

# Raza work sells for ₹1.1 crore at city auction

By **Srijani Ganguly**

in New Delhi

CELEBRATED painter S.H. Raza emerged as the champion of Delhi Art Gallery's (DAG) third and most recent auction this week as his *Zameen* went off the block for ₹1.10 crore.

Held on Thursday at The Oberoi, the 'Significant Indian Modern Art' auction boasted of more than 75 works by some of the best Indian artists and photographers.

Raza's masterpiece came up for a bid quite early in the auction process, at number 18. The first lot, which was M.F. Husain's *Untitled (Ganesha)*, sold for the second highest price of the evening ₹45 lakh.

Despite the highs and lows of the bids, one feature that was constant throughout the auction was that 10 per cent of the proceeds from each sale were set aside for Outset, a philanthropic organisation founded



*Celebrated painter S.H. Raza*

by Feroze Gujral to provide a platform for contemporary art all over the world.

"Outset is out of the UK and is now a rapidly growing group of people all over the world raising money for the arts. We have played a key role in the art world," said Gujral prior to the auction.

Other than paintings by Raza and Husain, the bidders were also enamoured by Ganesh Pyne's *The Puppet*, part of one of the later lots at number 68, which was sold for ₹35 lakh.

Some of the other works up for sale were photographer Nemai Ghosh's pictures of Sharmila Tagore and Simmi Garewal from the set of *Aranyer Din Ratri*, Himmat Shah's untitled 1982 Plaster of Paris work and Haren Das' set of four woodcuts and an etching.