Afternoon 3°oct, Friday 2008

Cool, perfect, cerebral art of Jehangir Sabavala

Jehangir Sabhavala enters a new phase with a paintings he has done during the last two years. It looks like it is far away from what he has been doing in the past. He describes this as moving backwards only to move forwards.

There are muted, mellow colours and at last figurative art.

Jehangir Sabawala is never in a hurry – to finish a painting. The final work has to be perfect. It is a labour of creativity and

passion. Apparently he has a vision and when it tallies with what he has created on canvas, he sits back and observes his masterpiece as an onlooker.

I have been an observer of Sabavala's art for years. I have met him at his home and at exhibitions. I have seen his works in many galleries. One could say from a distance: Ah, there is a Sabavala. His works which he used to before used to stir up many words in my mind: cool, perfect, cerebral, spiritual, tranquil, silence... That was how I used to react to his paintings. Images from nowhere – perfectly balanced. It is different now – a past forward initiative. It is a surprise.

Faces. Figures in shades of a monochromatic composition. Still clebral – a bit of mystery there. They are not simple faces – expressions silently conveyed.

At the Sakshi gallery, the exhibition will be on view till October 13. Tel. +91 2266108424. Sabavalla has risen to a top slot – he is now an internationally known artist. His works figure in auctions abroad. The current exhibition will travel to Alcon gallery, London (October/November) and then to Alcon gallery, New York (Jan.-Feb. 2009).

A painting by Jehangir Sabavala.