

Paris, 25th January, 1970.

My dear Krishen,

Thanks for your letter dated 1st January. I was happy to re-discover your old self & your warm & precise navigation. I was also glad to have your views concerning the Triennale situation, & the latest news.

I did feel concerned, & had kept myself informed. The first information reached me through friends, the press & "Vishchik". On the 11th January I received from Vivian Sundaram the first positive facts & figures. However, all this reached me a bit too late. I had a perfectly decent invitation from Mr. Chatterji to participate in the 2nd Triennale - may I say - invitation to participate & not for a "possible participation" & since I considered that the Triennale was in spite of all its shortcomings the most stimulating activities of the L. K. A., I had decided to send a recent & major canvas. However the problems of transport & customs are so terribly difficult that with the short time at my disposal, the painting could not be sent.

I wrote to Shiekh & later to Vivian Sundaram in all sincerity. I have also written to Bal. Now that all is well set to go, I only hope that emotional statements & group squabbles can be avoided. Whatever any one of us may think, the real concern should be ART & ARTISTS. One would expect that out of the artists meet on the 31st, a global understanding of problems & a positive plan of action can emerge.

Even though out in the Triennale this time, I guess you are certainly busy. Hence this short letter. I have said all I considered essential in my letters to Shiekh & V.S., which I want you to read dispassionately. In as much as I am convinced that some fundamental problems are common in any part of the world in relation to human nature or workings of institutions, it is not false modesty when I say that I will like to get acquainted if some local realities have escaped me. We are working like mad. Its tremendous - Fond love to you & Penny - R.A.H.

Paris, 17th Feb. 1964. My dear Krishen Your two good letters reached us in time. They possess a vital seductive quality & I do admit it was sheer pleasure reading them. I am sorry once again to be late in replying, but too many things are happening & it is difficult to keep pace with time flying fast. I only hope this letter is written & sent before you leave New York.

I am already looking forward to meeting you again. We are sorry - though - that you will let us down & will stay with the Ribbons. We haven't met them - obviously since we were there together last summer. And of course we did not tell them of your "voyage éclairé" during October. Do let us know how your plan stands & if the Ribbons are busy elsewhere, please know that our house is open to you as ever.

Yes. Husain did call. And this time the meeting was friendly & agreeable. No hide or seek, & no nervousness. It was all frank & friendly conversation & I for one felt happy. But he stayed here only a day & this is a luxury only Indian patriots can afford. Even one has his own pleasing. Regarding "patriots" we shall talk when you come & if you like. I did read your contribution to the weekly which has the perfume of new Delhi streets, but I hope by now you yourself find exhilarated!!! Old. Krishen. I love you.

Did you see ~~the~~ the Husain show in New York. I do

agree with you that the Exhibitions in the Chancelleries are not serious affairs. But how many people take anything seriously - And Painting - are serious painters really interested that the serious people come first. In fact it is an irony of present situation, that serious people are the last to be interested in & are the last to be aware of serious work. The basic structure is "finance", & if the Time Magazine is interested, the rest will follow.

What is most wonderful about you Krishen - & think that I feel the same way with Akbar - that one can really talk. There's an immediate reception & the sourness of truth has a magnificent ~~at~~ taste. In fact in the long run this is the essence of human encounter. I am being stupid or philosophical - but never mind, this short letter has to leave tomorrow morning. It is 11 p.m. Janine is still painting. Five Canvases are to be sent to "Schemes" a new show opening on the 21st Dec. She has 3 canvases at the "Realités Nouvelles" in the Museum of Modern Art & we are both showing in "Comparaisons" in March - again in Museum of Modern Art. We almost went to Rabat in Morocco where we were invited at the Biennale, but I hate to move. Getting old. I am working for the London show & will participate if Butcher is friendly. No news of the studio but something may happen any day. I hope it does. I desperately need a place to work.

Your excellent miniature is in our bed room. This is the first thing we see every morning - & believe me it a source of constant joy.

Write & let us know when you arrive. Love from us both
As ever RMA