

PARIS, 2nd Nov. 1960

My dear Krishen,

I did get your letter from Rome & the second one from Kanpur, dated 23rd Oct. Without waiting for your letters I have myself written two - one sent around 18th or 19th & the other just last week.

In the first letter, I enclosed Ramani's letter to Philips. He sent a copy to me thinking that you may still be here & finalising the purchase of your painting. I had also enclosed the letter of the German doctor who wanted to acquire the 3 paintings of which he enclosed the slides. In your last letter - you haven't ~~miss~~ mentioned the receipt of these & I only hope that the letters have crossed. Please do let me know if you received it - I had also in the same letter thanked you & Renu once again for the "Phulkari" which we like so much & I really wanted Renu to know how happy we were to have it.

I could not enclose the slides, which followed in my letter sent in reply to the one I received from you from Rome. Hope you got these & your next letter give the news. Incidentally, may be again, it crosses this quick note.

The news of another show in Rome is good. I really do not know whether you should try - my own opinion would be to do it if there are chances of sales. I am told Husain did sell, bought a car ~~there~~, and left it there as he leaves his paintings & the broken hearts. But your next London show is to my mind most important. You must have sufficient work to show there & even bring paintings to Paris & this time contact the dealer's here seriously.

I regret you could not see Bal. Hope his health is better & he is already out of India. We shall look forward to

meeting him. I hope to discuss things straight. It's no use that he continues the gallery this way. Bussiness is a hereditary disease in him, but art bussiness is an absurdity. If he does it, his personality is bound to suffer. Also his painting. I know that if he is determined he will make a good art-dealer. But I have really started wondering if it will be worth ~~the~~ while. He has an artist's temperament, & the best would be to plunge himself in his art rather than wasting time in petty quarrels & scanty bussiness prospect. The Indian exhibition in Paris will come - if it does not come, after all, it's not such an urgent need. Bal need not be sacrificed for it, nor for the gallery 59.

Sorry to know that the new gallery did not start. It's no surprise... & I reserve my views.

I really wish you write to me again if you meet Bal & discuss the matters with him.

Ram Kumar wrote. He is doing well & showing at Kumari. I fear most people will come to him <sup>(Kumari)</sup> if Bal decides to do nothing but paint. I am also told that Tom may be leaving India.

Dr. Bhakha was here. He invited the artists to a cocktail he throw at the posh hotel George V in Paris. The next day he visited Lara Vimey to see my paintings. As usual very attentive & cordial.

Janine's finger is completely healed up now & she is at work. Georges article is favourable, but I think it lacks substance. I am used to mediocre criticism, but I expect him to grow & fast. It's getting disappointing. I do not know why there can't exist a vital, alive art-criticism... He sent me a letter - I received this morning. Wants my news & plans - is sorry could not see us during his 2 days trip to Paris.



I am glad you have started painting & will send us slides. I am really keen to see what follows. I am myself in a state of great tension in relation to my own work. It seems so difficult to guide oneself consciously. The powers of space & colour & the evergrowing importance that take with every new canvass, lead me more & more to a strictly formal approach. I am myself anxious to see what follows - almost like a spectator. This really is an absurdity, but I hope to see better in a few months.

This blasted "Ecole de Paris" has not yet started. It should be next week I hope, but yet we have no invitations. The Montreal Show opened yesterday. I am sending you separately a catalogue. Do show it to friends - I could only get 5 copies - the printers having miscalculated the number.

Did not meet Akbar since the evening at Jean Bhawnagary. I will certainly convey the message in regard to the knives & spoons.

Fernandez will be out of my care from the 5th of this month. I think he has enough money for 1 1/2 months & in the meantime may be he gets the R. B. permit. We are sending your letter to Mr Kasbaker - ~~next~~ <sup>this</sup> week. The application has already been sent to Batlivraia whom we have asked to forward it with his certificate. Naturally these two have ~~been~~ sent separately. F. is at present trying to get his visa extended here. We will know it on the 4th. I am still ~~watching~~ <sup>watching</sup> him & helping him in every way possible.

Let me know about the work Ram, Hsain, Gai & Bal are doing. I am most interested to know how you view the work at present. Your letters are most welcome & I really enjoy them. So write as often as you can. I am so happy you are sending us the cushions & may be a bit later the bed spread. Let me know if the slides were received by you. Infact this was the packet that was forwarded to me from London - with the Dr's letter. It will be a pity to lose them. I shall send you the palak knives at the next opportunity. Hope Bal does come. Let me know if you need other materials. We think very much of you, next time both you & Penn must spend a month here.

Sorry if this letter is patchy. I  
with my faintest thoughts to you both - & love to children  
D.H.