Alfred Baber Fine Arts

Christensen, John

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

BOX 5095.5



CHRISTENSEN, John A. (Q.C.)





DR. ALFRED BADER

May 27, 1994

ESTABLISHED 1961

Mr. John A. Christensen, Q.C. Aiken, Christensen & Heath 195 Muskoka Road North Gravenhurst, Ontario P1P 1X2 Canada

Dear Mr. Christensen:

Thank you for your letter of May 17th. I will be sending you the small Biberstein you picked from Toronto to Gravenhurst, next week.

I have about 20 other Biberstein's, about half of which are Canadian views, and some are inscribed and dated. I don't really think that he will remain under a bushel very long. A while back, one Biberstein sold at Sotheby's for over a thousand dollars, and on April 17th a pretty beat up sketch, not nearly as good as the one you just acquired, sold at the Schrager Auction Gallery in Milwaukee for \$300.

If your travels should ever bring you to Milwaukee, I will be happy to let you see all I have and offer you any and all, except one.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

By Appointment Only
ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622
924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53202
TEL 414 277-0730 FAX 414 277-0709



AIKEN, CHRISTENSEN & HEATH

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC

195 MUSKOKA ROAD NORTH GRAVENHURST, ONTARIO P1P 1X2

JOHN A. CHRISTENSEN, Q.C., LL.B. PETER C. HEATH, B.A., LL.B. P.O. BOX 70 705-687-2281 FAX (705) 687-6086

May 17, 1994.

Dr. Alfred Bader, Alfred Bader Fine Arts, Astor Hotel, Suite 622, 924 East Juneau Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S.A. 53202

Dear Dr. Bader:

Thank you for your letter of May 4th with particulars of your departure times from Toronto.

Your suggestion of mailing the painting to me from Toronto is excellent, in view of the fact that on that particular week-end we are having a family wedding. Although it would be possible for me to meet you at the airport, it would not be that convenient.

The address to which the painting should be mailed is as follows:

JOHN A. CHRISTENSEN 195 Muskoka Road North P.O. Box 70 GRAVENHURST, Ontario. Plp 1X2

I suspect that this Biberstein painting may not be signed in the manner of the other two that I purchased. If you could kindly provide some letter of providence dealing with the painting to indicate that it came from the Estate of the late Franz Biberstein, that has only been in your possession since being acquired from the Estate, I would be quite satisfied.

I have the other two Bibersteins in my office and look at them daily. I am quite impressed



with the competence of the old Swiss and feel that he has too long remained under his bushel. Some recognition of his talent is long overdue.

Best personal regards.

Yours very truly,

John A. Christensen

JAC/G

Mr. John A. Christensen Aiken, Christensen & Heath 195 Muskoka Road North Gravenhurst, Ontario P1P 1X2 Canada

Dear Mr. Christensen:

Thank you for your letter of April 26th.

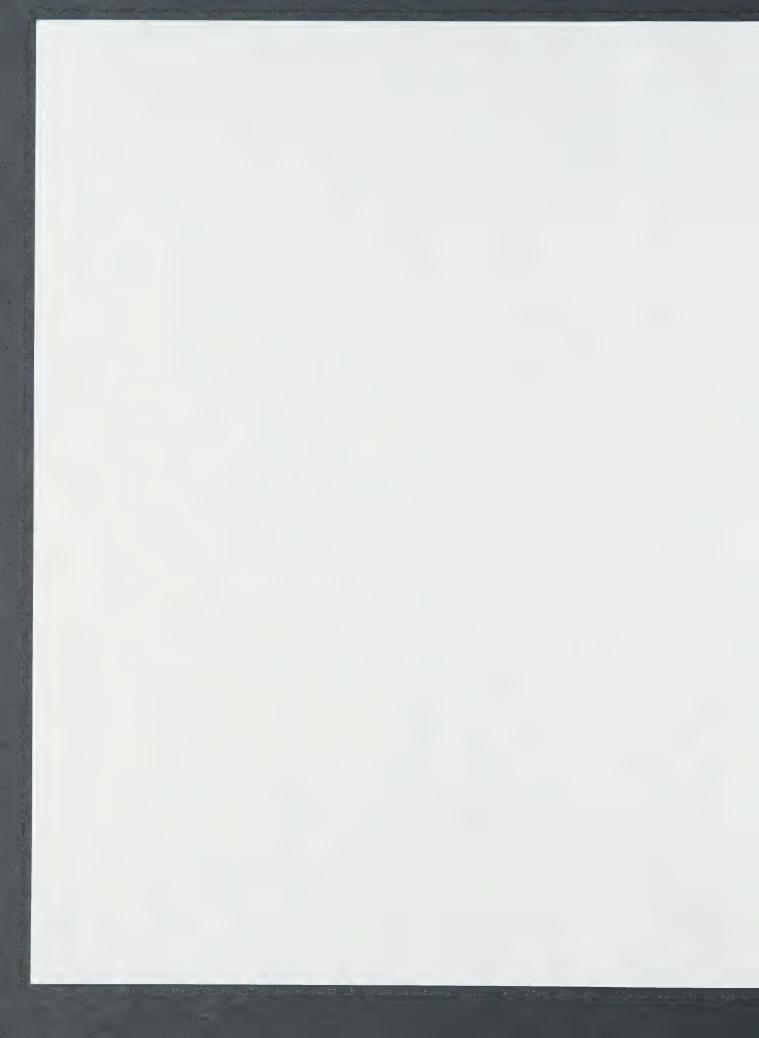
I will take the little Biberstein which you chose with me to Toronto, and if it is really easy for you we could again meet at the airport. We are leaving from Toronto Chicago on Sunday afternoon, June 5th, Air Canada Flight No. 725 departing at 3:15 p.m.

Would it not be much easier for me just to mail the painting to you from Toronto, and you could then send me a check drawn in U.S. funds.

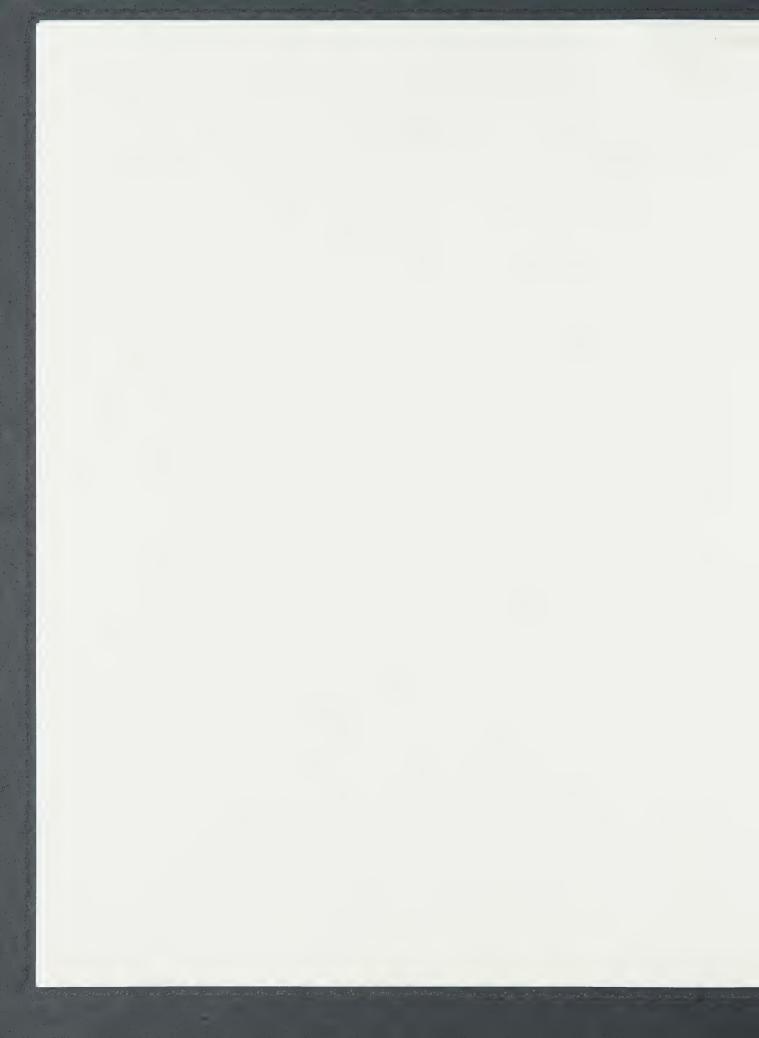
Incidentally, I have not sent you photographs of all my Bibersteins, and I do hope that you will have a chance to visit us in Milwaukee sometime and look at all of them.

