

Paris, 24th July 1956

My dear Ram,

Thanks for your letter. I am happy to see you share my joy. For me frankly, it's comforting to see that after years of struggle, my work has received some measure of success. Indeed it has not been easy, & at least the last two years I have worked testlessly. All kinds of situations presented themselves. I do not ^{its haste and effort} judge anything. It is only thus that ^{a man} grows.

~~In two months' time I have ^{result} only exhibitions & you will realise its importance for me.~~ Since 15 days or more I have been surrounded by friends, critics & journalists - not really such a big number only that I am limited in my possibilities & can't do only a few things. And whatever I do, I really want to do it as well as I can. So you can realise that ^{now already} I am wanting to hide myself & work. I hope it will be possible soon.

I hope to give here some information about the "Prix de la Critique". Khanna wrote to me recently & sent me a newspaper cutting

which pleased + annoyed me at the same time.

Journalists are funny people. I do not know why they cannot present facts simply - at least facts about simple people like me. I hate the glamour + and picturesque. ^{I will be dull perhaps but here's} information in brief.

Prix de la critique is ~~being~~ awarded to ~~the~~ ^{perhaps cold + dull, but for you} ~~every year since the last 10 years~~ by a jury of 14 ^{Parisian} art critics ^{under the presidency} who are actively working + writing for various news papers here in Paris. Buffet, Lorjon, Mineaux, Pressmann have been some of the winners of this award. The critics during the year select 10 painters who have shown their works in Paris during the year + in July ^{the laureat} on the final selection is ~~done~~ ^{select} + then they chose one artist to whom the prize is awarded to one who they consider ~~the best~~. The president of the jury is Mr. Claude Roger Marks, a very well known art critic here (Figaro Littéraire). ^{It is the most coveted of prizes} ~~Besides this prize there are others but this is the most coveted.~~ ~~estimated.~~ The winner gets the Galerie St. Placide exhibits for a month ^{in July} all the artists who have been selected with three plates of the winning artist. In September the Galerie gives the winning artist a free exhibition. Later the exhibition goes to Japan.

My work has been drawing some attention since October last year - about the time you were