

Alfred Baber Fonds

Alfred Baber Fine Arts
Correspondence

Kilgore, Jack
1994-1994

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
LOCATOR	5095.5
BOX	2
FILE	28



ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

August 1, 1996

Mr. Jack Kilgore
Jack Kilgore & Co., Inc.
154 East 71st Street
New York, NY 10021

Dear Jack:

I am sorry that my trip to England has delayed my thanking you for your letter of July 19th, but why the formality of calling me 'Dr. Bader'?

Your Flemish sketch is very nice indeed.

As you know, I wear two hats, that of a collector and that of a dealer. As a collector, I am looking mainly for Rembrandt School pictures, and you will recall that I purchased such a sketch from you and Johnny van Haeften recently.

As a dealer, I don't think that I could acquire your sketch for \$18,000 and sell it at a profit.

I am very interested in your comments because just last month I bought at Christie's South Kensington Lot 311, which is a very similar Flemish sketch. It was estimated at only £1,500 to £2,000, but I had to pay a hammer price of £5,000 and wonder to whom I can sell it profitably.

Please do understand.

With best regards, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

AB/cw

Enclosures:

transparency and photograph

By Appointment Only
ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622
924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53202
TEL 414 277-0700 FAX 414 277-0700



JACK KILGORE & Co., INC.

154 EAST 71ST STREET NEW YORK, NY 10021

TELEPHONE (212) 650-1149 TELEFAX (212) 650-1389

July 15, 1996

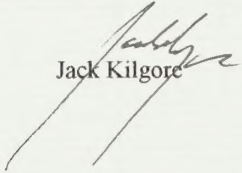
Dr. Alfred Bader
Alfred Bader Fine Arts
Astor Hotel, Suite 622
924 East Juneau Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Dr. Bader,

Otto Naumann suggested that I send you the enclosed photographs of a painting which I recently acquired in the Netherlands. The painting was purchased privately and not through an auction. This work is of high quality and quite close to the hand of Van Dyck. Professor Hans Vlieghe has suggested that it may be a work by Pieter van Mol. In any case, the attribution is still an open question. The painting has just arrived at my gallery and has not been exhibited in any art fair.

The price of this painting, which is in a period ebony frame, is \$18,000. Please let me know your thoughts, and feel free to discuss the painting with Otto. He has examined it in the original here at my gallery.

With best wishes for a pleasant summer, I am,
sincerely yours,


Jack Kilgore

JACK KINGS & CO., INC.

12345 Main Street
New York, N.Y. 10001

Dear Sirs:

We are pleased to inform you that your order for 100 units of Model X-100 has been received and is being processed. The estimated shipping date is 10 business days from the date of this letter.

We appreciate your business and look forward to serving you again.

Sincerely,
John Doe, Sales Manager

Jack Kings & Co., Inc.
12345 Main Street
New York, N.Y. 10001



ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

October 14, 1994

Mr. Jack Kilgore
Jack Kilgore & Co., Inc.
154 East 71st Street
New York, New York 10021

Dear Jack:

Thank you for your letter of October 11th.

I fear that I could not purchase the Backer or the Verelst and sell them at a profit.

I am happy to know that you were Johnny Van Haefen's partner in the Rembrandt School head of which so many versions exist. Still, I do hope that Johnny is correct in assuring me that it is 17th century. Did Sumowski tell you what he thinks? Also, if you have any spare photographs, please send them to me.

Mail between here and England has become very chancy, and in the last year several letters from me have been lost, and letters often take 2-3 weeks. As I will be in London on November 11th, I told Johnny that I would make payment for the little panel then.

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



JACK KILGORE & CO., INC.

154 EAST 71ST STREET NEW YORK, NY 10021

TELEPHONE (212) 650-1149 TELEFAX (212) 650-1389

October 11, 1994

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

Dear Dr. Bader,

Many thanks for your letter of October 3rd. I am pleased that you agree with the attributions of my two paintings. However, I was sorry to hear that they are not good enough for your collection. In any case, congratulations on your purchase of the Rembrandt school head which I owned with Johnny van Haeften.

