

Alfred Baker Sands

Correspondence

Mertens, Roland
1994

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
LOCATOR	5095.5
BOX	2
FILE	42

April 21, 1994

Mr. Roland Mertens
Bismarckstrasse 96
D52066 Aachen
Germany

Kopie

Dear Mr. Mertens:

Yesterday was the worst day in the history of the world, Adolf Hitler's birthday, and yet it was cheered up for me by my receiving a fax from Clovis Whitfield in London that your dealer friend has delivered the large canvas of that sleeping man.

My check for \$4,000 is enclosed.

One good thing leads to another: your dealer friend looked at the many paintings in Clovis's gallery and bought a very beautiful roundel of Lot and his daughters, surely Flemish 16th century.

Now I am anxious either to meet you in London or visit you in Aachen to look at some of your beautiful still lifes. I fear, unfortunately, that I will not get to Germany until next summer.

Again, many thanks and all good wishes.

Sincerely,

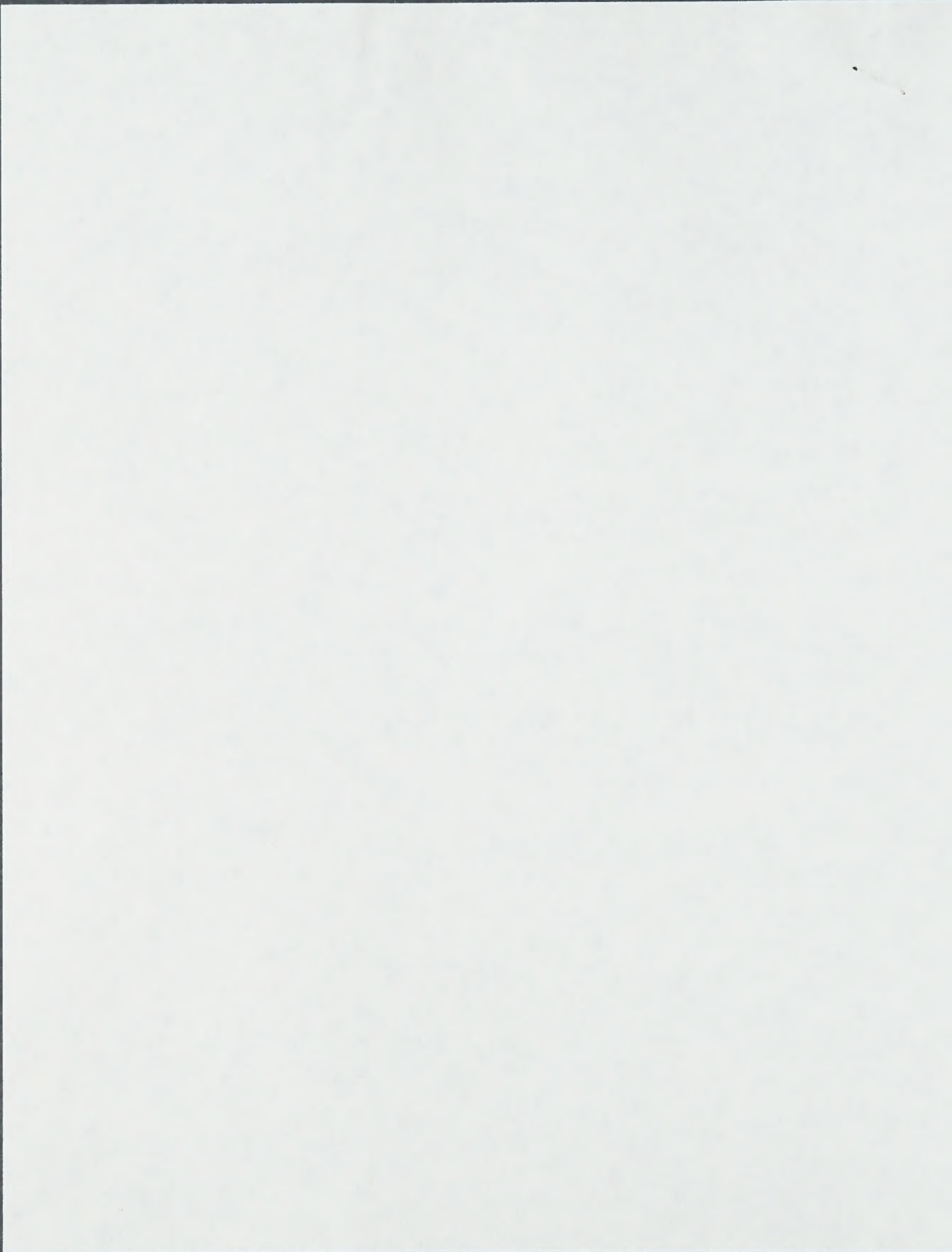
Lieber Herr Mertens:
Der liebe Brief vom 25. IV.
hat sich mit meinem vom 21. IV
und check gekreuzt.

