

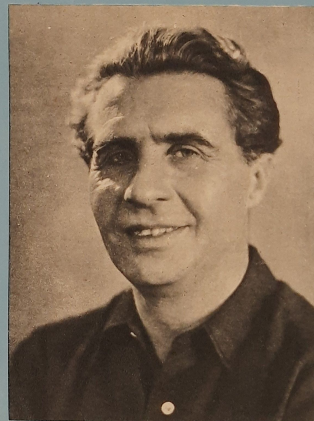


# AIR-INDIA

presents twelve paintings of  
Walter Langhammer  
for your  
1960 Calendar

## International Festivals and Dances

- 1** **INDIA**  
Every community in India has its own music, its own costume, and dance drama. Manipur, on the eastern outskirts of India, has made its own contribution to this diversity of cultural heritage. Besides the famous Manipuri Dance, the Drum Dance is belligerent but righteous, peaceful but abandoned. Rustic in origin, the dance is still commonly staged on festive occasions.
- 2** **MALAYA**  
When the north-east monsoon ends, and the sea is no longer unapproachable, the fishermen of Malaya, living beside the vast, sprawling coastline, take to the popular sport of the sea. Boat races herald the festive season beginning in February. Strong of limb and heart, the fishermen, on such occasions, look for a different "catch"—the coveted honour of winning the race.
- 3** **CZECHOSLOVAKIA**  
There are varieties of Folk Dances in Czechoslovakia as there are different costumes for each type of dance. During festivals the happy blend of costumes and dances reveals a cross-section of Czechoslovakian Folk Dances.
- 4** **RUSSIA**  
Men and women participate in the traditional dance of the Ukrainian and the Don Valley Cossacks. From the latter has derived the Cossack Dance. The dance, riotously lively and colourful, is staged by travelling troupes in different parts of the Soviet Union and abroad.
- 5** **JAPAN**  
"Nomaori Matsuri" or the Horse Festival is celebrated in Japan between July 11 and 13 on the Hibarigahara Plain at Haranomachi, Fukushima. This festival begins with a vast gathering of more than a thousand armoured and helmeted men riding stalwart steeds. They gather from the nearby districts and escort shrine palanquins to the town of Haranomachi. The following day, the horsemen compete with each other to capture the three shrine flags as shown in the illustration. This is but one of the colourful festivals in the Land of the Rising Sun.
- 6** **ITALY**  
The "Madonna del Carmine" (Blessed Virgin of Mount Carmel) is taken in procession round the Trastevere District of Rome in July every year. This is one of the most colourful church processions in Italy.
- 7** **FRANCE**  
France celebrates "Bastille Day" as a national day of rejoicing. On 14th July, Parisians, among others, recall the storming of the Bastille during the French Revolution in 1789 and celebrate its anniversary year after year with unbridled enthusiasm. Dances and merry-making in the streets of Paris are common sights on this day.
- 8** **U. A. R.**  
Syria, now a part of the United Arab Republic, has a cultural heritage since the dawn of time. The sword and dagger bearing Syrians dance in the company of women, dressed in their traditional costumes. The popular Druse Dance is staged on festive occasions.
- 9** **LONDON**  
The Costers' harvest festival in autumn is reminiscent of old England. The costermongers' "Pearly Kings & Queens" from all over London parade in their traditional costumes, carrying huge loaves of bread.
- 10** **INDIA**  
The festival of Dasara is celebrated in almost all parts of India, though it is at its best in Mysore. The remarkable feature of this 10-day festival is the multi-coloured illumination of the Maharaja's palace and Brindavan, the Garden of Fountains. The Maharaja, now the Governor of Mysore, rides on the gaily decorated State elephant, leading a procession of torch-bearers, musicians, and merry-makers.
- 11** **AFRICA**  
Wakamba and Luo are two of the chief tribal inhabitants of Africa who have survived the historical vicissitudes of life in this Continent. Albeit there is a common bond in their cultural patterns, the Wakamba tribal dance, accompanied by drum-beats, is noted for its gay abandon and stray flashes of lightning foot-work.
- 12** **GERMANY**  
Most of the German Carnivals are incomplete without long processions of masked revellers. Besides the grotesque masks, the people masquerade in the uniforms of their favourites.



Walter Langhammer

Professor Walter Langhammer born in Graz, Austria, graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts and the University of Vienna in 1927. Till he came to India in 1938, he was Professor of Painting in Vienna.

A first class artist himself, Prof. Langhammer has been the recipient of many prizes and medals at Art Exhibitions in India and abroad. As a member of the Managing Committee of the Bombay Art Society and the Art Director of the Times of India Press, Bombay, Langhammer played an important part in encouraging art education. He was particularly interested in fostering the growth of modern art in this country and he, along with some of his friends and colleagues, was responsible in bringing to the forefront several Indian artists who are today well-known figures in the art world.

Prof. Langhammer's paintings were featured in the Air-India calendar for 1955. As these were greatly appreciated by many people, he was commissioned to do similar paintings for the year 1960. The theme chosen for the calendar is "Dances and Festivals"—dances and festivals of countries along the route of the Magic Carpet.



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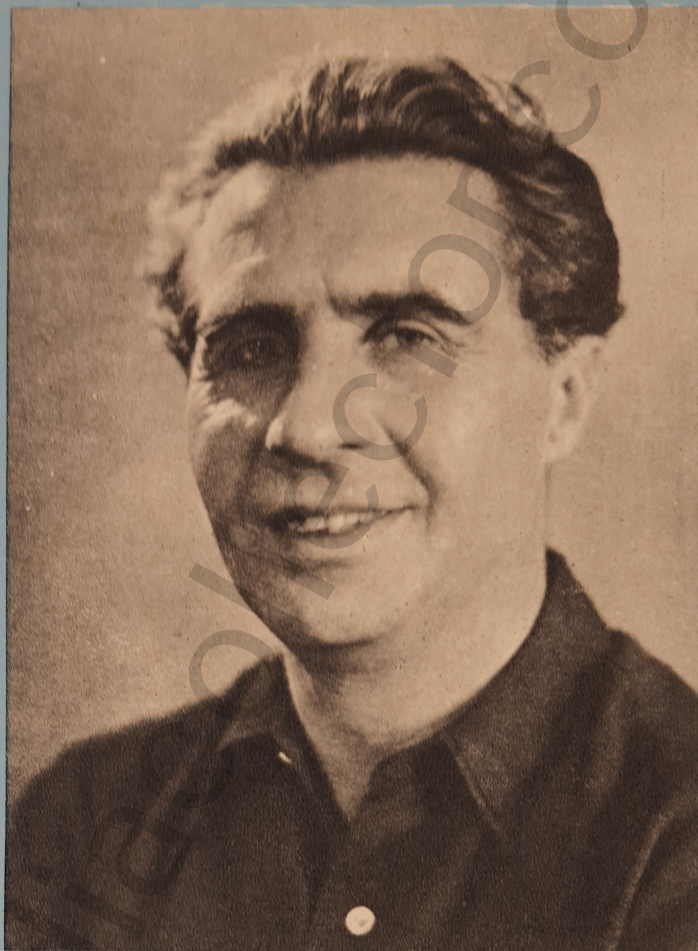
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