The price of the Backer is \$42,000 and the Verelst is \$68,000.

Please let me know your thoughts.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Jack Kilgore

JK:mm

JACK KILGORE & CO., INC.

121 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N.Y.
Telephone: MU 2-1111

Dear Sirs:

We are pleased to inform you that your order for [illegible] has been received and is being processed. We expect to have the goods ready for shipment by [illegible].

Sincerely,
[illegible]



ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

October 3, 1994

Mr. Jack Kilgore
Jack Kilgore & Co., Inc.
154 East 71st Street
New York, New York 10021

Dear Jack:

Thank you for your letter of September 29th and the two photographs.

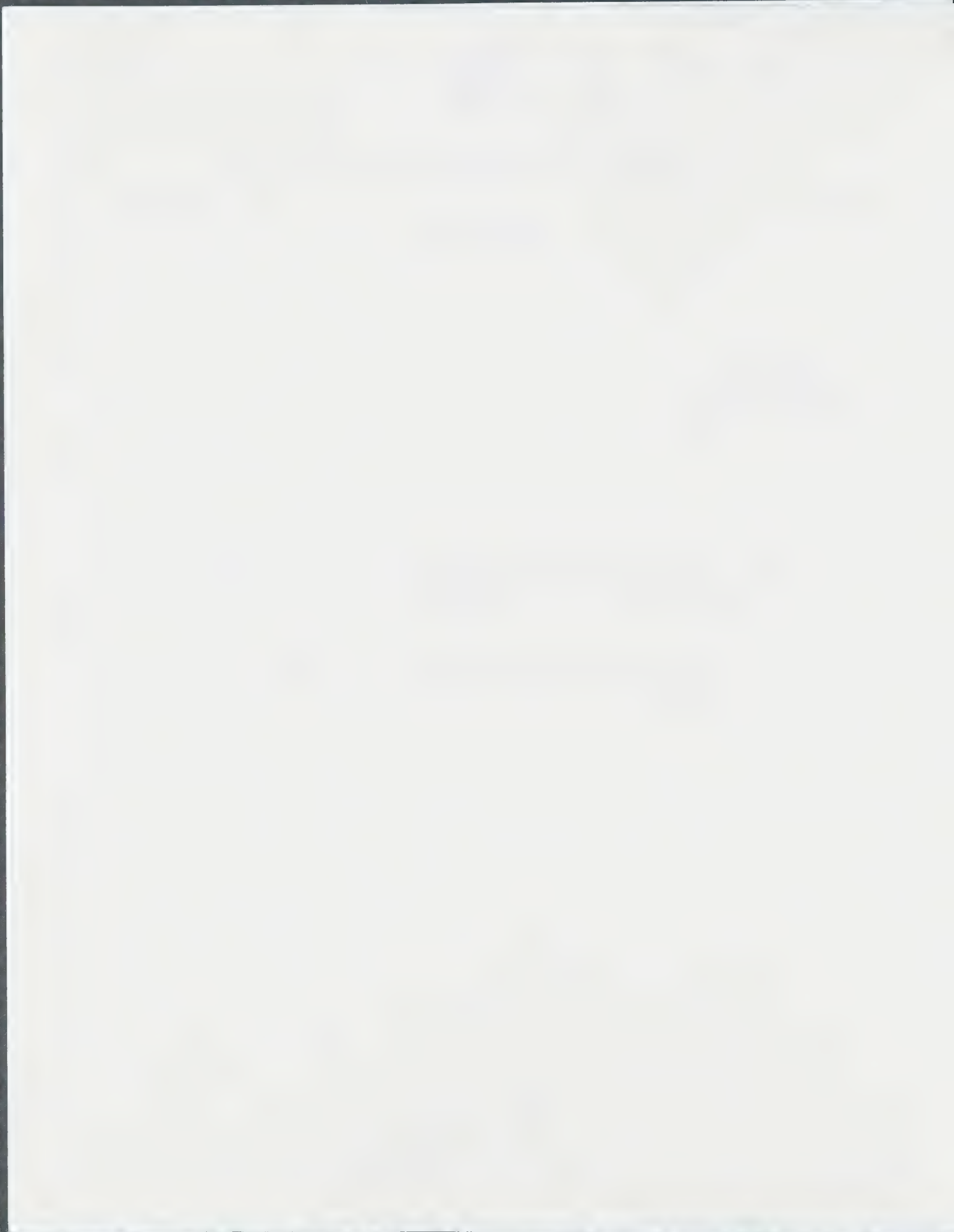
Both paintings look absolutely right and correctly attributed, but neither is really good enough for my collection and I fear that coming from you they are likely to be too expensive to re-sell at a profit. Please understand that I don't want to be hurtful, but I know what large overheads a New York gallery has.

