Alfred Bader fornds

Alfred Bader Fine Arts
- Correspondence

Galdyne, Dr Joseph

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# Joseph Goldyne: 20 Years of Work at Richard York Gallery

NEW YORK CITY — A retrospective of the art of Joseph Goldyne, in all of its diverse aspects, will be held at the Richard York Gallery to March 13.

A California artist, Mr Goldyne has produced a significant body of monoprints, drawings and oils since his successful premiere at San Francisco's Quay Gallery in 1972. The artist's monoprints were the subject of a 1982 retrospective organized by the National Museum of American Art, "Familiar But Unique: The Monoprints of Joseph Goldyne," which travelled to four other venues, culminating at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

About 50 works are on view, beginning with early drawings and monoprints and continuing through the artist's ever-developing poetry of images, including still lifes, flowers, portraits and interiors. Seen as a whole, Mr Goldyne's technically dazzling, elegant works become a conversation, full of plays on words, allusions and often, humor.

In 1989, Paul Cummings, president of the Drawing Society and former adjunct curator of drawings at the Whitney Museum of American Art, published a book on the artist incorporating 88 color illustrations, and it is available for \$20 postpaid. An illustrated color brochure, including an introduction by Richard York and an exhibition checklist, accompanies the exhibition. The Richard York Gallery is located at 21 East 65th Street in New York City; telephone (212) 772-9155.





#### ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

March 11, 1993

Dr. Joseph Goldyne One Maple Street San Francisco, California 94118

Dear Joseph:

I have found often in life that unpleasant happenings have their silver linings.

I was very annoyed by the untruthful gossip in the February issue of Art & Auction, and my letter to them, copy enclosed, will explain why.

I do not usually look at advertisements in <u>Art & Auction</u>, but as I had the magazine open looking at that bit of gossip, I also saw the picture of your beautiful oil. What a fine silver lining.

We would love to see you, both at home and at the gallery. Just remember--the distance from San Francisco to Milwaukee is exactly the same as from Milwaukee to San Francisco.

How is your venture with providing permanent and true color photographs through computers coming along?

Fond regards from house to house,

Enclosures

By Appointment Only
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MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53202
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Dr. Alfred Bader Chairman

April 16, 1987

Dr. Joseph Goldyne One Maple Street San Francisco, California 94118

Dear Joseph:

I so appreciate your thoughtful letter. The delay in receiving it had worried Isabel and me that somehow we might have offended you, and of course that is the very last thing in the world which we want to do.

We very much hope that sometime in the next year you will find a day or two to visit us in Milwaukee, and we can then discuss the important points of your letter. Let me just say briefly that we are in total agreement with what you say. Really good catalogs are important and are so very difficult to achieve.

If sometime in the future the Jewish Museum in San Francisco has an exhibition into which one or two or even three of our paintings would fit, we would be delighted to loan them. Also, if you ever publish a catalog where an essay on the iconography of some of Rembrandt's biblical paintings would fit, I would be happy to prepare such an essay.

We already look forward to our next trip to San Francisco next winter, and I will give you ample notice of the time. I will be happy to present another talk at the museum, this time on the adventures of a collector.

Please don't forget: We very much look forward to seeing you in Milwaukee.

