

our first exhibition. It created quite a stir, and was fairly well received. Later we gave ~~several~~ two more group shows & exhibited regularly. ~~There is~~ ^{There is} ~~an indifference & my work was constantly rejected in various salons.~~ ^{an indifference & however I had} ~~it is only now that I can~~ ^{hardly understand it.} I decided to stay on in Paris, & to work my way out. The struggle was very difficult indeed, ~~but I kept always believing~~ for the last one year, & ~~had some~~ there was a growing interest in my work which ended in my being selected ~~for the~~ & finally winning this ~~much coveted~~ Prize.

Now let me tell you what this represents. The jury is composed of 814 ~~most important~~ Parisian art critics who work for the most important journals here. The president is Mr. Claude Roger Mark ~~to~~ a very well known art critic. During the year they select 18 painters who have been ~~living & working~~ ^{exhibiting} in Paris & in July they give the prize to one of them. ~~See~~ The artist's ~~own~~ works are presented for a public show, & later the exhibition is sent to ~~the~~ ^{in accordance with regulations} the winning artist is offered ~~an~~ ex Japan - The winning artist is given a free exhibition in Sept.

It's a much coveted prize, & ~~the~~ incidentally this is for the first time that it has been awarded to a foreign artist. I must say, I have now a better understanding of human mind & even ~~some~~ various aspects of life & society, but I have remained the same nervous & shy boy, I used to be ~~the~~ & as you knew me. I could not have any other recourse, except my work to impose myself.

As it is I am selling well my paintings. Thus a gallery exhibiting my work regularly in rue la Boëtie & ~~the~~ I think in future, I can do some really good

^{work} ^{more} ^{attractive} ~~to me~~ than the present.

My first hair exhibition is for the 15th Sept.
I cannot really say how well I can really fare in it. I
will have wanted more time. I have to work very hard.
I have already another big room ^{as before} to work ~~in~~ & am
working to the maximum.

I hope this letter finds you in good health.
~~as the children~~. ~~I have no~~. I shall very much like to
get your letter & to know the news of my school
where I started. I hope one day ~~soon~~ I shall
^{again} ~~be~~ there ~~with you & with other friends~~
& it will be an extremely happy
event for me. ~~Please convey my regards~~
& Dehadrai & Vasant ~~reco~~ ^{to} & my respect to Vahni.
Mr. Hadas.

~~Please give my~~
I hope ^{sincerely} that
you will excuse my long silence
& that you will write.

Yours sincerely

RAJ