Best regards.

Sincerely,



AIKEN. CHRISTENSEN & HEATH BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC 195 MUSKOKA ROAD NORTH GRAVENHURST, ONTARIO JOHN A. CHRISTENSEN, Q.C., LL.B. P1P 1X2 P.O BOX 70 PETER C. HEATH, B.A., LL.B. 705-687-2281 FAX (705) 687-6086 April 26, 1994. Dr. Alfred Bader, Alfred Bader Fine Arts, Astor Hotel Suite 622, 924 East Juneau Avenue, MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin. U.S.A. 53202 Dear Dr. Bader: It was delightful to hear from you again and to see the photographs of all the Biberstein paintings that you have sent. I am interested in only one of the paintings and I am returning the photograph to you with my initials on the reverse. I suspect that the canyon scene may be from California, but I would like to have it since it is somewhat different than the mountain scenes which I now have. I would be happy to meet you in Toronto on the week-end of the 4th of June, if it can be arranged. I will be tied up all day Saturday, June 4th, and perhaps the early part of Sunday, June 5th at a family wedding. If you are planning to return to Milwaukee in the evening of the 5th, we could arrange to meet again at the airport. I trust that we can get together and complete this arrangement to our mutual satisfaction. Yours very truly, Christensen John A JAC/G Encl.



224 South Second Street Winterset, Iowa 50273 May 7, 1994

Dr. Alfred Bader Alfred Bader Fine Arts Astor Hotel Suite 622 924 East Juneau Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Dr. Bader:

It was so thoughtful of you to write to me. Yes, I do love happy endings and this certainly turned out to be one! How wonderful it is to hear from you after so many years have passed. After reading your copy of my letter to you, I very clearly remember trying to find the information for Mr. Christensen. I am so glad to know the final results of this odyssey.

As you said "What a bit of luck" that you reached my mother. She called to let me know you may be contacting me. Just in case you are interested, I am enclosing a copy of a biography that will provide the highlights on what has happended in my life since I left the Department of City Development in December of 1979.

Once again, thank you for thinking of me. I wish you all the best

Cordially,

Jan Pergoli



BIOGRAPHY

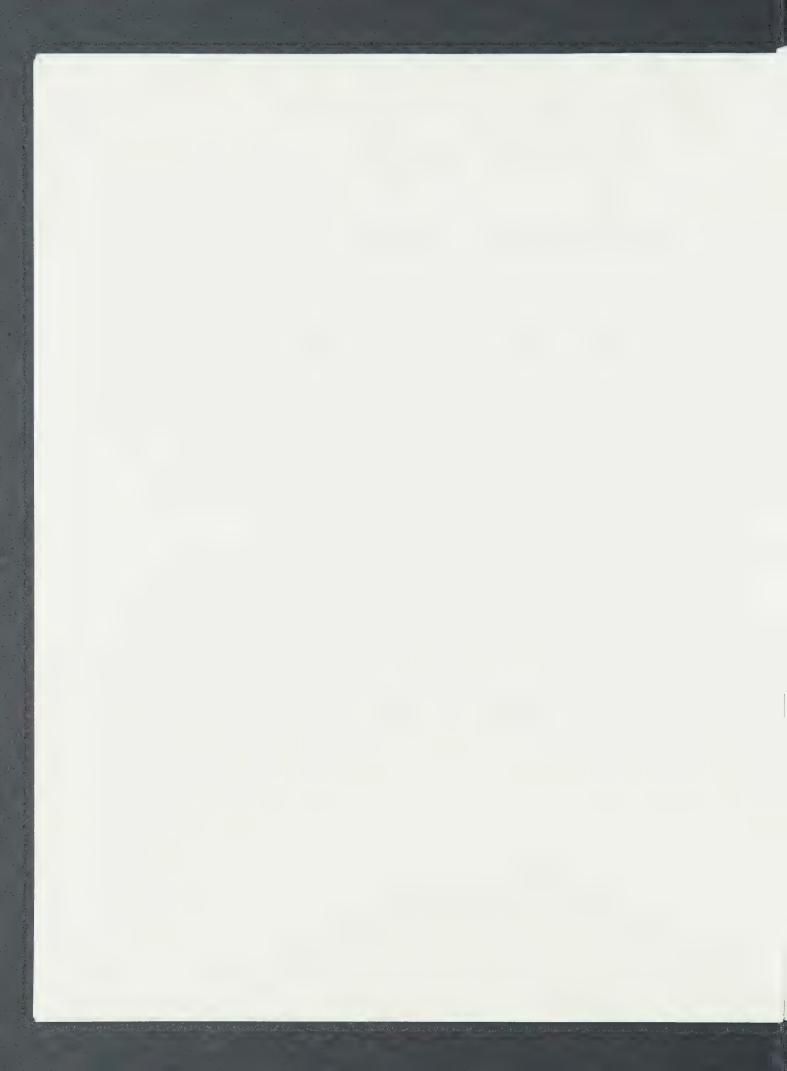
Jan Pergoli

Born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Jan Pergoli created and managed the Milwaukee Film Office, which generated \$6,000,000 in expenditures by clients. She promoted and marketed Milwaukee through direct mail, trade shows and advertising to the motion picture industry, and performed hands-on coordination of logistical needs for more than 100 film projects including the hit motion picture *Major League* starring Tom Berenger, Charlie Sheen and Corbin Bernsen. Additionally, as Administrator of the City of Milwaukee Municipal Art Fund, she oversaw the creation and installation of all municipal art works. While working for city government, Jan's fundraising experience netted nearly \$350,000 in cash donations for Milwaukee's performing arts groups.

After ten years with the City of Milwaukee, Jan served as Promotions Director of Summerfest, the world's largest music festival with an annual attendance of 900,000. She solicited \$150,000 in corporate sponsorships, managed the Summerfest Pin program by recruiting and organizing point-of-purchase outlets, supervising sales and developing program materials which raised \$135,000 the first year. Another major area of responsibility was the recruitment, training and motivation of over 2,000 volunteers. She also organized special events and coordinated programming for an 18-day winter festival that attracted 200,000 people.