Fond regards from house to house,

As always,

Alfred Bader AB:mmh



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

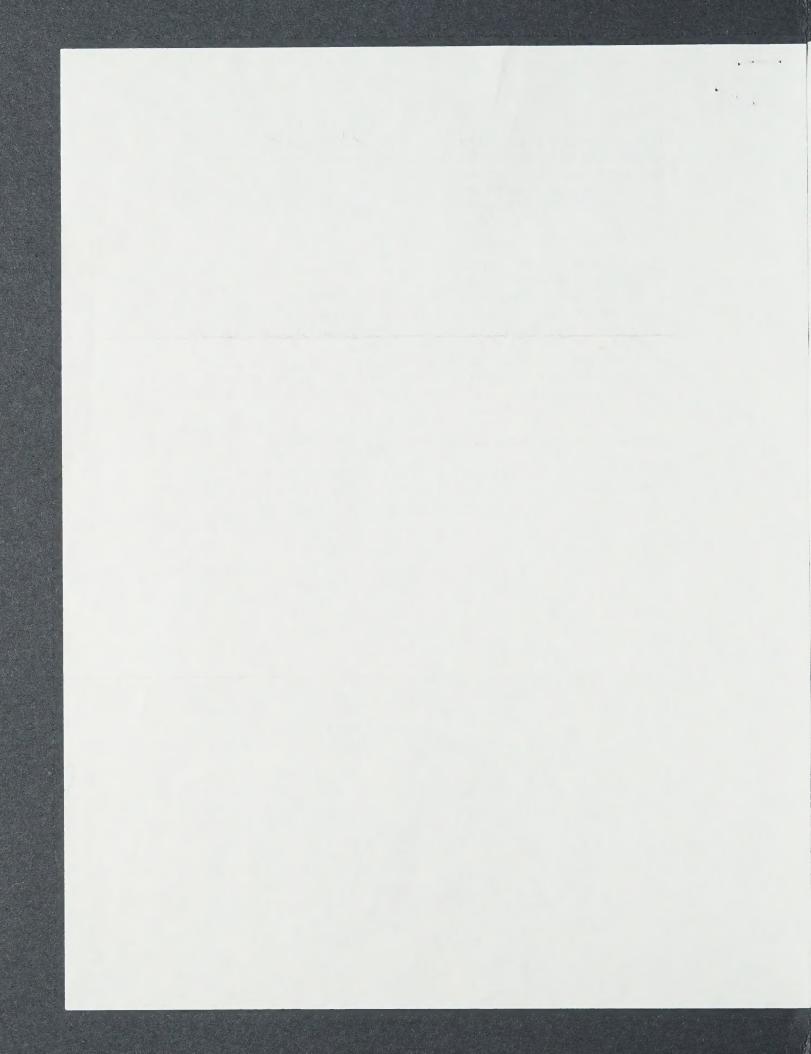
Dear Alfred:

Because of over three weeks in the East and an unexpected trip to Los Angeles, I am afraid this response is a tardy one. Now that I can find time to sit at the word processor, let me begin by thanking you for taking the time to articulate your position on the matter of showing your collection in San Francisco. As someone who is well familiar with presiding over a rather good number of art works, I am, believe me, in complete sympathy with your concerns. Therefore, I must be comfortable with your decision, disappointing as it may be to others associated with the museum.

There is one thing that I would like to express a personal feeling about and that is your understandable concern about the commitment of money required for a proper catalogue of such an exhibition. In your letter, you suggested that there were more important needs in the Jewish Community such as human services. This is a hard point of view to contest, yet one which must be balanced by a cultural perspective which I think is especially fitting for Jews. You would be the first to agree that fine books make a tremendous difference in the perception of the subjects with which they deal. Special effort resulting in quality may be expensive, yet a dignified presentation which not only records the relevant scholarship but attempts to preserve the allure of the objects, remains highly relevant long after the physical exhibition is over. This cannot be underestimated in terms of its contribution to a more accurate, not to mention pleasurable, understanding of the subject.

One of the things that I pressed for at the Fine Arts Museums in San Francisco was the production of excellent catalogues - excellent design and excellent color reproductions. Debbie and I also sponsored a catalogue at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem and I have lobbied for special catalogues as essential reflections of the seriousness and standing of our Jewish Museum in San Francisco.

I often make the distinction between art history and artistry, because the latter is so often sacrificed on the alter of the former. Art history is not beautiful - only interesting or, at the most, fascinating. It is artistry which moves us and which is most difficult to capture; and it is the artistry of painters long deceased to which we have an obligation as exhibition and catalogue organizers. Agnes Mongan at the Fogg Museum used to say: "don't do an exhibition unless you can do a catalogue;" I simply qualify the admonition a bit by saying: "don't do an



exhibition unless you can do a <u>good</u> catalogue." To sum up, we are supposed to be a people of the book in the broadest sense. We value learning and respect those who further its cause. So doing the best possible books should be a moral obligation, especially for a Jewish institution. Mrs. Geballe also believes this, and she has been supporting human services in the Jewish community for years.