Enclosure

Beste Grüsse

J. A. S. A.

3. V. 94.



Roland Mertens
Bismarckstr.96
FRG - 52066 AACHEN

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

25/04/94

Dear Dr. Bader,

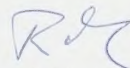
My friend from Düsseldorf has delivered the painting to your correspondent gallery in London last week. The painting was received in good order by Mr. Whitfield and I do truly hope, that the painting will satisfy your expectations.

Since I have limited banking facilities, I have asked my friend again for help. He has offered to pay me the money at my convenience upon receiving it in his US-\$ account. Would you be therefore so kind, to send it in Dollars to:

Deutsche Bank Düsseldorf
Bank sort 30070010
Beneficiary: Eckard Lingenauber
AC 1700038
Reference: Jacob's dream

Thanking you in anticipation

yours sincerely



Roland Mertens





ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

March 7, 1994

Mr. Roland Mertens
Bismarckstrasse 96
D52066 Aachen
Germany

Dear Mr. Mertens:

It was such a pleasure to chat with you again last weekend.

I would just like to confirm that I would like to buy the painting of the Sleeping Man for \$4000 and hope that you can get it to England relatively easily.

If someone can carry it to London, I would appreciate it being delivered to Mr. Clovis Whitfield, 180 New Bond Street, telephone 44 71 499 3592, fax 44 71 495 6488. His gallery is on the same street as Sotheby's and Colnaghi's.

Should delivery not be possible, then I hope that you can send it by mail to my English home:

52 Wickham Avenue
Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN39 3ER
England

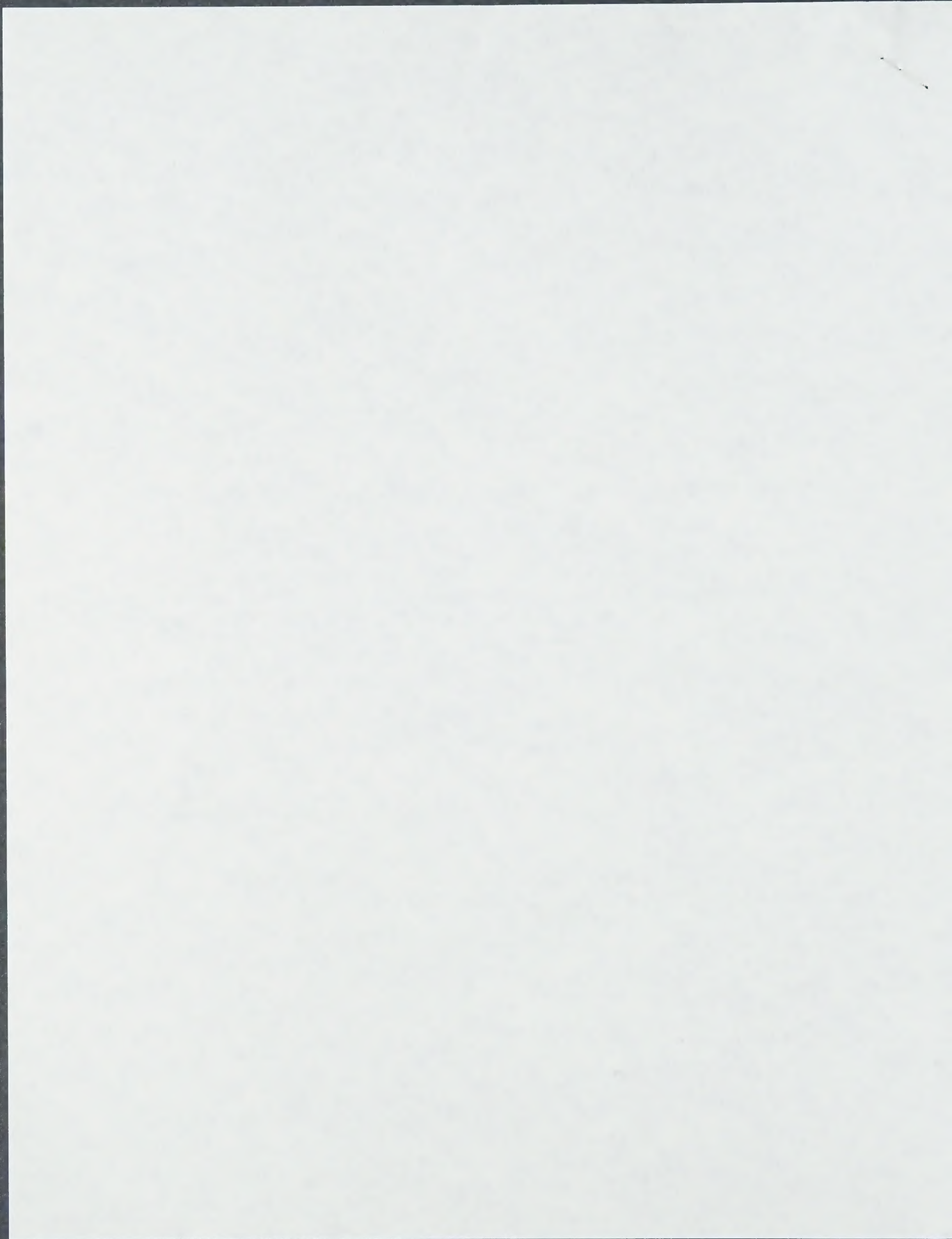
in such a manner that it will arrive in England between June 22 and July 10, when we will be there.

