

S.H. RAZA

101, RUE DE CHARONNE

2, CITÉ DU COUVENT

75011 PARIS

TÉL. 370-97-64

PARIS, 18th February, 1983

My dear Bal -

At last a letter from FIAC. Our chances of getting a stand in Fiace 83 are not at all sure. But we should know by 15th of March. Enclosed herewith a copy of the letter which I have received from Mr. Joubert. Maybe Kekeo & Khoshed have also received this letter.

I still believe that we will get a stand this year & we should keep ourselves ready. Many developments are taking place here & it would have been good to start with FIAC. It would have been a pioneer effort in spite of all the risk it involves.

To the best of my knowledge, the important & independent projects of showing Indian Contemporary Art in France are decided by the French Government. First of all an exhibition of Contemporary Paintings & other cultural activities at the Musée Georges Pompidou. They did not want to hear about it <sup>so far</sup>. Only my friend Pierre Gaudibert, Director of Musée de Grenoble was interested & his project is also well on way & even decided by the govt. before Serge Pompidou project. May be the two efforts can be coordinated & even shown elsewhere in France: (I will hope at the Fondation Maeght in St. Paul de Venise. This later is my own suggestion, & I know it can be possible if planning is done in advance.)

Both the projects Grenoble & Paris will need visits, & comply preparations & correspondence & I wish our Govt. takes up this matter with enthusiasm. Please inform Akbar, but be discreet about the news particularly with the Press. Let them know from Governmental sources when the time comes.

I had tried to meet Daniel Gervis, I wrote & left messenger. His Gallery has become a private gallery & he



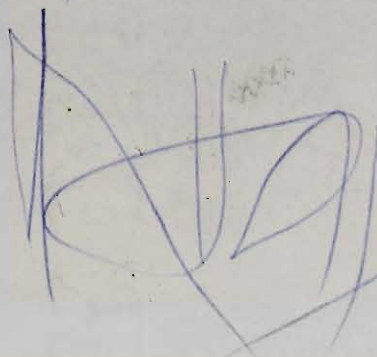
he receives only on appointment - like His Majesty. Pity, as I had known him well enough, but I hate to force any way. The selection of the Galleries for FIAC depends on the Committee of COFIAC of which he is the president - unless of course if Jessie Westphale has replaced him.

I see that Chemould ~~get~~ gets ~~in~~ involved in this operation financially. I wish both you & Tyeb participate. My original idea was that Chemould made the application & the artist share the expenses, so that no Commission will be paid to the Gallery. I know Tyeb cannot pay & can arrange working conditions with Chemould. Things are different at home, & I will not like to intervene. But I am sure you all will come to ~~an~~ arrangements fair to all the parties involved. In the meantime, it's my hard job to get the PAN KI DUKAN at this damned International fair. But believe me, everything is difficult over here.

"अपनी हिममत है तो हय फिर भी गिये जाते हैं"

Now tell me about you, and this Bal CHHABDA showing in March. I don't like to come for a week end to Bombay. It must be getting hot & may be next winter is better. I will like to come in January '84 & get the hell out of you all. You know that Janine shows in Norway Oct-Nov. 83, so keep Sept Oct & Nov. off. But I know talking to you about your show is like playing Jean Sastre's Bach to a donkey!

All the same fond love to you, Unwarshi & Jeet from Janine & self. Did you get the Varmish.



How is your bottom?