Jan then relocated to Davenport, Iowa to accept the position of Marketing/Audience Development Coordinator where she was responsible for the promotion and overall marketing of the RiverCenter/Adler Theatre. This multi-faceted complex includes a live performance theatre, convention, trade show and meeting facilities. She utilized her marketing, promotional, sales and fundraising skills to create and implement the annual marketing campaign.

In 1993, Jan was hired for the newly created position of Executive Director of the Birthplace of John Wayne. In her new position, she has expanded the Hollywood-based contacts she developed earlier in her career. Under Jan's leadership, the number of tours has increased by 75 % and as buyer for the Birthplace gift shop, Jan's expanded merchandise choices have resulted in sales increases of 102 %.





DR. ALFRED BADER

April 6, 1994

ESTABLISHED 1961

Mr. John A. Christensen Aiken, Christensen & Heath P.O. Box 70 Gravenhurst, Ontario POC 1G0 Canada

Dear Mr. Christensen:

As Isabel and I will be in Toronto the weekend of June 4th for Isabel's U of T reunion, I have photographed nine more paintings by Biberstein, in case you would like to acquire some more. Of these nine, five are Canadian scenes, two are Swiss, one is Californian and the other could be anywhere.

The one Swiss scene is larger, probably not of interest to you, and costs U.S.\$500.00. Each of the others again costs \$250.00.

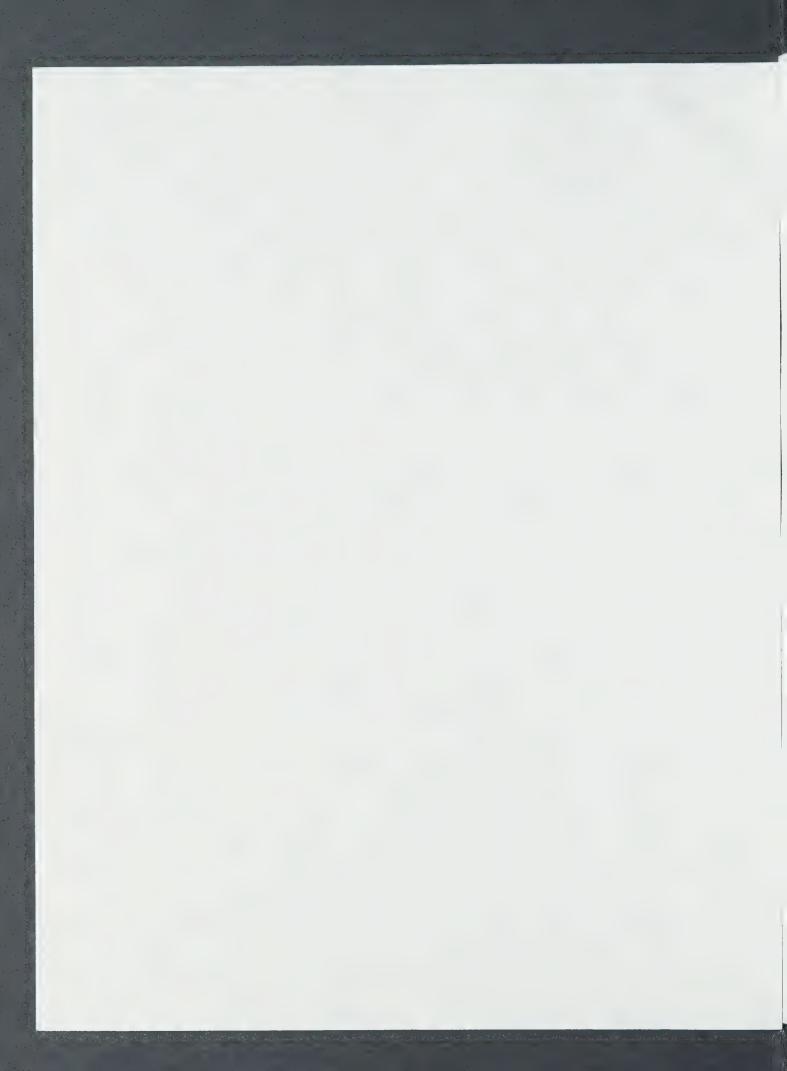
If you would like any of them, please just mark the photographs, return them to me and I will bring the paintings with me to deliver somewhere in Toronto of your choice.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

Enclosures

By Appointment Only
ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622
924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53202
TEL 4/4 277-0730 FAX 4/4 277-0709



FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Dr. Alfred Bader 2961 North Shepard Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211 Telephone 414 962 5169 FAX 414 962 8322

September 27, 1993

TO: Mr. John A. Christensen Aiken, Christensen & Heath FAX 705 687 6086

Dear Mr. Christensen:

You will recall that we have been writing to each other over some time regarding your interest in Biberstein paintings.

I will be on a lecture tour from Montreal to Ottawa to Kingston to Toronto from October 24 until November 5. I presume that you are closest to Toronto, where we will be from Wednesday afternoon, November 3, until Friday evening, November 5, when we return on a Northwest flight leaving Toronto at about 7:30 p.m.

How many Bibersteins would you like to consider? They are all quite small and on board, and hence easily carried.

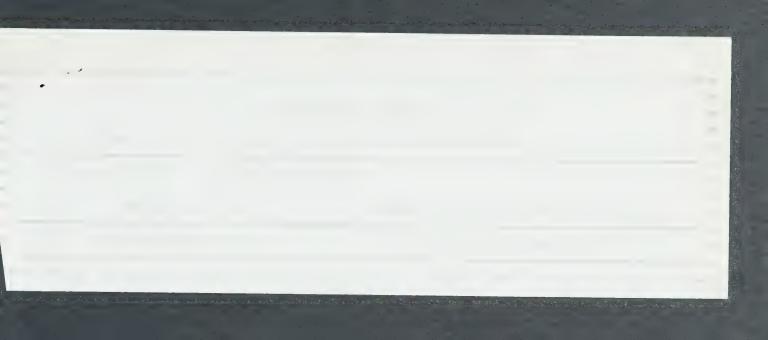
The next question is where we might meet most conveniently. One possibility would be at the Toronto airport a couple of hours before the flight. Another is at the University of Toronto where I am scheduled to lecture in Chemistry at 3:00 p.m. Thursday, followed by a reception which will probably conclude by around five o'clock.

In any case, I look forward to hearing from you.

ine Kara

Sincerely,









DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

November 8, 1993

Mr. John A. Christensen Aiken, Christensen & Heath 195 Muskoka Road North Gravenhurst, Ontario P1P 1X2 Canada

Dear Mr. Christensen:

Many thanks to you and your wife for coming all the way to the Toronto airport to inspect the two paintings by Franz Biberstein. Of course I am glad that you like them and bill of sale is enclosed.