Still, believe it or not, I just bought a similar Rembrandt school painting from Johnny van Haefen where I thought that we could never get together. So please surprise me and tell me what these two paintings cost.

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



JACK KILGORE & CO., INC.

154 EAST 71ST STREET NEW YORK, NY 10021

TELEPHONE (212) 650-1149 TELEFAX (212) 650-1389

September 29, 1994

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

Dear Dr. Bader,

Enclosed, please find photographs and information on the Jacob Backer and the Pieter Verelst.

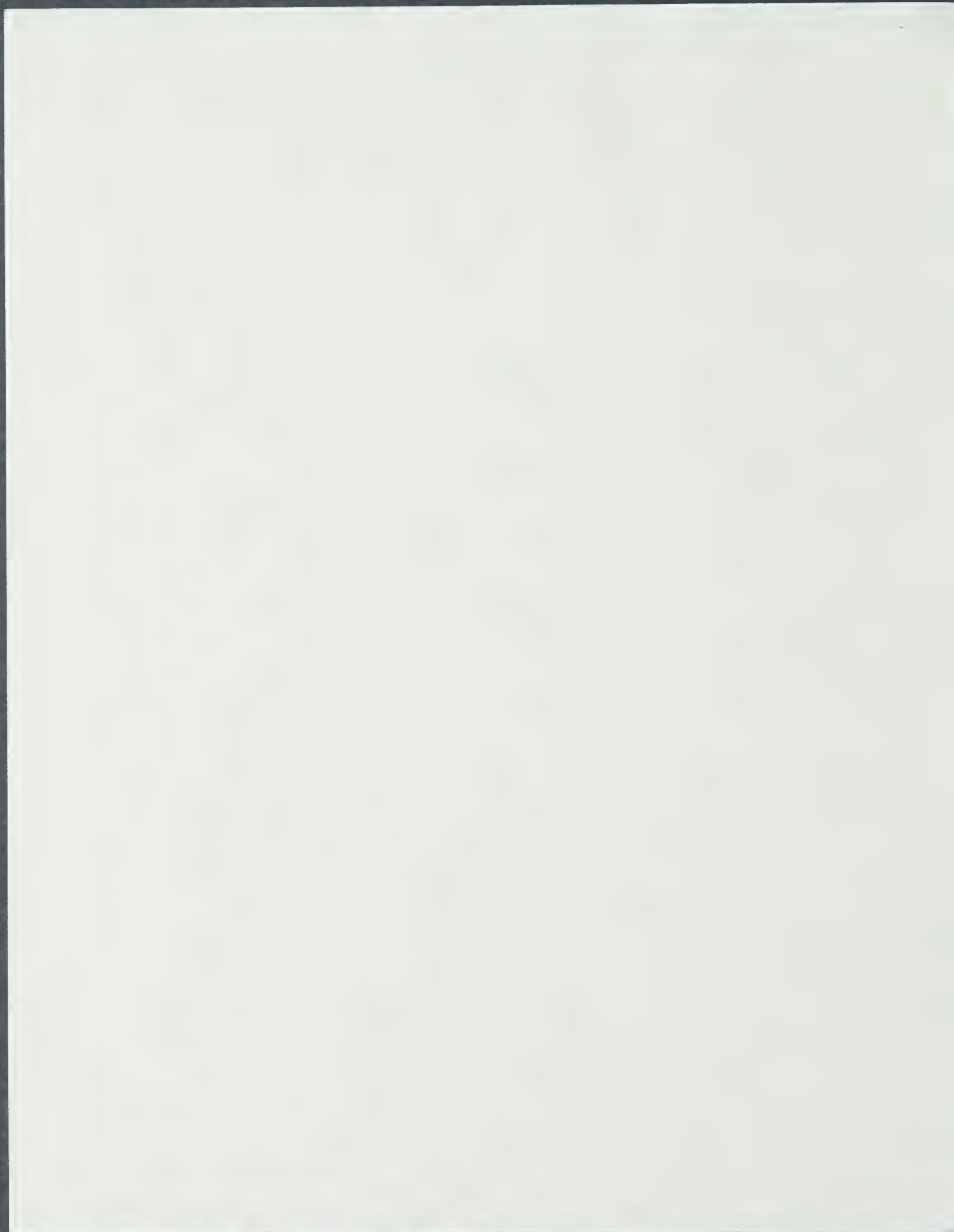
Please let me know your thoughts.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,


