

Dt. 10-12-1957.

DRAFT.

To,

Professor Raymond F. Piper, Ph.D.
1310 Constat - Avenue
Syracuse 5, N.Y.
United States of America.

My dear Professor Piper,

Many thanks for your letter of October 9th which I just received. I am very grateful for your kind greetings which I heartily reciprocate. The address you have is one of my addresses which is quite correct but it is true I often travel and there may be a delay in my mail catching up with me. The correct spelling of my name is SVETOSLAV ROERICH.

I am delighted at the progress of your book and I am sure it will be a most interesting and comprehensive volume. I have no better name to suggest because it is a name chosen by you and so it must be the best name for it. To me all true art is Cosmic Art as it always touches or deals with some higher or more beautiful aspects of life.

If your propose to use my painting "Humanity Crucified" I would like to request you to use the three panels of the Triptych specifically as these three in some way are inseparable and are part of one idea and one composition.

To answer the questions one by one we shall treat them in serial form :-

- A. 1. My name is as I have given it to you.
2. I was born in St. Petersburg now Leningrad, Russia.
3. in 1904
4. Before I was 21 I have travelled throughout Europe, America and the East.
5. NIL
6. All factors mentioned ^{by} to you in para 6 had a profound

influence on my art.

7. Quite an extensive material is available but I cannot let you have ^{it} ~~them~~ immediately.

C. 8. The titles are correct because the collective name for the Triptych is "Humanity Crucified".

9. I think the examples you have are fairly representative.

10. - NIL. -

11. - NIL. -

12. The above paintings have been executed in Tempera.

13. The paintings are in my possession.

14. I think I have given you the explanations before hence I will not mention them here.

15. It would be rather difficult to answer this in a few words.

16. - NIL. -

17. I think I have already written to~~x~~ you on this subject.

D. 18. I have always been interested in all religions and Philosophy^{as} as they all deal with one problem from so many points of view.

19. I will see if I have any suitable article to send to you.

20. - NIL. -

E. 21. - NIL. -

22. I would like to see first ^{the} ~~whatever~~ quotations you may want to make.

23. Y e s.

24. To me all art in a way is Cosmic Art.
25. Not at the moment.
26. I am not sufficiently in touch with the various movements at the present moment.
27. - NIL -
28. - NIL -
29. Yes ofcourse.
30. Date:- _____
31. Signature _____

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As regards the paintings of my father Nicholas Roerich, the name of the picture you mention is the "Birth of Mysteries" as there are several mystic symbols combined in this painting. Father had so many paintings of a Transcendental nature that even a long list would not exhaust them. In this and so many ^{other} ways he is one of the very great ^{art} artists and men and the heritage left by him is ^{truly} quite stupendous. *Only posterity will be able to appreciate fully this remarkable man.*

I shall be in Bangalore for the next six weeks or two months and ^{you} it can always reach me here at the above address.