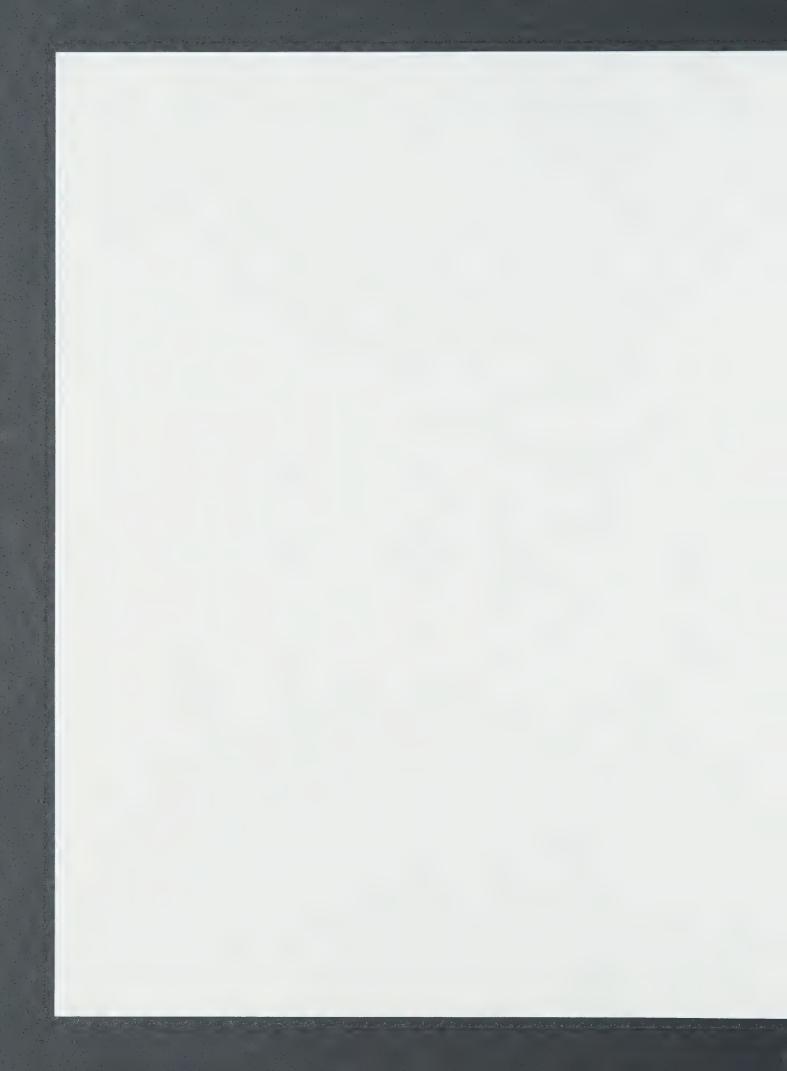
I have quite a few more works by Biberstein. Isabel and I are just leaving for England this week, but after our return at year end we will take some snapshots and send them to you. Now that we know each other personally, there will be no problem getting them to Canada somehow without your paying VAT or duty.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

Enclosure

By Appointment Only
ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622
924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53202
TEL 414 277-0730 FAX 414 277-0709





DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

December 30, 1992

Mr. John A. Christensen Aiken, Christensen & Heath 195 Muskoka Road North Gravenhurst, Ontario P1P 1X2 Canada

Dear Mr. Christensen:

A long trip to England has delayed my thanking you for your most interesting letter of December 3rd.

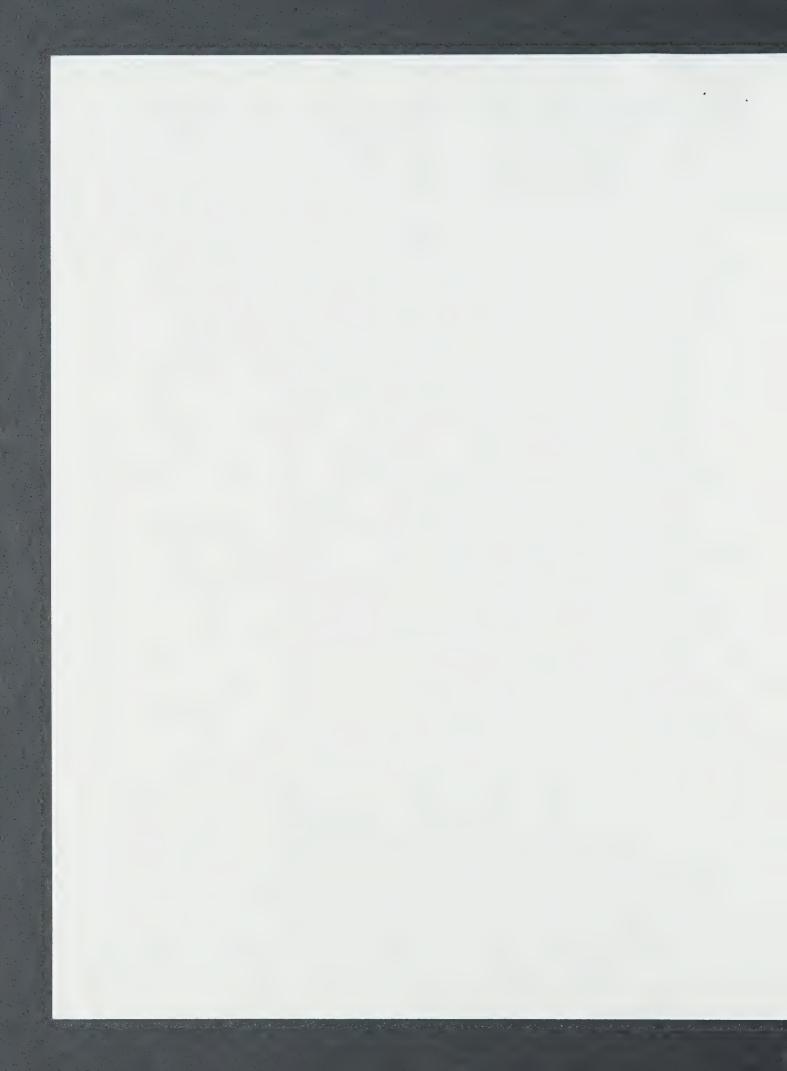
I love dealing in paintings, but my gallery does not depend upon selling a few Bibersteins. I must have around a dozen Canadian scenes, and all are small and cost \$250 or \$300, each.

I probably won't be in Canada until next November, but then could certainly take a couple with me, provided we could meet in Toronto.

If, on the other hand, you find any business in Chicago, we are less than two hours by bus from downtown Chicago or from O'Hare Airport, and I would be happy to welcome you in Milwaukee.

Best regards,

By Appointment Only
ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622
924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE
MIEWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 5,3252
TEL 414 277-0730 FAX 414 277-0709



AIKEN, CHRISTENSEN & HEATH

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC

195 XXXMUSKOKA ROAD NORTH
GRAVENHURST, ONTARIO
ROCXIGN
P1P 1X2

JOHN A. CHRISTENSEN, Q.C., L.L.B. PETER C. HEATH, B.A., L.L.B. P.O. BOX 70 705-687-2281 FAX (705) 687-6086

December 3, 1992.

Mr. Alfred Bader, Alfred Bader Fine Arts, Astor Hotel Suite 622, 924 East Juneau Avenue, MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin, U.S.A. 53202

Dear Mr. Bader:

What a pleasant surprise it was to return home from a trip to the Carolinas and find your letter awaiting me. It is gratifying to know that you even remembered our correspondence of eleven years ago and I was fascinated to read the accompanying material in your letter and learn about your life and your recent tribulations. I would be most interested to have the opportunity to meet with you and talk about your life, life in general and the arts.