Jack Kilgore

JK:mm











JACK KILGORE & CO., INC.

154 EAST 71ST STREET NEW YORK, NY 10021

TELEPHONE (212) 650-1149 TELEFAX (212) 650-1389

Jacob Backer, *Portrait of a Young Woman*

oil on panel
25 3/8 by 19 1/2 inches (64.4 by 49.5 cm.)

provenance: Sale Hölischer-Stumpf, Berlin, May 7, 1918 (as a portrait of Hendrickje Stoffels)

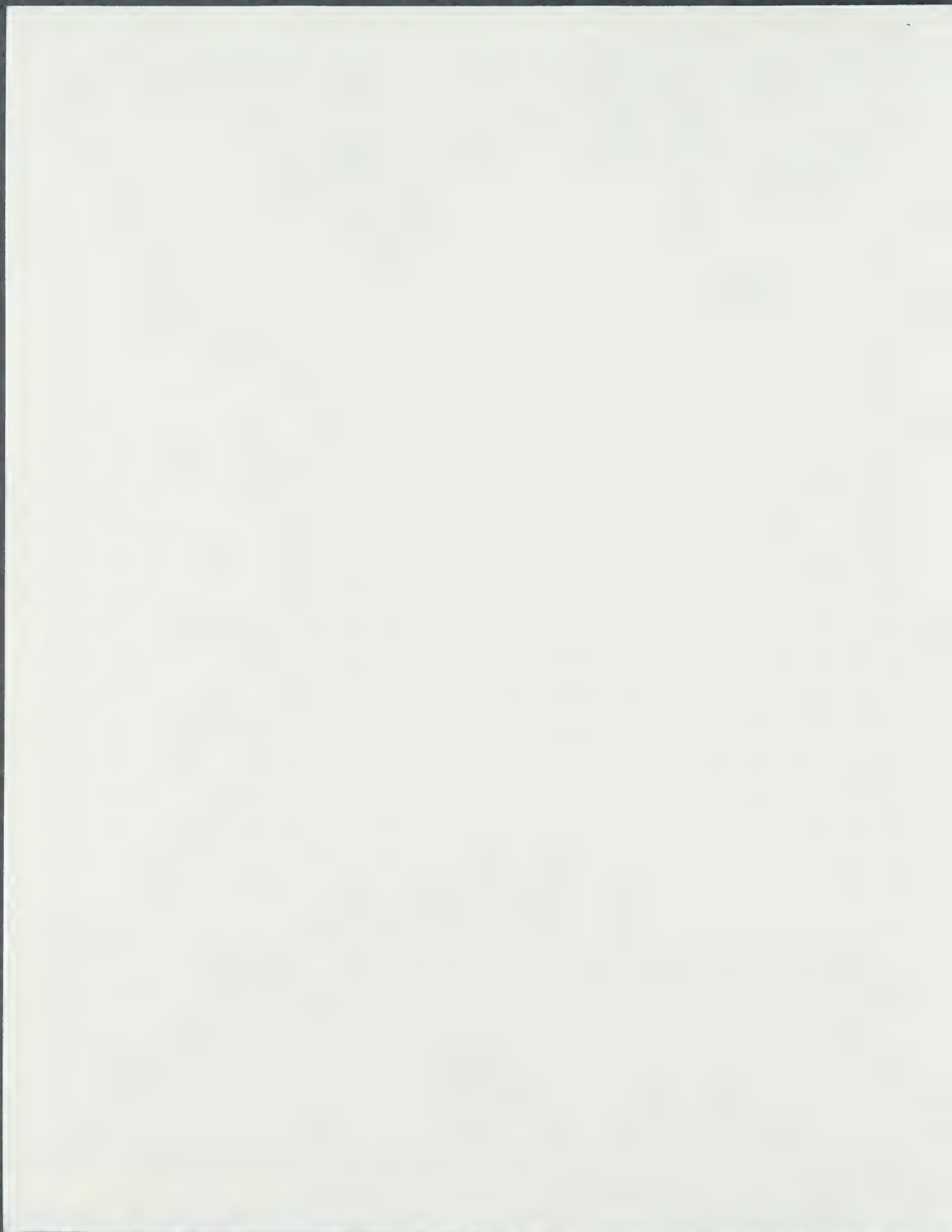
exhibition: Berlin, 1915, *Werken alter Kunst aus Berliner Privatbesitz*, no. 6

