

S.H. RAZA

101, RUE DE CHARONNE
2, CITÉ DU COUVENT
75011 PARIS

TÉL. 01 43 70 97 64
FAX 01 43 70 51 45

PARIS, 14th September, 2000

My dear Krishna,

It was great talking to you on phone. Soon after I got your last letter from Shimla, dated 24th August. I was happy to find you in good health & enthusiastic about our project of the exhibition at "Tao" in January 2001. Time is flying fast & I pray & hope that this get together is possible while we are all still around & relatively in good form. The "elegy" again reveals your poetic mind & I did enjoy reading.

We are back in Paris, after interrupted & brief stays in Gorbio. Both Janine & I have serious health problems for the last two - three years. Medical advice & treatments are much better in Paris than in South of France. We are taking care, but work has been slow, even if I have been at the easel 'most' regularly.

Yes. I wanted to tell you that let's make our next exhibition an important - significant event. Firstly that it is a fraternal get together of old friends, & after 50 years that have passed by, the bond of friendship has remained intact. Secondly, that it can be a demonstration of the vitality of our formal research which in spite of differences of temperaments & sensibilities has a common denominator: painting - deeply rooted in the Indian tradition & perfectly — in tune with the era of science & technology of the second half of the 20th century. Thirdly, I deeply wish that a well designed catalogue, with large colour reproductions is printed on this occasion, which goes beyond the period of exhibition & can be a tangible

reference not only in India but in any art center in the world.

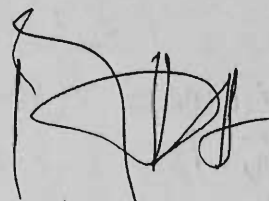
We have to give our best works: I mean - two major recent paintings + one or two small earlier works of the fifties. Surely for us, to find ourselves together with our works will evoke memories + surely will be a great emotional experience - it will also be an inquiry in retrospect.

Indian Contemporary painting is coming on the world map. But it is all very slow. There are prejudices + many reasons - marketing, promotion, a lack of art policy - governmental + art institutions. But all this will be sorted out in course of time, as most of the vital Indian painters are following their own inner inclinations instead of catering the current European or American trends.

We have to continue working - the younger generation also, as in the present cross cultural context of a globalised world, where mass communication, noise + spectacles prevail, it seems important to be alone + listen to the messages that emerge from silence.

This brief letter is accompanied by a few prints of my recent works, and a ~~etc~~ catalogue of my New York exhibition in June 1999. I am with white canvases at present, even though I have not yet taken "Sanyas". I still love flowers, beautiful creatures, good food + all that constitutes a "Savoir Vivre". And of course I cannot resist my passion for "color", an important painting element.

Kind love to you + Renu - Yours ever -



P.S. Enclosed also a couple of photographs of Gorbio, also the four Snyssers in fukra - Jan. 2000. Alas Akbar was held up somewhere we missed him, also you + Ram + Gai -