As you may recall my interest in Franz Biberstein stems from the fact that I have a small oil sketch which my grandmother purchased from Mr. Biberstein and presented to my grandfather, who, back in the early part of this century, was one of the prominent members of the Bar Association of Wisconsin in charge of the decorations for the new Court House at Rhinelander. My curiosity has produced an ever growing file of information about Mr. Biberstein and I am always ready to learn more. The clippings you sent me eleven years ago were very helpful and I am now about to write to the Milwaukee Journal to see if their morgue contains anything more about Mr. Biberstein. I have searched in various placed in Canada to determine whether or not there are any paintings in Canada. In view of the fact that he travelled with the third president of the C.P.R. for the purpose of painting the Rockies and Selkirks, I would be very surprised if there weren't any. So far, however, I have been skunked.



I wish I could say that Milwaukee was going to be a destination or even a point through which I would pass in the near future. This is not likely because there are no such immediate plans or prospects. In view of the fact that you from time to time come to Canada and have offered to bring some Biberstein sketches to Toronto, I would be most happy to see you there, if this could be arranged. I am not primary interested in acquiring Bibersteins, since my interest in collecting has to do with the very many young good artists which are right here in Muskoka, Ontario, and with whom I have an acquaintance. At times I tell people that I don't acquire art, I acquire artists and as such, I prefer to have an acquaintance with these people. I would, however, be interested in acquiring one or two good mountain scenes or Wisconsin scenes, if he ever produced anything in the area of Northern Wisconsin, which would be reminiscent of my home town. I hesitate to ask you to bring any paintings with you if you come to Canada, since they probably would be a fair burden, but if you can find one or two smallish and easily transportable ones, I certainly would be delighted to meet with you and to have a look at the Bibersteins.

Once again, let me say that the material you sent about yourself and your enterprises certainly indicate that you are quite a person and one that I would like to meet.

Yours very truly,

John A. Christensen



RETURN TO BOX 70
GRAVENHURST

PIP IX2

Mr. Alfred Bader, Alfred Bader Fine Arts, Astor Hotel Suite 622, 924 East Juneau Avenue, MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin, U.S.A. 53202







FAX FROM

DR. ALFRED R. BADER
Suite 622
924 East Juneau Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
Telephone 414-277-0730
Fax No. 414-277-0709

November 1, 1993

To:

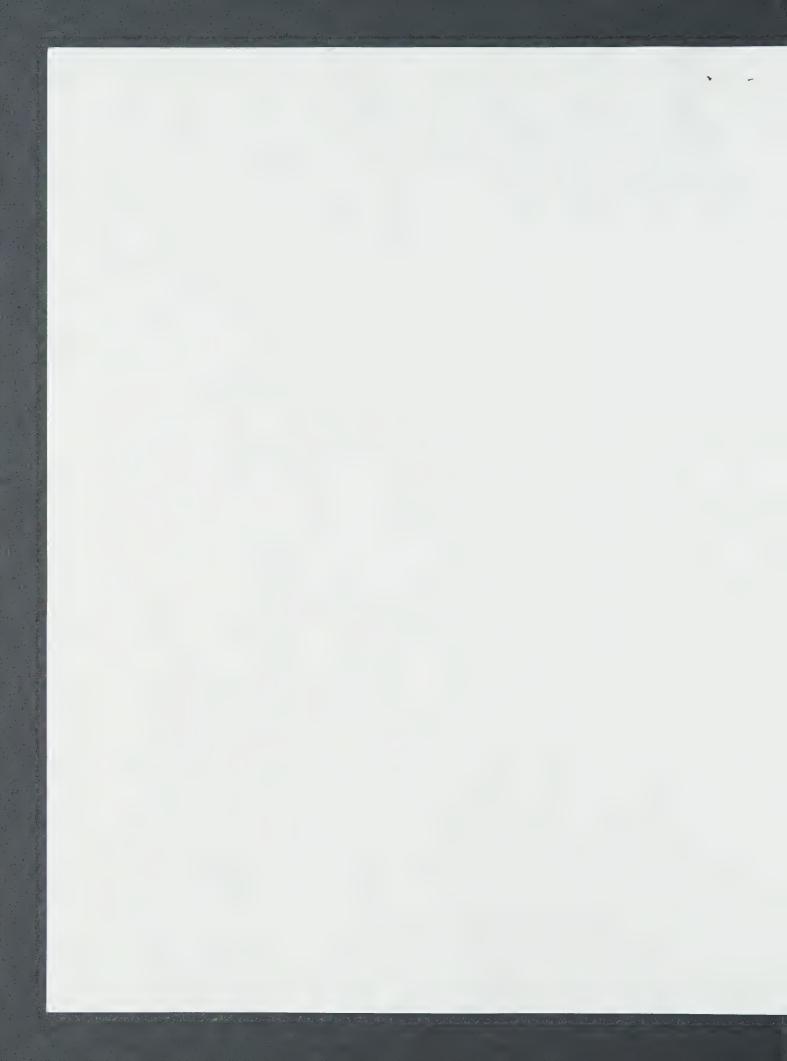
Mr. John Christensen AIKEN CHRISTENSEN & HEATH FAX 1 705 687 6086

Dear Mr. Christensen:

I have spoken to Dr. Bader regarding your letter of October 26th. The Biberstein's are small so he could take them to the Toronto reception. Alternately, if he does not see you there, he will meet you between 6:00 and 6:30 p.m. at the Northwest ticket counter, Flight No. 1197.

Cordially,

Marilyn Hassmann



Dr. Alfred Bader

2961 North Shepard Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211 Telephone 414 962 5169

FAX 414 962 8322

October 19, 1993

3 bodes

TO: Mr. John A. Christensen Aiken, Christensen & Heath

FAX 705 687 6086

Dear Mr. Christensen:

Thank you for your fax of yesterday. My trip to Toronto is really turning out to be complicated and full. Isabel and I plan to arrive on Wednesday afternoon, stay with Mrs. Eva Kushner, the President of Victoria College (Isabel's alma mater) at 63 Albany Avenue, telephone 416 538 0173.

On Thursday we will be in the Chemistry Department from noon until 5:00 p.m., per attached schedule. Just after that, there is a reception by Queen's graduates as detailed in the enclosed fax from Mrs. Sally Hennessy.

Friday is relatively open, but we do want to see family and friends and I don't know details. We leave Toronto at 7:35 p.m. on Northwest flight 1197. If convenient to you, we could meet at the Northwest ticket counter at the airport for an hour or so before we leave.

Alternately, I could leave the Biberstein's with Isabel's niece, Heather Dick, whose address is 83 Glenaden Avenue East, telephone 416 236 9011.

My great worry is that you might be disappointed in the Biberstein's because I have only western scenes--really small sketches--and no midwestern scenes or genre paintings whatever. The sketches are so small that I could easily take them in my briefcase and show them to you at any time convenient.

