

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

NO ENCLOSURES

ALLOWED



Mr. et Mme S. H. Raza  
15 Rue Paul Bert,  
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Sender's name and address :—

K Khanna  
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Third fold here

Second



\* not of opportunity + sympathy to  
dearest Raza + Janine.

Chandigarh

9th Feb 1962

I think this must be the fifth attempt at writing to you. Each time I have had to abandon it because of interruptions and I am afraid I have not been able to converse with you freely. I am spending a few days with my sister in Chandigarh and am away from friends & work and hope that I can write a few letters which I have been longing to. I received both your letters and was most happy receiving them. It was very good of you to have remembered my exhibition and to have written just before the opening. Dear friends, I hope that my silence will not be misunderstood by you. You have been in my thoughts that the day to day exigencies of living have prevented me from writing. Even this letter I will be too short & insipid of my diminutive writing. Unfortunately this is all I have got at present and I think I to myself that better a short letter than none at all. — I was delighted to read about Janine's award. Congratulations Janine, we - all of us feel very happy and proud. — I left the park finally on the 22nd November. Bal, Gai and Shrin came at 3 o'clock to take me out. It was a regular ceremony. We went to Bombellis & had coffee and Bal presented me with a Gold tie pin in the shape of a palette! Since then I have been enjoying my freedom. I have never felt happier in my life and I have been working with tremendous enthusiasm and zest. From then till now I have been working solidly every day and I feel that I have produced some good paintings though more important than that is the fact that I have been totally involved in an activity which I love. Akbar has given me all your news & indeed we have had time to have long discussions on almost everything. We drove up together from Bombay and enjoyed the journey very much. We went to Mandu en route & found it beautiful & saturated with history. This is the first time that Akbar and I have been exposed to each other for any appreciable length of time and I am convinced that we shall be great friends. — My exhibition in Bombay was a small one - 19 paintings in all, out of which I had sold 11 before the exhibition even went up on the walls. Five more were sold during the show and only three remain. Since then I have painted 7 paintings & though I have made no efforts to sell them, circumstances have been favorable and I have ~~been~~ sold them all. Prices have risen even here, and it is not unusual to get 2500/- to 3000/- for a painting. — So far things have worked out extremely well for me and I hope that this will continue. — I have heard from Leicester Galleries who have tentatively put me down for an exhibition in London in October this year. Here is a bit of news which I am sure will delight you. I have been offered a Fellowship by one of Rockefeller's Foundations which will take Lena and me around the world for a year or so. Our tentative plans are to spend 2 or 3 months in Japan commencing from May this year - then on to San Francisco & a few other places and finally New York. I am told Tom Keck can fix an exhibition for me in New York & I hope that I shall be able to paint for this show while I am in the States. What I paint between now and reaching the States I shall ship to London. I have also been asked to exhibit in Sweden & am assured of a great interest there in modern Indian painting. God only knows how I am going to cope with all this. All I know is that I am capable of hard work and have something to say & don't depend upon "moods"



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So of man it looks as if we will get together in the States and later on in Paris. I am particularly happy that Lenn will be with me this time. Please keep in touch with me and advise me your dates, addresses etc. - The Fellowship is a travelling Fellowship + is to enable me to see what is going on in the field of art elsewhere in the world. I would not have accepted it if it had been for only a few months. This will enable me to settle down to do some work.

I have painted a couple of figurative paintings. While I quite enjoy paintings which are well painted - I am much more excited by propositions which are not predetermined and require constant handling + watching and which grow. Bal has done some very good work but he needs to become more serious and less given to moods. - Guitonde had his first show in Bombay and it was magnificent. He sold extremely well. All of them came here (ie to Delhi) for a few days but got tired of Delhi and went back. There didn't seem much point in their trip. Of course it was wonderful fun leaving them here & you can well imagine the set up when we got going here. Ram is doing extremely well too - some of his work is excellent. Poor fellow broke his leg in an accident but he is ok now. Lenn, the children & I are living with my parents in Delhi (address is: - 3 B Mathura Road, Jangpura extension, N Delhi) - I hope to be able to build a house sometime. I have a wonderful studio away from my flat. Shall write to you again - please do write and I shall be more prompt in future. Our love to you both and though it's a bit late in the day - a happy New Year. As always,  
Krishen.