literature: *Kunstchronik*, Vol. 26, p. 451
Donath, *Velhagen und Klasings Monatshefte* 25, p. 156-7, ill.
K. Bauch, *Jacob Adriaensz Backer. Ein Rembrandtschüler aus Friesland*, 1926, p. 87, under cat.no. 110
W. Sumowski, *Gemälde der Rembrandtschüler*, Vol. I, p. 199 under cat.no. 43

engraved: A. Baader

note: Jacob Adriaensz. Backer was born in Harlingen, the son of the baker Adriaen Tjersz. After the death of his wife, Jacob's father remarried a widow in Amsterdam in 1611 and the family moved to the quickly expanding metropolis. There, Adriaen continued in his occupation as a baker. The use of the surname Backer, which of course refers to the father's profession, dates from the this period.

Jacob Backer returned to Friesland around 1625-1627 to become an apprentice to the painter Lambert Jacobsz. in Leeuwarden. Lambert Jacobsz. had been a close acquaintance of the Backer family originally from Amsterdam, where they were all members of the Waterland Baptist Community. When Lambert Jacobsz. married in 1620 and settled in Leeuwarden, he maintained contact with the Backer family; this explains why the young Jacob Backer was sent to



Friesland to receive instruction in painting from him. Backer's most famous fellow pupil in Leeuwarden was Govaert Flinck.

Jacob Backer returned to Amsterdam at the beginning of the 1630s and did not, as has frequently been presumed, study under Rembrandt. Backer immediately established himself as an independent painter.

However, in Amsterdam Backer proved susceptible to Rembrandt's style for, as the leading artist, he was all the rage. Furthermore, with regard to subject matter, Backer's paintings coincided nicely with Rembrandt's oeuvre and the trends popular in his academy, of which our painting *Portrait of a Young Woman* is a good example. The effect of Rembrandt's lessons in Amsterdam strongly influenced Backer. Presumably he also worked at Rembrandt's academy. The numerous nude studies that he made both on paper and in oils attest to this.

