



A painting by Raza.

Paris-based artist returns with show in Delhi, Mumbai

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NEXT week, eminent Paris-based painter Raza (born Sayed Haider Raza on February 22 in Babaria, MP) will be coming home for a huge 80th birthday party-exhibition-book release in Mumbai and Delhi.

And this even as the art world is abuzz with the rumour that this important contemporary artist — a founder of the Progressive Artists Group and alumnus of the prestigious Ecole Nationale des Beaux-Arts — is to be awarded a top honour by the French government. Though, Raza himself denies knowledge of this.

But whether he gets to wear a ribbon on his lapel or not, India is revving up for a major show of his kundalini-inspired works on February 21, presented by Sharan Apparao of Chennai at the Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai. A week later, Vadehra Gallery in the Capital will organise a smaller event.

Two limited edition portfolios of Raza's work will also be released in Delhi and Mumbai along with a book of conversations and poems with bureaucrat-writer Ashok Vajpeyi. They are being produced by Bookwise (New Delhi) and Paris-based publisher Ravi Kumar, who has known Raza for 44

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