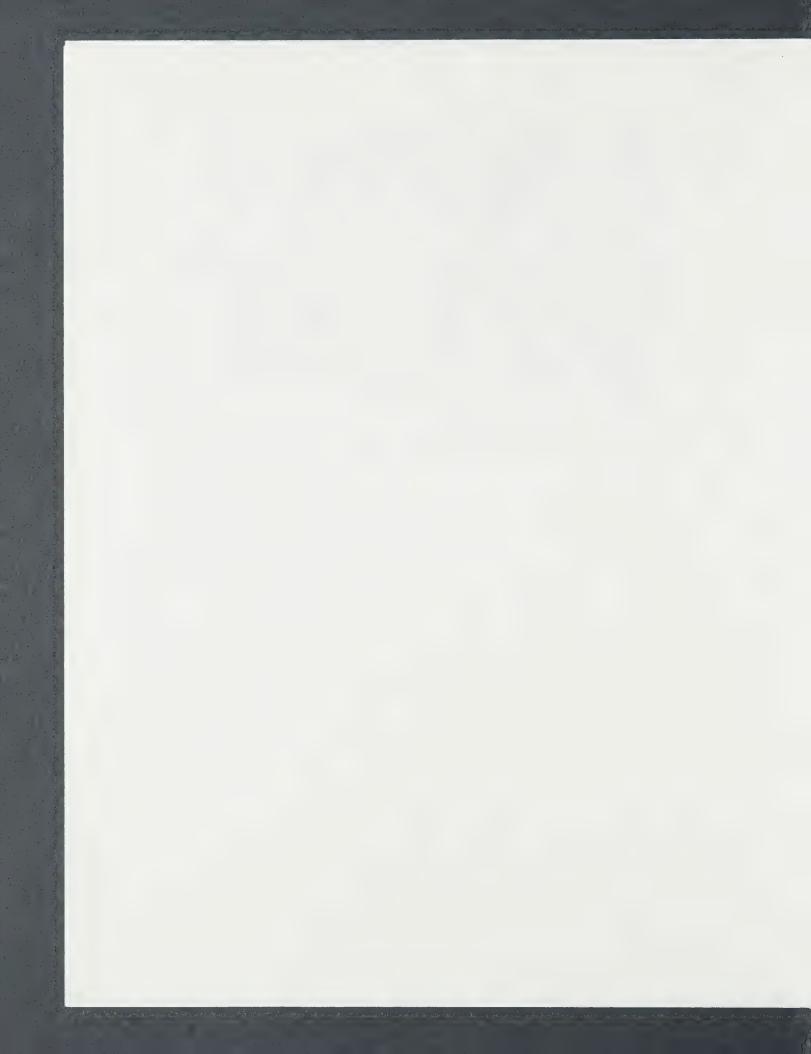
If you ever change your mind regarding an exhibition of some sort, you know that you will have a delighted partner in the Jewish Community Museum of San Francisco. More immediately, I speak for all those who heard you this year as well as Helaine Fortgang, our director, in extending an invitation to continue the series next winter. I am delighted that you are enthusiastic about the possibilities, and know that we will have an even bigger audience, because more people will have heard about the excellence of this year's presentation. We can set a definite date and subject a little later this year. For now, I wish you a healthy, happy Passover and a good summer with perhaps a few more Rembrandt school paintings.

Debbie and my Mother send fond regards to you and Isabel:

Best Wishes

Drepsh

Joseph





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Dr. Alfred Bader Chairman

February 16, 1987

Dr. Joseph Goldyne One Maple Street San Francisco California 94118

Dear Joseph:

You will have realized how very much Isabel and I enjoyed our evening with you and then our evening at the Jewish Museum.

As you know, we visit San Francisco just about every winter, and I would be delighted if the Jewish Museum would schedule another talk for next January or February, perhaps best on "The Adventures of a Chemist-Collector." This would deal with the restoration of a good many paintings, and I would concentrate on biblical paintings.

For the year following, I could easily prepare a talk on Rembrandt and the Jews, which would extend some of the work I have talked about last month.

As you will be able to imagine, Isabel and I have thought and talked a great deal about the exciting possibility of exhibiting our Dutch biblical paintings in San Francisco.

I hope that you will understand why we have very reluctantly decided against this.

There isn't any one reason, but many, each of which is meaningful to us. Please allow me to share these with you, and I think that on reflection you will then understand.