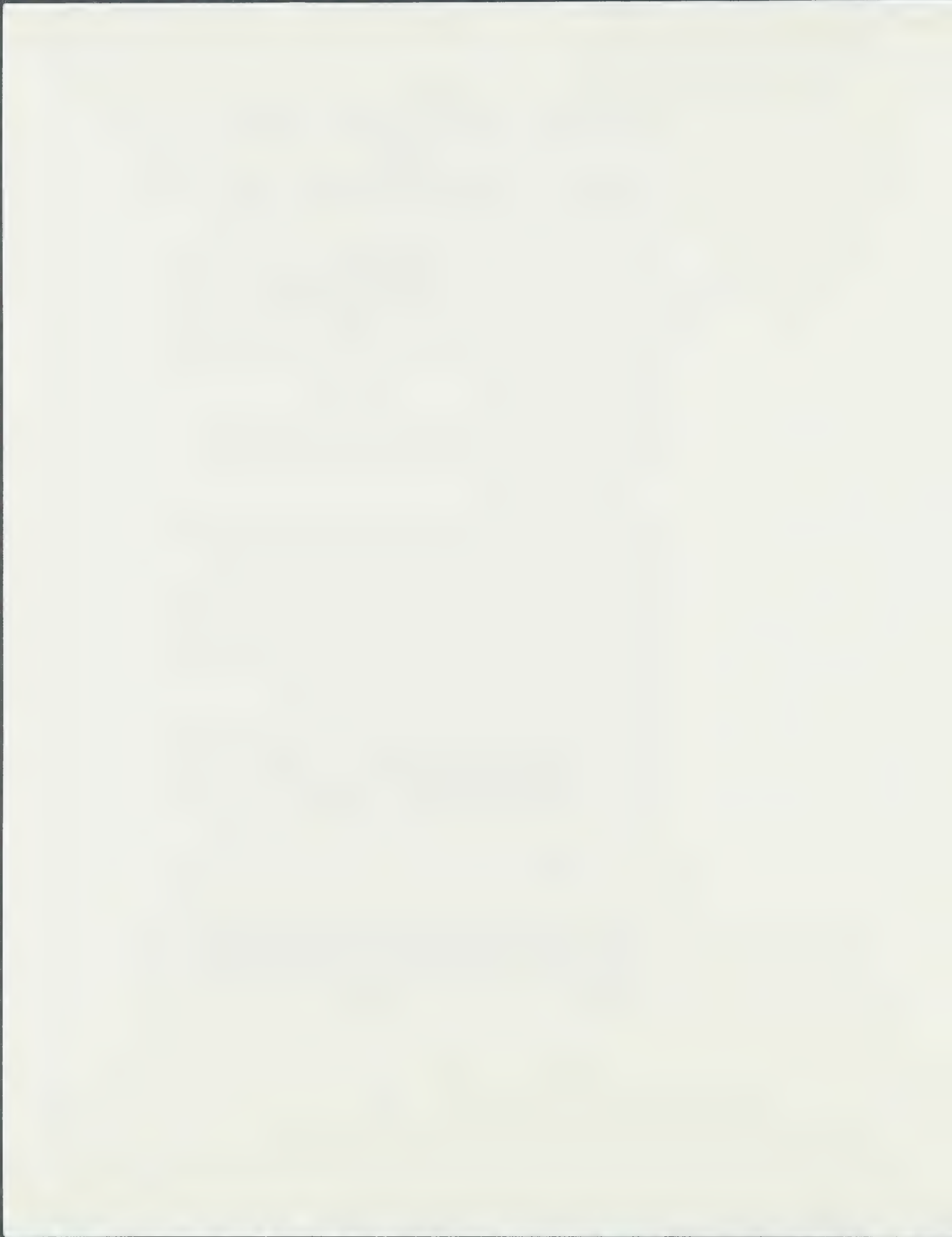
It did not take long before Backer himself became a sought-after master. He was awarded the prestigious commission to portray the governors of the Amsterdam Orphanage in 1633/1634. Following this, a steady stream of commissions came his way.

