

July 24 1983

To Whom It May Concern:

Shortly after completing a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Photography at Indiana University I was given a book by Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. It changed my life. His insights into creativity and expression and their psychological roots shed new light on the research and experiments I had been conducting as a graduate student. Rather than pursue the teaching career which I had prepared for academically I went to India where I met Bhagwan and became His disciple in 1978.

Bhagwan has helped me become aware of the relations between meditation and artistic expression. Through His meditations I've learned to "see" in new ways. Art is no longer limited to the redundant drivel that lines gallery walls in any major city. Rather, life is art. Every moment is an opportunity to drink in the beauty of God's creation. Photography and painting are vehicles for expressing the divine that surrounds us.

Bhagwan is an inspiration to artists and religious seekers alike. The United States needs people of His calibre within its borders to serve as an inspiration to us all. He is recognized the world over as one of the greatest minds His era. Certainly, America will welcome Him with open arms!

Sincerely,

Swami Prem Vardo

Rajneeshpuram