- 1. It seems to me that spending \$50,000 or \$60,000 on such an exhibition is an enormous sum which could be used so much better to help people in need. We fear that we would rightly be accused of going on an ego trip.
- 2. We really do worry about earthquakes in San Francisco, and you will understand that collectors like us, insurance, no matter how expensive, is really no solution. I have never really wanted a painting—at least

Mr. Joseph Goldyne February 16, 1987 Page Two



not during the last ten years—where I had to say I cannot afford this. I simply could not replace the collection I now have.

- 3. Surely you will remember Benedict Nicholson's impassioned editorial in the <u>Burlington Magazine</u> some years ago, in which he couseled very strongly against any exhibitions that aren't really of great art historical importance. Of course, you will ask why then we loaned so many of our paintings to the exhibition in Japan, and perhaps we should not have. However, two of our very good friends, Egbert Haverkamp-Begemann and Christopher Brown, the curator of the National Gallery, arranged for this exhibition and really asked us to help.
- 4. Now that we have been without 15 paintings which are in Japan for some months, we really miss them, and the house is not the same.

Please do think about all of these reasons which are "real reasons" and not "good reasons" and I hope that you will understand.

Isabel and I very much hope that on your next trip east you will stop with us in Milwaukee. An old-fashioned, but comfortable, guest room awaits you.

Fond regards to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Alfred Bader AB:mmh

Joseph R. Boldynon

Dear Alfred:

Feb 6, 1987

I wanted to tell you how positively delighted I was with your recent talk in San Francisco. Your knowledge, enthusiasm and gift for presentation won the hearts of many people. Indeed, just yesterday when I walked into the Museum with a friend, two of the older docents took me aside and told me how much your talk had meant to them: "It kept us up all night talking such a wonderful topic and such a wonderful man." Another man, a past president of the Federation and a Dutch Jew was equally excited and asked: "How come he hasn't been here before?" In fact, you were so suited to the topic that despite my presentation of you as a chemist, people somehow prefer to think that you teach art history or one of the other humanities. Obviously, all eagerly await next year's lecture.

Of course, it is our hope that both you and Isabel enjoyed the experience as well. I only wish we could have had a more leisurely dinner. Perhaps next year we can have a Chinese meal on another night so that you can at least have the time to savor it.

When we get back home (in about two weeks), I will want to talk further about the possibilities for the exhibition and catalogue and also about visiting with you in Milwaukee, perhaps in May. The prospect of a beautiful catalogue containing a fine essay or essays by yourself together with excellent color plates is one which I hope excites you as much as it does me. So, please do give it more thought. In the meantime, you have my admiration and sincere thanks.

Debbie and my mother join me in sending our best wishes to you and Isabel.

Joseph



from the Bader collection

#### Bader Exhibition:

Prior exhibitions:

Previous exhibitions of selections of work from the Bader collection have stressed themes relating to the Bible. Accompanying catalogues have supplied useful information, but have been secondary in terms of production values.

Our Exhibition:

What the Jewish Community Museum desires is a first rate book-catalogue with fine color plates and a compelling readable essay by Dr. Bader.

Funding for exhibition and catalogue has been promised by Frances Geballe.

- 1) limit the theme to Rembrandt and his Pupils as illustrators of the Old Testament?
- 2) Should we stress iconography or aesthetics?
- 3) Titles (It is important to have a good title!)

