke little but spoke sense. Sham Lal came out with his well known literary views on art. We had quite a discussion & I have a feeling that he is beginning to see the validity of a "painting experience" as opposed to other experiences. As for me, I have been working away. I haven't recommended the Shmis but have plugged away at oil. I have painted nine since coming — big & small

They are good I think. I'll send you transparencies as soon as I can get down to some photography. At the moment I am heavily involved with working out my Income Tax liability during the period of my absence, and also I shall have to lob in funds for the compulsory deposit scheme - which is a ramp & a farce!

We met the Prem Shankers the other night. Both very pleasant & intelligent people. They sent you & Janine their remembrances! Must close this brief letter. Will write again when I am a little free from Income Tax affairs! What a life for an artist! My fond love to Janine & you. Lena asks me to send hers & says that is writing. Ever,
Krishna