Late works by Backer clearly reveal the influences of Flemish painting, leading to the conclusion that he may have spent some time in Antwerp. According to an annotation on a drawing, he definitely was in Vlissingen in 1638. It is possible that he was either on his way to or returning from Flanders. The following may also serve to support a sojourn in Flanders: a portrait of Jacob Backer by the Antwerp engraver Jean Meysens was included in the latter's book *images de divers hommes d'esprit sublime* of 1649. Backer was the only painter from Rembrandt's circle to be so honoured. In this remarkable book one finds portraits of artists from Utrecht in particular alongside the many portraits of Flemish artists. This was due to the fact that the art of Utrecht was more internationally oriented than that of Amsterdam.

This also applies for Backer. His early work is strongly influenced by Lambert Jacobsz., who in turn introduced Backer to Utrecht Caravaggism. Later Backer, just as Jacob van Loo, developed in a classicizing direction. They were the only Amsterdam artists asked to contribute to the decorations of the Oranjezaal in the palace Huis ten Bosch in The Hague, though neither one submitted any work.

Jacob Backer died in 1651 at the age of 43. A commemorative medal was struck in his honour.

The present work is probably a preparatory study for an oval painting of the same subject now in the Alte Pinakothek, Munich (inv.no. 352). The freedom of brushstrokes, fluidity of paint and the numerous *pentimenti*, all support the hypothesis that our painting is the earlier of the two versions of the composition.



JACK KILGORE & CO., INC.

154 EAST 71ST STREET NEW YORK, NY 10021

TELEPHONE (212) 650-1149 TELEFAX (212) 650-1389

Pieter Hermansz. Verelst, *Portrait of an Old Woman*

oil on panel

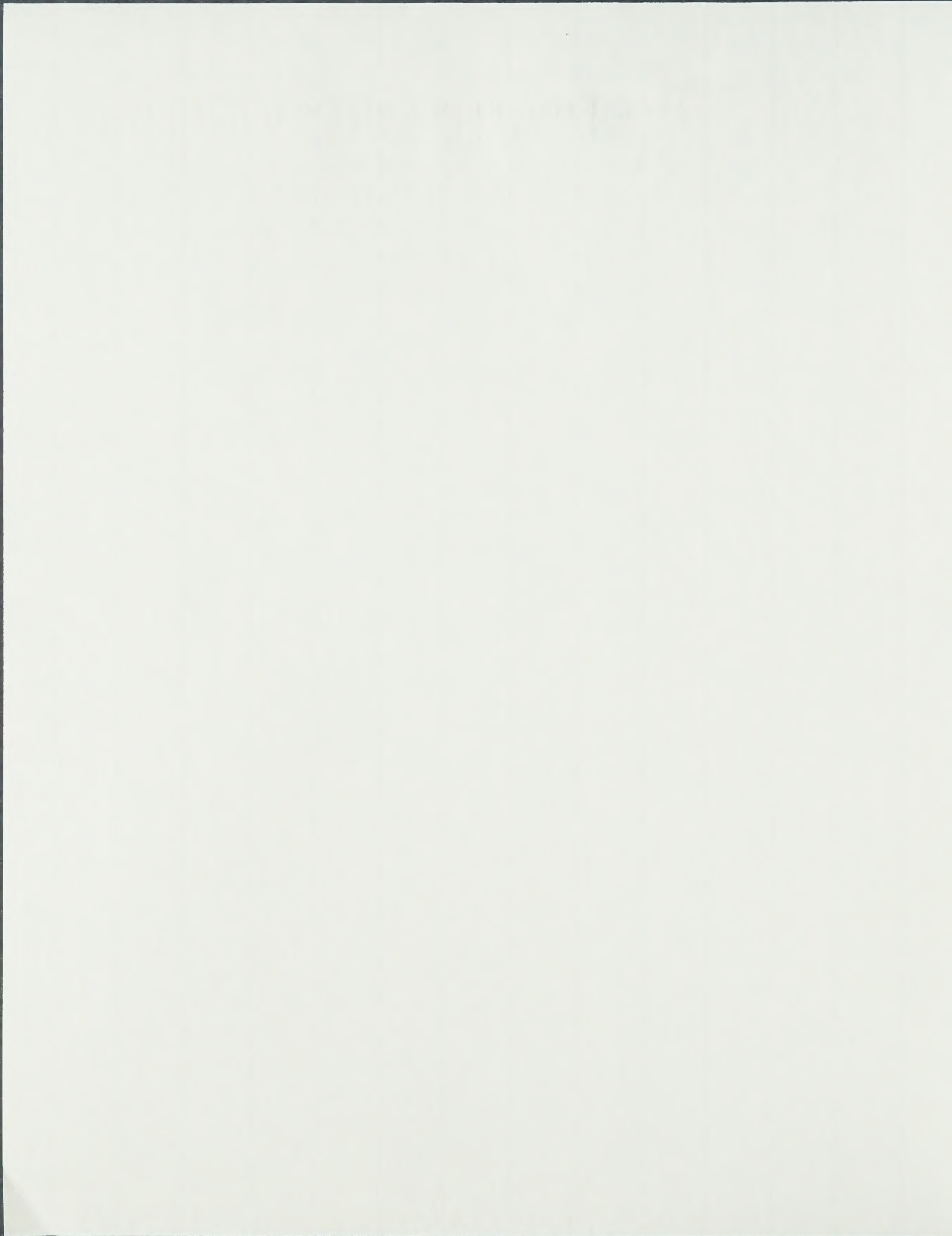
29 by 23-1/4 inches (73.2 by 59 cm.)

