

RAZA



ASHOK VAJPEYI

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By *Ashok Vajpeyi*

Published by *Ravi Kumar*, Publisher, Paris

To coincide with the eightieth birthday of RAZA, this exquisite special edition of selected colour plates of his work including an intimate conversation with the celebrated poet – author Ashok Vajpeyi, about his art and life has been published. Unique of its kind, the plates are of highest quality reproductions, and the deluxe edition contains three signed and numbered silkscreens. A poem (in Hindi with English version) dedicated to the artist by Mr. Vajpeyi is included.

A beautifully designed book, truly a collector's item.

Sayed Haider Raza, internationally renowned contemporary master of Indian art was born in 1922 in Madhya Pradesh, India. His higher studies in painting led him to the Nagpur School of Art, then the Sir J.J. School of Art, Bombay and by 1950 to the Ecole Nationale des Beaux-Arts, Paris, on a French scholarship.

His numerous presentation in solo and group exhibitions in India and across the globe have earned him numerous awards including the Prix de la Critique in Paris and the Padmashri in India. He has been a visiting lecturer at the University of Berkeley and was elected fellow of the Lalit Kala Akademy, New Delhi. He also awarded the prestigious Kalidas Samman by the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh. In early 2002 has been honoured by the French Government by the award of Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters.

Raza's works have won wide appreciation throughout in India and abroad and he is considered as one of the most important living artist today. Some of the most important museums, galleries and collectors all over the world have acquired and showed Raza's works. A painter with distinct style, a unique vision and personal aesthetics, Raza has remained rooted in the Indian ethos while imbibing some outstanding French plastic values. Resident in Paris for more than half a century, he visits India frequently.

Ashok Vajpeyi, Author

Eminent Hindi poet and critic, Mr. Vajpeyi has a long association with the arts, their appreciation and promotion. Recipient of two prestigious awards in 1994 for his poetry, the Sahitya Akademy Award and the Dayawati Modi Kavi Shekhar Samman, he has published ten books of poetry and seven of criticism. His works have been translated in to many languages and he has participated in numerous international poetry festivals and seminars across the globe.

Founder of several cultural institutions including the internationally renowned multi-arts complex Bharat Bhawan in Bhopal, he has functioned as the Director General of the National Museum, New Delhi and has been a trustee of the Indira Gandhi National Centre of Arts. He is currently the Vice-Chancellor of Mahatama Gandhi International Hindi University and is working on an in-depth book on the life and art of S.H. Raza, and soon to be released a book on seven Indian painters. A selection of his poems on the arts, including music, visual arts, dance etc. has been recently released.

Ravi Kumar, Publisher, Paris

An art publisher based in Paris for nearly four decades, Ravi Kumar landed a unique initiative to promote contemporary Indian art in Europe, the USA and Japan. He began publishing art books in 1966, and since then has promoted Indian Art and published land mark books on Tantra art, Tantra Asana, Raga Mala Painting, Jain Cosmology, Tibetan Paintings etc.

From a concept born more than two years ago, these special edition portfolios are presented to celebrate the artist's eightieth birthday. These volumes of selected plates, and the book on the life and art of Raza join the gallery of fine art books by this publisher dedicated to preserve and disseminate our cultural heritage.

Deluxe Limited Edition Portfolio of 100 numbered sets

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