Best wishes.

and Bady



Dr. Alfred Bader 2961 North Shepard Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211 Telephone 414 962 5169

FAX 414 962 8322

October 19, 1993

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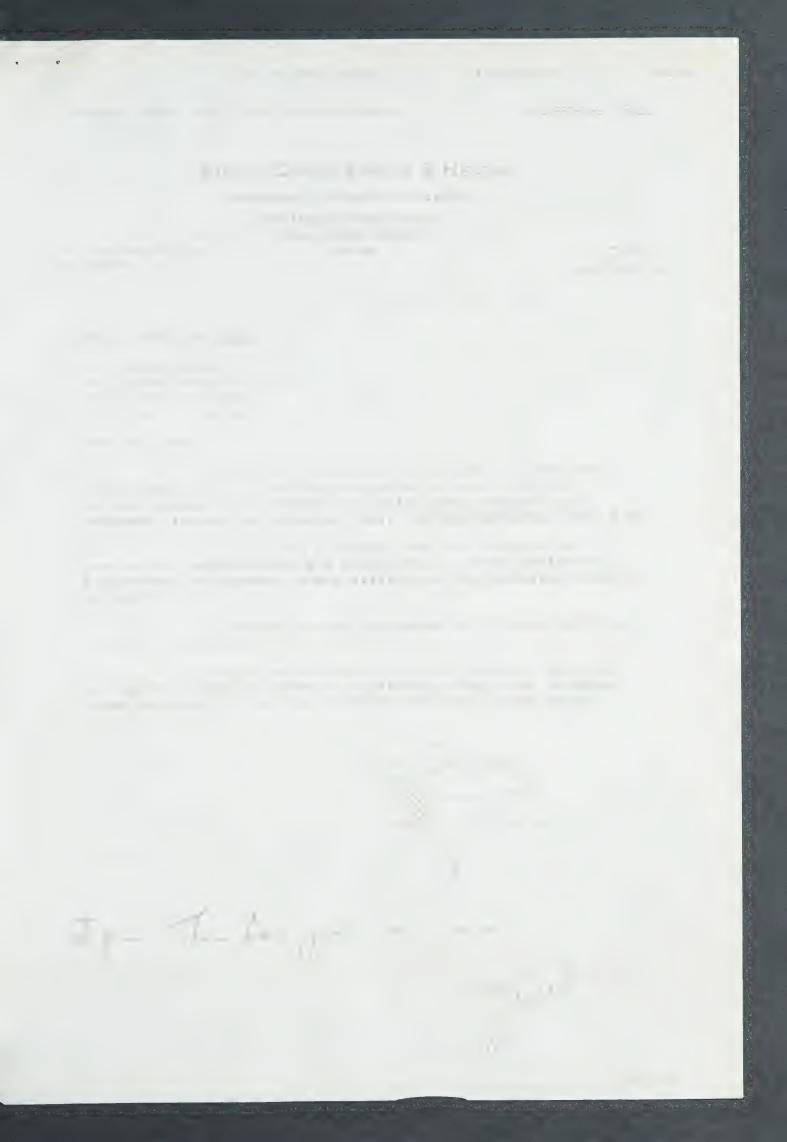
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Dr. Alfred Bader 2961 North Shepard Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211 Telephone 414 962 5169 FAX 414 962 8322

September 27, 1993

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Dear Mr. Christensen:

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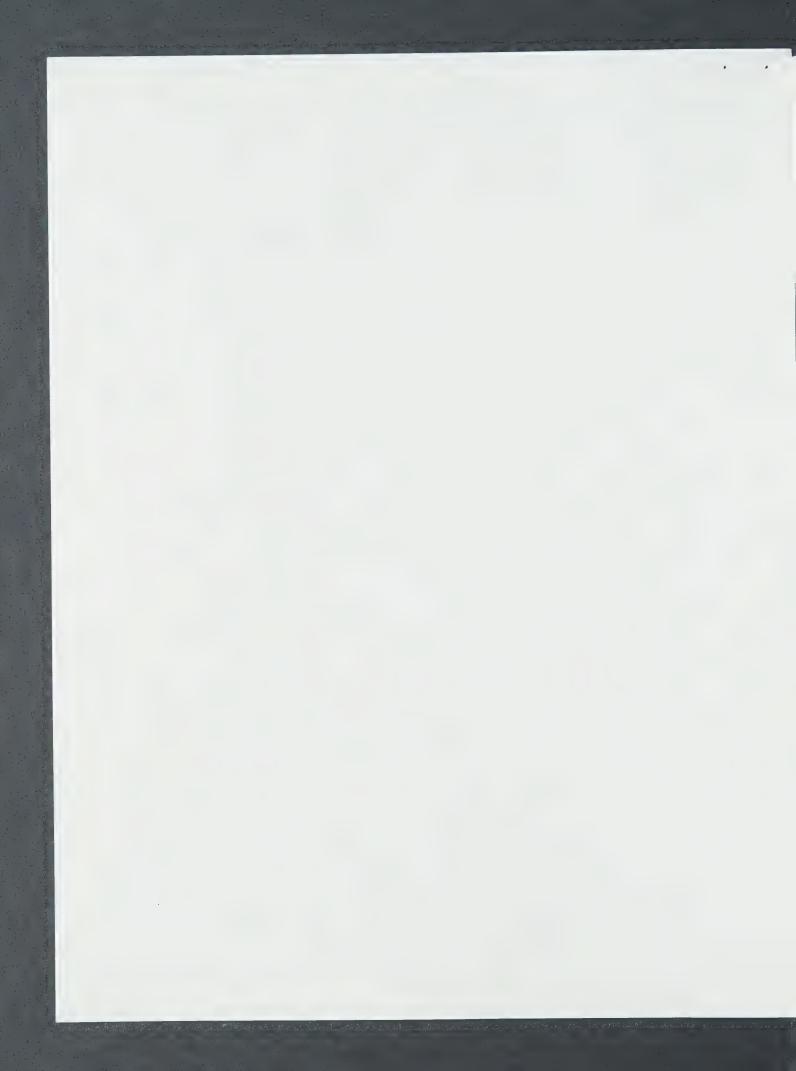
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How many Bibersteins would you like to consider? They are all quite small and on board, and hence easily carried.

The next question is where we might meet most conveniently. One possibility would be at the Toronto airport a couple of hours before the flight. Another is at the University of Toronto where I am scheduled to lecture in Chemistry at 3:00 p.m. Thursday, followed by a reception which will probably conclude by around five o'clock.

In any case, I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



AIKEN, CHRISTENSEN & HEATH BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC 195 Muskoka Road North GRAVENHURST, ONTARIO P1P 1X2 JOHN A. CHRISTENSEN, Q.C., LL.B. PO BOX 70 PETER C. HEATH, B A., LL.B. 705-687-2281 FAX (705) 687-6086 January 12th, 1993. Mr. Alfred Bader, Alfred Bader Fine Arts, Astor Hotel, Suite 622, 924 East Juneau Avenue, MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin 53202 U.S.A. Dear Mr. Bader: I was pleased to receive your letter of December 30th. I have no problem in getting to Toronto and would be delighted to meet with you in the month of November and

to have a look at any Bibersteins you might have brought with you. The price you quote are quite in order and do not intimidate me at all.

You would be interested to know that on the CBC the other day a report was broadcast from Kingston, Ontario indicating that one Alfred Bader had just made one of the largest single contributions, to Queen's University, ever made to any University in Canada. Knowing your long interest in your alma mater I am sure that you must feel very gratified to have been able to make such a contribution and I will follow with interest the progress of the purchase and refubishing of the English castle and grounds which are to be used as an overseas campus for the University. Although I am a University of Toronto graduate I sincerely commend you for supporting your University in such a magnificent manner. Any support of any University is support for all the people in Canada.