Beyond that, I do of course look forward to seeing your paintings and very much hope that you will have some of your great-in-quality and small-in-size still lifes.

Best 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



Roland Mertens

ARTIST IN PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS

BISMARCKSTR. 96

D - 52066 AACHEN

Tel. ++49 / 241 / 511666

By appointment

Roland Mertens Bismarckstr. 96 D - 52066 AACHEN

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

*Trip file
OK*

24/12/93

Dear Dr. Bader,

Dr. Wolf from the Dorotheum in Vienna informed me that you might be still interested in a painting attributed to Willmann, which was offered in october at the Dorotheum sale, lot no. 338. Unfortunately the painting did not sell and hencefore returned to me. As you will surely have noticed from my letterhead, my profession is to create art and not to deal in it. But with this painting, which has been in our family for quite some time, I had hoped to finance a skiing holiday. This might now become still possible, since we both can wave away the auctioneer's commission finding a mutually pleasing price. The best price I could offer the painting to you is US-\$ 4,000.00 payable on collection in Aachen.

Looking forward of hearing from you.

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year



Roland Mertens

*Send London / Munich
gallery
address*



ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

February 25, 1994

Mr. Roland Mertens
Bismarckstrasse 96
D52066 Aachen
Germany

Dear Mr. Mertens:

Thank you so much for sending me your beautiful 1991 calendar with the reproductions of your great paintings. You are really influenced by the great Italian and Dutch masters.

I have tried to telephone you several times in the last week to thank you, but there was never any reply. I will be in England next week and will try to reach you by telephone again. My telephone number in England is 44 424 222 223.

Perhaps we can arrange for you to send me your large painting of a Sleeping Man to our home in England. Surely that would be much less expensive than sending it from Aachen to Milwaukee. We will be back in England in June and then again in August, and we can discuss the mechanics of the shipment by telephone.

Again, thanks.

Best wishes,

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



ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

February 25, 1994

Mr. Roland Mertens
Bismarckstrasse 96
D52066 Aachen
Germany

Dear Mr. Mertens:

Thank you so much for sending me your beautiful 1991 calendar with the reproductions of your great paintings. You are really influenced by the great Italian and Dutch masters.