inscribed on the reverse: "P.Verelst 1648"

note:

Pieter Hermansz. Verelst, who was probably born in Dordrecht around 1618 and died in Hulst *circa* 1678, was a painter who imitated Rembrandt in his portraits, and Adriaen van Ostade in his genre pictures. He has been called a pupil of Gerard Dou, but there seems to be no evidence in support of this idea. In 1638 Verelst was reported as a member of the Guild of St. Luke at Dordrecht. About 1643 he went to the Hague, where, in 1656, he was one of the founders of the painter's confraternity Pictura. From the records at the Artist's Guild at the Hague, he is known to have been still living in 1665, and three years later is said to have left that city in order to escape his creditors. In 1671 Verelst was a beer brewer near Hulst.

Verelst's style was influenced by the early Rembrandt school and the present work is stylistically closely related to a number of signed portraits and figure pieces which the artist executed in the years 1646 - 48. A quarter length portrait of the same sitter, but without hands or book and facing the opposite direction, was formerly in Berlin, Kaiser - Friedrich - Museum. The now lost portrait was signed and dated 1648.



JACK KILGORE & CO., INC.

154 EAST 71ST STREET NEW YORK, NY 10021

TELEPHONE (212) 650-1149 TELEFAX (212) 650-1389

September 20, 1994

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

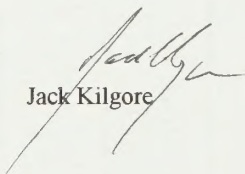
Dear Dr. Bader,

As the fall art "season" begins, I would like to invite you to visit my gallery in New York. If you plan a trip to Manhattan this autumn, please let me know. It would be a pleasure to meet with you and to show you some of the new Dutch and Flemish Old Master paintings that are here, including a Backer and a Pieter Verelst.

I trust that you had a pleasant summer.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,


Jack Kilgore

JK:mm

JACK KILGORE & CO., INC.

121 EAST 70th STREET, NEW YORK 21, N.Y.
TELEPHONE: 3-6700

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. [Name]
FROM: Mr. [Name]
SUBJECT: [Subject]

The following information was obtained from [Source] regarding [Topic]. It is being provided for your information.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Title]

[Page Number]