Sacred Choices: Old Testamental Themes in Seventeenth-century Dutch Painting

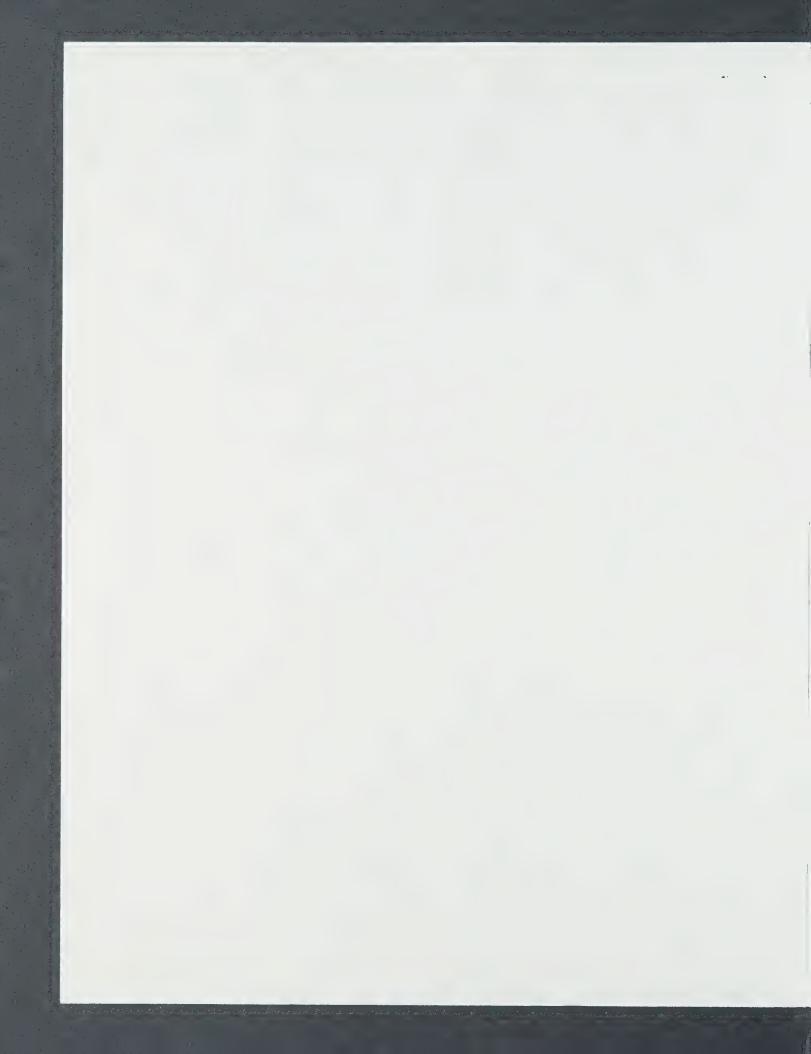
Sacred Moments: Dutch Painting and the Old Testament

Dutch Painting and the Hebrew Bible: Old-Testamental Themes in Seventeenth-century Holland

Confrontation and Revelation: Seventeenth-Century Dutch Painting and the Hebrew Bible.

Acts of Faith and Moments of Awe: Dutch Painting and the Old Testament from the Bader collection

Dutch Painting and the Hebrew Bible / Selections from the Bader Collection



Rembrandt's Legacy: Dutch Painting and the Old Testament Selections from the Bader Collection.

Get Ideas from Alfred of what he might like to write about



Joseph R. Bellyne

Dr. Alfred Bader Chairman, Sigma - Aldrich Corporation 940 West St. Paul Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233 U.S.A

Dear Dr. Bader:

Debbie and I were delighted to hear that You and Isabel are about to be in San Francisco from the 8th through the 16th, and it would be our pleasure to have you at our home for dinner whenever it might be convenient for you. Shabbat would be particularly nice—so think about Friday night the fourteenth as one possibility. In any case, you will probably have a better idea of your time when you get here, so please do call us at 386 - 8112.

The Drawings of Da Vinci from Windsor Castle together with the Codex Hammer will be on view at the Legion of Honor until Feb. 23d, and I know that you would enjoy seeing these. If you wish, I could arrange to have you and your wife see them quietly after the Museum is closed or before it opens

We very much look forward to visiting with you and send our best regards.

Sincerely,

Joseph Goldyne





January 28, 1986



Dr. Joseph Goldyne 1 Maple San Francisco California 94118

Dear Dr. Goldyne:

Thank you for the beautiful catalogs which you so kindly sent me.

Isabel and I plan to be in San Francisco from the 8th of February through the 16th, and it would give us great pleasure if we could visit with you, even if only for a little while.

Best personal regards to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Alfred Bader

AB:mmh



October 19, 1982

Dr. Joseph Goldyne One Maple Street San Francisco California 94118

Dear Dr. Goldyne:

Mr. Thomas Garver, the Director of the Madison Art Center, visited me last weekend to look at my collection of Rembrandt school paintings. He mentioned to me that you also were very interested in Dutch paintings, and when next I am in San Francisco, probably this winter, I would love to have the opportunity of visiting with you to discuss our interest in paintings.

To give you some idea of my collection, I enclose a recent exhibition catalog.

Best personal regards,

Alfred Bader

AB:mmh

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Thomas H. Garver