Yours very truly,

John A. Christensen



Dr. Alfred Bader

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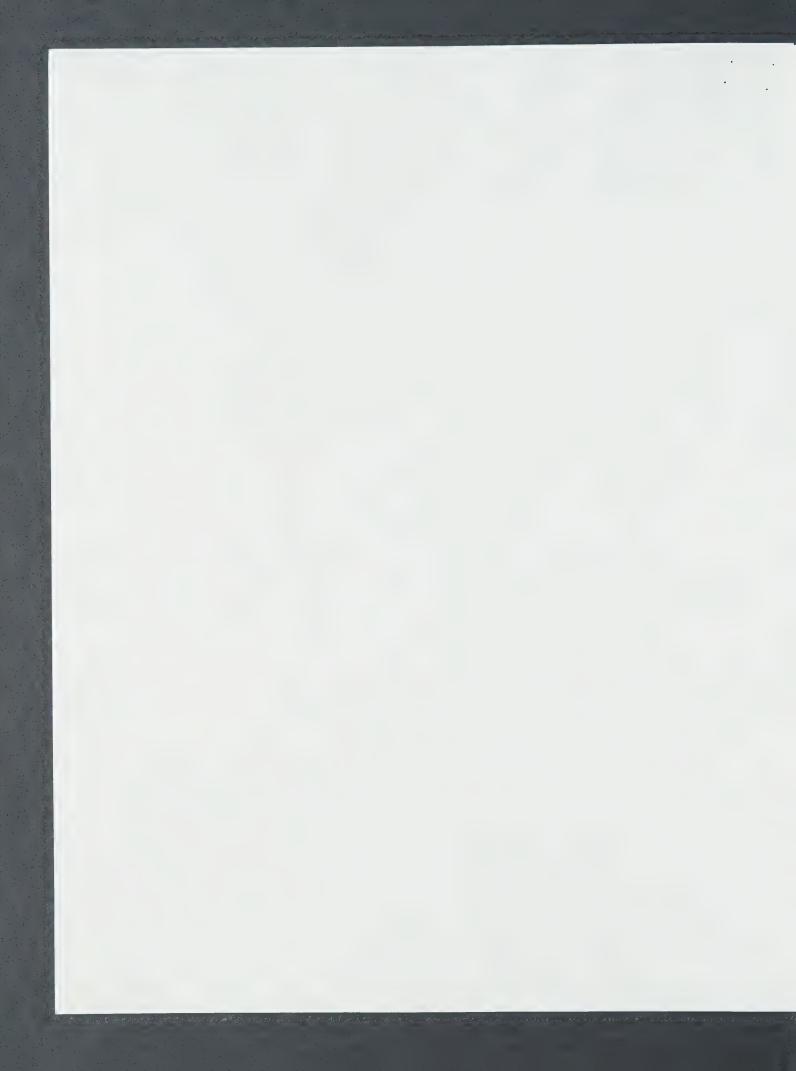
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AIKEN, CHRISTENSEN & HEATH BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC 195 MUSKOKA ROAD NORTH GRAVENHURST, ONTARIO JOHN A CHRISTENSEN, Q.C., LL.B. P1P 1X2 January 12th, 1993.

P.O BOX 70 705-687-2281 FAX (705) 687-6086

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ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

December 30, 1992

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Best regards,

By Appointment Only
ASTOR HOTEL SLITE 622
924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE
MILWAUKEE WISCONNIN USA 53202
Tri 1/1277-0730 Fix 1/1277-0709

AIKEN, CHRISTENSEN & HEATH

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC

195 XXXMUSKOKA ROAD NORTH
GRAVENHURST, ONTARIO
KOCXIGN
P1P 1X2

JOHN A. CHRISTENSEN, Q.C., L.L.B. PETER C. HEATH, B.A., L.L.B. P.O. BOX 70 705-687-2281 FAX (705) 687-6086

December 3, 1992.

Mr. Alfred Bader, Alfred Bader Fine Arts, Astor Hotel Suite 622, 924 East Juneau Avenue, MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin, U.S.A. 53202

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AIKEN, CHRISTENSEN & HEATH BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC 195 XXXMUSKOKA ROAD NORTH GRAVENHURST, ONTARIO KOCX)X6M PlP 1X2 PO BOX 70 JOHN A. CHRISTENSEN, Q.C., L.L.B. 705-687-2281 PETER C. HEATH, B.A., L.L.B FAX (705) 687-6086 December 3, 1992. Mr. Alfred Bader, Alfred Bader Fine Arts, Astor Hotel Suite 622, 924 East Juneau Avenue, MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin, U.S.A. 53202 Dear Mr. Bader: What a pleasant surprise it was to return home from a trip to the Carolinas and find your letter awaiting me. It is gratifying to know that you even remembered our correspondence of eleven years ago and I was fascinated to read the accompanying material in your letter and learn about your life and your recent tribulations. I would be most interested to have the opportunity to meet with you and talk about your life, life in general and the arts. As you may recall my interest in Franz Biberstein stems from the fact that I have a small oil sketch which my grandmother purchased from Mr. Biberstein and presented to my grandfather, who, back in the early part of this century, was one of the prominent members of the Bar Association of Wisconsin in charge of the decorations for the new Court House at Rhinelander. My curiosity has produced an ever growing file of information about Mr. Biberstein and I am always ready to learn more. The clippings you sent me eleven years ago were very helpful and I am now about to write to the Milwaukee Journal to see if their morgue contains anything more about Mr. Biberstein. I have searched in various placed in Canada to determine whether or not there are any paintings in Canada. In view of the fact that he travelled with the third president of the C.P.R. for the purpose of painting the Rockies and Selkirks, I would be very surprised if there weren't any. So far, however, I have been skunked.

I wish I could say that Milwaukee was going to be a destination or even a point through which I would pass in the near future. This is not likely because there are no such immediate plans or prospects. In view of the fact that you from time to time come to Canada and have offered to bring some Biberstein sketches to Toronto, I would be most happy to see you there, if this could be arranged. I am not primary interested in acquiring Bibersteins, since my interest in collecting has to do with the very many young good artists which are right here in Muskoka, Ontario, and with whom I have an acquaintance. At times I tell people that I don't acquire art, I acquire artists and as such, I prefer to have an acquaintance with these people. I would, however, be interested in acquiring one or two good mountain scenes or Wisconsin scenes, if he ever produced anything in the area of Northern Wisconsin, which would be reminiscent of my home town. I hesitate to ask you to bring any paintings with you if you come to Canada, since they probably would be a fair burden, but if you can find one or two smallish and easily transportable ones, I certainly would be delighted to meet with you and to have a look at the Bibersteins.

Once again, let me say that the material you sent about yourself and your enterprises certainly indicate that you are quite a person and one that I would like to meet.

Yours very truly,

John A. Christensen

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ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

November 5, 1992

Mr. John A. Christensen Aiken, Christensen & Heath P.O. Box 70 Gravenhurst, Ontario POC 1G0 Canada

Dear Mr. Christensen:

You may recall that some 11 years ago we corresponded about Franz Biberstein's Canadian sketches.

As you will see from the enclosed, I was recently dismissed from Aldrich under rather odd circumstances, and I now spend part of my time building my art gallery.

