

20th May 1985. Bombay.

My Dear Razajee,

I am writing to you after a long spell of silence. After having received your letter in the first week of April I wrote several letters to you in my thoughts but couldn't put it on paper as I was passing through a phase of depression.

We had a very stimulating week in the Encounter and it was a joy to know you as a person. I was overwhelmed to know you and very fortunate to have some direction in my vision. Thanks for talking so much interest in my work and showing it to Mr. ~~Asok~~ Ashok Vajpayee in Bhopal.

On the day you had your show at Chemould Gallery I left for Delhi and I met Pupul Jaykar in connection with the selection of painters from Nathdwara and selection of folk art from Rajasthan which certainly could have been more appropriate, but after talking to her and after meeting a lot of people connected with festival I realised this whole festival business is political. They take only people with connections who fit in their conveniences.

It is such a pity for our art scene. I stayed in Delhi for 40 days and I realised that there is so much jealousy and unhealthy attitude between artists, Probably this prevails because artists do not have any way to

fulfill their ambitions of growing in this country. In such a large country we have just 3 museums which buy art worth a lakh or two a year. Our Lalit Kala Academy is in such a mess. We don't have a structure of institutions and museums where we can exhibit our work professionally. Personally for me. in 2-3 years, once I exhibit at Taj and number of people can come and see my work, but what else??

Thinking person can really get frustrated and this was the only reason why I and Charan left for Singapore for 2 years. It is true that the world outside is also hard, competitive and a down to earth commercial world, but there certainly one has the hope for growth.

Now its time, I feel like coming to Paris and seeing if I can get any openings to exhibit my work in Paris and Europe somewhere. and for this I seek your guidance.

You have spent such a long time in Paris. you are acquainted with the harsh realities but idea of trying myself in Paris still excites my senses as I have never been to Paris, I am still young, I am very much enthusiastic about exploring Europe. I must tell you as a person I am capable of enjoying life and capable of bearing extreme hardships and Pain. and I am very open person.

Now, first of all I am planning to come to Paris in the last week of August for a week or two. Is it a right time for me to come ?? you have seen and known my work, Could you please introduce me to some of the galleries or institute who could be interested in exhibiting my kind of work ??

Second thing I wanted to ask you is, I ~~in~~ am sure you must be sending your paintings to various annual exhibitions in Paris and Europe, I would like to know about in details and your advice as how to send my paintings.

I happened to meet Arpita Singh in Delhi. As you had mentioned to me in Bombay that apart from me, she is another woman artist whose work you like, Incidentally I discovered that we both are June born !!! I even met another friend of your in Delhi, A french artist called Carlos Arests, a young man married to India girl. Yesterday I met Pandit Ramnarayan, the great sarangi player who told me that he would like to meet you this time when he comes to Paris, in the second week of July to play in the India festival. If you need anything from Bombay, Please let me know I can send it with Panditjee, but you should write to me till 15th June, as after that I and Charan we both are going to Rajasthan. I intend to work in Potters village, Experience intense heat of June in Rajasthan and transform it directly into Clay.



Charan has resigned his job. It will take us some time in getting adjusted to this idea as we have a very small house and we both have to work in it. This time you couldn't come to our home and my wish of making roti and chatni still remains unfulfilled.

I am glad that we have some beautiful photographs of you which reflects the wonderful moments we had together. By the time you receive this letter Indian Festival will have been inaugurated in Paris.

I am so much enthusiastic about coming to Paris in August which means meeting you again, and as time is very short for me to make my preparations I would very much appreciate an early reply.

convey my warmest regards to Mrs. Raza.

With deep affection

Yours

Nimisha

Nimisha Sharma

B-2 /405 Kalpita Enclave

Sahar Road, Andheri (East)

Bombay. 400069. India

Tel 6045275.