

Paris, 24th April 1964.

My dear Krishna,

Thanks for your letter dated 16th, received just this morning. It is a beautiful day & I am taking the opportunity to write immediately.

Firstly Air India's Calendar. I did get a letter from Cowasji asking me to submit a painting ^{for} reproduction in their next year's Calendar. The ^{painting} has to be horizontal & should depict an Indian festival! I know that several of my paintings have the festival mood - say Holi or Diwali or Mohurram - but only for those whose dishonibility is ripe. Others will safely call them "abstract". So thinking that I will lose the few good slides I have, I did not reply yet. Now with your letter, I am encouraged to send them & try to find out if a painting could fit in their scheme. I am writing to Cowasji as I have no letter from Mr. Modi. I shall be happy if my painting could be reproduced in India time and again so that friends are reminded of me. Besides if you, Akbar are also there I am sure it will be a really Art Calendar & not the usual decorative images with pale & bloodless girls & empty pots & pans.

Akbar is coming for lunch today. I will also ask him to reply. If it works out it will be wonderful. I will

suggest that if you met these people, do insist that once a while they tried to do a real modern calendar. The time is ripe. However if this year they choose my painting I shall request Gov India to pay the reproduction charges to you, as I believe they cannot remit to me in French francs.

I have been at work in my studio almost 12 hours a day. Not painting but cleaning & arranging it. We took charge on the 15th April as was agreed & found that a lot of things were to be done. We cleaned the walls - it's all in stone. We have removed the false ceiling to get the beams apparent. It looks splendid. I am so happy Krishna that at last I have a studio & thank Providence & my dear friends who helped to realise it.

Janine too has been busy helping me to do the studio. We got your last letter & also the fine letter from Renee. Please give her our fond love & tell her that I will write to her separately very soon. I am also writing to Pam. If he is already in Delhi, please ask him to meet Mrs Pushpa Chopra, 20, Kitchener Road, Diplomatic Enclave, New Delhi. Tel: 33778. She is Ravi Srinivas mother & is interested in paintings. If you find time, see her also.

I am so happy that friends in Bombay like you big Sami. Are you doing some more. Why do not you show the two in Delhi before you send them to London. I must end the letter though I have other things to write. In my next. It's a fine bright day today - which is so rare here & so I will go to work. Fond love to you both from us - R/M