

Paris, 19th Jan. 1963.

My dear Krishen,

BURRRRE! Coldest winter we ever know. Let's hope that the snow that has just started falling, will warm up the city a little.

We have been working regularly for about a month. Not a bad start, but we always need a 3 month sitting & settling down before anything positive can develop. Let's hope.

I have written to Ake today. I should like to write to you also - my reply is long delayed. Your good letter of 22nd Dec was well received in time & we enjoyed having the news. Akbar was for dinner the same evening & so we shared the letter. The newspaper strike - is also a serious blow, for even though we all detest & despise the critics & reporters, they seem to be an evil necessity. May be, once a while, it could be refreshing not to have any press at all. However I am sorry for one thing. The organisers of this Gallery, before they got our paintings wrote very polite letters, once the paintings were received then has not ~~been~~ been a single letter, even the acknowledgement of receiving & even the fact the exhibition opened was known to us from your letter only.

Regarding prices I am very surprised that they should find it high. I am selling here 100 new frames a point - & that's the price all over the world. We gave Mrs Grest the same prices & wanted her to take her commission on these prices - so that they remain the same. Akbar did increase his prices, but very slightly. But you know, with the expenses of transport etc Mrs Grest would have decided to increase at will, & well since it did not

I wanted this to buy, & was shown at "Galerie de Paris" was
for the very "Gothic" the painting

2 work, all the blame on us. Pity that a good opportunity is lost but then well I am sure they have to learn that Art business is a very special thing & that they will need years to get to understand painters & collectors, though there's no hope that these charming ladies of Gal 63 will ever understand painting.

Now please do me a favour. Let me know which of my paintings were exhibited. If you could give the titles I will know, or just simple description. Have they done a catalogue. I should have liked to have one - or were the printers also on strike. Is it true that Mrs Krasner ~~also~~ did leave. We have recently a letter at the gallery saying that the Asia Society is taking up the show to Philadelphia & Boston. It signed by Mr... ~~It~~ It will do them good to have a man around.

Did you sell anything. I am very keen to have all the information

Akbar left last Monday. The show of Indian paintings we plan seems very difficult to realise - we need someone to organise & getting a gallery locally seems very difficult. Krishna is organising an exhibition of Indian textiles, in a big way of course, but it means several millions involved. However it's going to be a prestige show for India & I am glad. Mulk was here yesterday & we met him most anxiously to get news from home. Everything is very depressing, but for the fact that China is more & more isolated. But little effort & organisation in the country itself. Mulk as usual is full of ideas & plans. Wants me to come to Chandigarh to do a ~~piece~~ mural. I referred gently to your talk & the visit to Chandigarh when having talked he forgot everything. He said you had not confirmed. I did not insist, but I wanted to make a point. Now since the mural, I have to give as a gift, one will have to wait a bit longer.

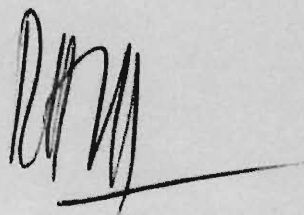
No news yet, regarding the dispatch to Fathima.

Now what are your plans. ^{What} you tired of your life in New York. Do you intend to ~~take~~ ^{accompany} the exhibition the Asia Society is organising. Depending on the duration of the show in various city it can be interesting or boring. In any case do let me know what is decided. I should better advise you giving a show of your own paintings in New York & concentrate on it rather than doing ~~a~~ some more travelling.

I am impossible you will say.

How is Penn. We miss you both, will look forward to hearing from you & will really look forward to meeting you both in Paris. Tell us when you expect to be here.

Our fond love to you both



Please note my exact address:

S. H. RAZA
15 RUE PAUL BERT,
PARIS 11^e

Tel: VOL - 39 - 77