

Très cher Raza!

Bonne et heureuse surprise
 son invitation - signe de non oubli - pour
 les "Artistes Indiens..." Je me proposais
 d'y être avec joie. J'ai eu l'attente; hier
 trop belle journée - soleil, calme et
 atmosphère de rêve. Je décidais une longue
 marche solitaire bien au-dessus de Thines.
 Je ne le voyais plus de là-haut que
 comme une virgule sur son promontoire,
 au centre géométrique de tout un enchevêtrement
 rythmé de crêtes et de vallées, sans autre
 signe de vie alentour. Regardant trop
 l'horizon ou le ciel je m'étais
 machinalement sur les rochers, tête première.
 Adieu Vermissage!! Dans deux ou trois
 semaines (plutôt trois!), quand à peu près
 présentable, je "monterai" visiter
 l'Expo du 11 rue Berryer, que je connais
 assez bien. Je me permettrai de vous
 faire signe - si vous n'êtes pas aux
 antipodes - à toi et à Joanne.

J'essaye de transmettre la
 carte - Invitation à "Line", une de mes
 deux filles jumelles que je ne pense pas
 avoir conduite à Gachvo malgré le
 souhait de vous connaître qu'elle
 manifestait depuis longtemps - Elle
 vient juste d'arriver à Paris
 dans des conditions un peu de catastrophe,
 quittant son très bon poste (et le
 sens de sa vie) à la manufacture
Bengalaise de Tapisserie pour fuir

des conditions de proche environnement
devenues non supportables à DAKAR,
et insère ses deux fils dans des
Lycées de Paris. Je souhaite qu'elle
fasse connaissance du 11 rue Bergan,
fondation et maison des artistes, pour
suggérer éventuellement d'un recyclage
argent à Paris ou sur l'Hexagone.
... Et de la chaleur humaine et existentielle
profondes qu'elle peut, même en
de breves instantes, ressentir et
absorber de vous, Raza-Janine, Excuses.

Je vous espère dans
les meilleures conditions de
travail et de santé.

Problèmes financiers seuls ne
m'ont pas permis de refaire
un saut j'ai qu'à for-bro!

Affectueuse Amitié

Wafaf-

Nov, 13th 1985

Dearest Friends,

I am ashamed really, not to have written before.... But I always hoped, I could tell you that my problems were over with.... Even today, it is not the case, *helas* ! The Museum of Yverdon is interested, and I thought they would come immediatly, to tranfer the collection to the Chateau. From week to week, and *from* months to month, excuses are found : The weather, the vacation of this one or the other, the pressure of work... In one word, nothing is yet settled, and I am loosing hope, that my collection will at long last *be* at home in Yverdon !!! I will be writting again today, asking for a definite date about this transfer . It will have to be very soon, as we will found ourselves at Xmas, when nothing can be moved. It is simply desperating, and only because I have been working very hard on my dolls, that I am resisting this anxiety... I never imagined it would *be* so difficult to GIVE anything, more so, something *of* such value.... Well, you learn every day of your life.

As soon as I know something definite, I will let you know.... I hope this transfer will be my Xmas present ! I truly needs something to brighten an othe~~r~~wise rather grim existence. My foot and leg are still insensitive, in spite of so much walks, exercices and physiotherapy. For the winter, I stopped those electric treatments which were so tiresome. We will *see* in Spring how the situation will present itself. *I accomplished to* Of course, I made some progress, but realising how much has yet to get better..... It is truly depressing. Thank God, I have much perseverance and stamina, and faithfully, every day, do what I am ask~~ed~~ to... It is not easy, and I simply grit my teeth and go ahead.... rain or shine, warm or cold. Those past days were frigid, and even dressed for the North Pole, I usely came back, completly frozen after an hour - an hour $\frac{1}{2}$ in this weather !!! But, when it comes to my general health, I think I am better than before, due to so much exercice and fresh air !!! Every week-end, I come to Etoy for 10 hours secretarial work.... and during the week, I enjoy concocting period dresses for the dolls ! I was most fortunate to get to know this person who make them in porcelain, but doesnot know how to sew.... She gave lately an exhibit, which was well attended ! A lot of people came, inspite of the worse possible weather, Everyone was most pleased, and didnt stop to tell how every-thing was beautiful. Helas ! the sales didnt follow suit at the same rate !!! For me, I felt sorrowly disappointed, but my client didnt mind to much. It was her first experience, and she is already planning next year 'showing !!! which means for me, another 20 to 30 costumes to make ... I ask little money, because, what is important, is to be busy on something I love doing.... instead of getting depressed, thinking about all the problems facing me ! One has to be content with little, now a days

In any case, I never could hear a penny doing what I liked !!!! and never liked what brought me a salary worth mentioning !!!!

But enough on myself. I am so very happy and proud, knowing that your exhibits are successful and well attended. But on the card : Artistes indiens en France, it is mentioned a name, which surprised me : Amrita Sher Gil. I used to know a girl of this name in Lahore, but the poor thing committed suicide many years ago. Is it the same person, or another one, having the same name ? My friend, because we became friends, was a painter too, and did some lovely canvases...

I hope and pray, that you do as well financially as successfully !!! One cannot live only ^{on} with praise.... I hope that Janine, in her own sphere, does well too... Keep working hard, it is the only salvation in this crazy world, and try to keep in good health... which influences so much on the mental attitude and outlook...

What you say about saturation in Art of all kind : being music, painting, sculpture etc etc. is very true, and just now, money is not so plentiful as it was some years back... People are more hesitating, not knowing ^h what to buy... always thinking first to a future profit, than to sheer actual pleasure... In any case, I wish you success and a break through, as you deserve....

I am writing this short note from the office... If I wait to write from home, you may not get a letter this year! I still have to stay 12 hours in bed, and my sitting time is that much shorter.... So, I wish you a fine winter and a happy holiday season. Take good care of yourself, and think sometime of me !!!!

If any positive steps are at long last taken, I will let you know ... but I often began to doubt about ~~about~~ everything, in spite of nice promises given at each meeting....

All my love to both of you, and my very best wishes for everything, as ever yours

Forgive the many mistakes, but I am constantly interrupted with tel. calls... I will do better next time !!!

Thank you again having send all the informations on your exhibitions...