I still have a number of Biberstein's Canadian sketches, and if your travels should ever bring you to Milwaukee I would love to show them to you. Alternately, I could bring some of them with me to Toronto or Kingston. I am still very actively involved trying to help Queen's, both in chemistry and with its art gallery. Of course it would give me great pleasure if some of the Biberstein works would end up in Canada. Hence, I would gladly bring some to show to you.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Enclosure

By Appointment Only
ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622
924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53202
TEL 414 277-0730 FAX 414 277-0709



March 25, 1981 Mr. John A. Christensen Aiken, Christensen & Heath P.O. Box 70 Gravenhurst, Ontario Canada POC 1GO Dear Mr. Christensen: Thank you for your interesting letter of March 18 regarding Franz Biberstein. Biberstein is quite well known, has a good listing in Benezit (photostat enclosed) and his works are offered quite often for sale here in Milwaukee. I have found his small sketches much more attractive than his large paintings. He made hundreds of these sketches as he traveled around the world and I have some 40 of these, of Swiss, Wisconsin, California and Canadian Rocky Mountain subjects. The small sketches bring anywhere between \$100 and \$500, and if you ever come to Milwaukee I would be happy to offer you your choice of my Canadian sketches at my cost which for the small sketches has never exceeded \$200. Franz Biberstein died in Milwaukee in 1930 which was not a good year for lonely artists; I understand that his death may have been due to starvation. I collect mainly old masters paintings and many of my paintings have gone to my alma mater, Queen's University where I am on the Board of Trustees. Generally I do not collect modern paintings but I have found Biberstein's works so charming and unappreciated that I have just been accumulating them with pleasure, and now have the joy of knowing that someone else appreciates them. I enclose copies of clippings from our local papers, describing his life. I do hope that you will find a chance to visit me in Milwaukee. Best personal regards, Alfred Bader AB:cvb



Dr. Alfred Bader Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

March 25, 1981



Mr. John A. Christensen Aiken, Christensen & Heath P.O. Box 70 Gravenhurst, Ontario Canada POC 1GO

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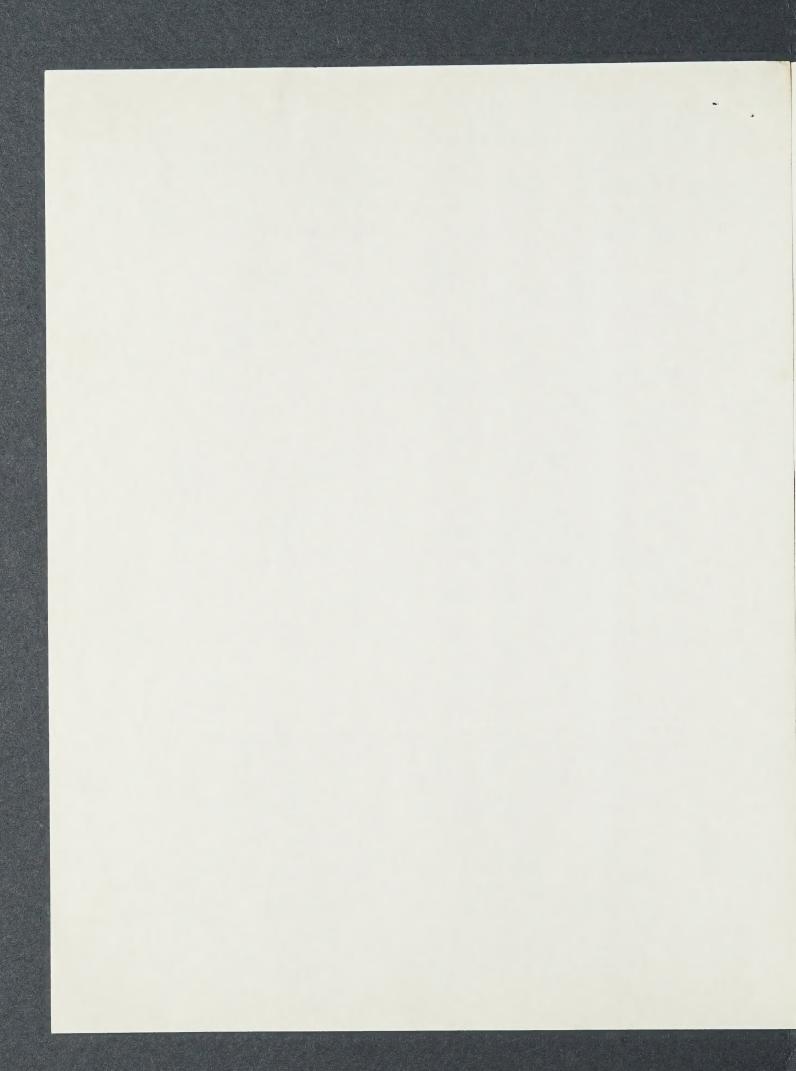
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I do hope that you will find a chance to visit me in Milwaukee.

Best personal regards,

Alfred Bader

AB:cvb



AIKEN, CHRISTENSEN & HEATH

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC

GRAVENHURST, ONTARIO

GORDON H. AIKEN, O.C.

JOHN A. CHRISTENSEN, O.C., LL.B.

PETER C. HEATH, B.A., LL.B.

March 18, 1981.

P.O. BOX 70

705-687-2281

Dr. Alfred Bader, 2961 North Shepard Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin U.S.A. 53211

Dear Dr. Bader: Re: Franz Biberstein

I received your name and address from Janice Pergoli who works for the Department of City Development in the City of Milwaukee. She has written to advise me that you would not object to entering into a brief correspondence concerning Franz Biberstein. I am told that you are an art collector and that you have about 40 Biberstein paintings. I only have one, but to me a most interesting one.

My grand-father, Samuel Stevens Miller, was a lawyer and District Attorney in Northern Wisconsin. He and his father were early Rhinelander pioneers, at a time when the white pine and other timber was being moved by many lumber companies from the area. As the town of Rhinelander developed, it became important to construct a Court House and eventually a most impressive building was constructed and completed in about 1919. My grandfather was on the decorating committee and as part of the decorations of the Court House, two good sized murals were completed by Franz Biberstein at the most modest sum of \$125.00. These murals exist to-day and are very well preserved. Apparently, my grand-mother made an arrangement with Mr. Biberstein to acquire the oil sketch of the one mural showing a logger on Boom Lake which is a widening of the Wisconsin River. The painting was presented by my grand-mother to my grand-father in 1919 and has been in our family ever since. The painting has come to me and over the years several artist friends have admired it and commented on its excellence.

- 2 -

Eventually my curiosity was aroused about the background of the picture and the history of Mr. Biberstein. I was curious to know how my grandfather might have come into contact with this person, not knowing whether he was a local resident of the Northern Wisconsin area, or an itinerant artist, or someone brought in from Southern Wisconsin to do the job. I have been able to unearth a great deal about Mr. Biberstein and know from various articles reproduced from the Milwaukee Journal that he died in a rather tragic fashion in Milwaukee in 1930, without having received a great deal of financial benefit from his life's work. I was most intrigued by one comment in an article to the effect that he had travelled with Baron Shaughnessy for two summers in the western part of Canada, painting the Selkirk and Rocky Mountains. When I heard this, I felt that there should be a number of his paintings in Canada, either with the National Gallery in Ottawa, or in a private collection owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway, which was the railway which Baron Shaughnessy was the President. There are no paintings in either place. Do you know of any of Biberstein's paintings completed in Canada of Canadian subjects?

Is there any market for Biberstein paintings? If I wanted to purchase one, are there any dealers in and around Milwaukee who would be able to show one? What price would I likely have to pay for such a painting?

As you can see, I have a curiosity about Biberstein and his work. I am enclosing a copy taken from the Rhinelander Daily News dated August 21, 1979 which describes my interest in this matter. I would appreciate it if you have the time, to provide me with any iformation you have about Mr. Biberstein and would be very interested to hear from you at your convenience.

Yours very truly,

John A. Christensen

JAC/G Encl.