



WORLD'S A PALETTE: Vickram Sethi

## 'MF Husain will never migrate to India'

Art aficionado Vickram Sethi talks about his forthcoming Art Expo India 2009, MF Husain and Indian art potential

**A**rt curator and aficionado Vickram Sethi sets the record straight about the potential of Indian art with *BT*.

Vickram believes that there is little left to doubt about the fact that NRIs are big art buyers and often drive up auction prices. Indians living abroad want to possess a part of their heritage which is why they buy Indian art. However, the 30 plus generation have changed many things. They are a highly educated group and control their own finances. They hold a different view of Indian culture. With art being available on the Internet, now even NRIs all over the world have access to Indian art.

### **WILL HUSAIN MIGRATE:**

Well, this is a non-issue. The Supreme Court has

cleared artist M F Husain of any offense. What Lata Mangeshkar is to music and Bismillah Khan is to Shahnai, M F Husain is to art. Contrary to what people think Husain has benefited more from this ill-conceived, misinformed agitation. At 90+, he leads an amazingly full life. Thanks to the agitation, Husain's status in the international art world has gone up several notches. I don't think he will ever migrate back to India.

**THE ART FAIR:** At the Art Expo India 2009 to be held at Nehru Centre Worli, from the 25 to 27 September, we are expecting over 100 international curators, connoisseurs and buyers to come to the exhibition. Besides them there will be buyers, architects, designers and interior consultants from all over India.