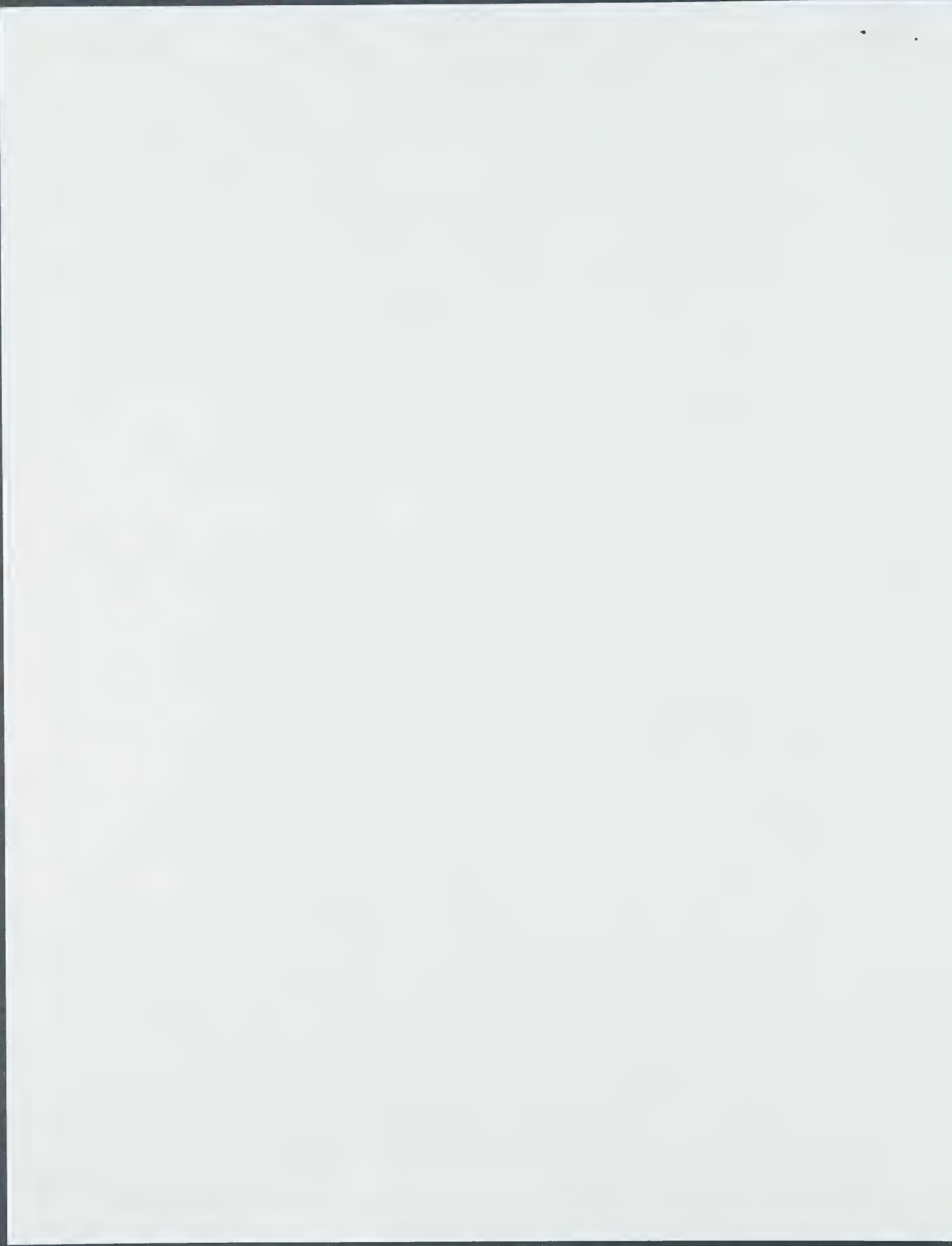
I have tried to telephone you several times in the last week to thank you, but there was never any reply. I will be in England next week and will try to reach you by telephone again. My telephone number in England is 44 424 222 223.

Perhaps we can arrange for you to send me your large painting of a Sleeping Man to our home in England. Surely that would be much less expensive than sending it from Aachen to Milwaukee. We will be back in England in June and then again in August, and we can discuss the mechanics of the shipment by telephone.

Again, thanks.

Best wishes,

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



Roland Mertens

ARTIST IN PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS

BISMARCKSTR. 96

D - 52066 AACHEN

Tel. ++49 / 241 / 511666

By appointment

Roland Mertens Bismarckstr. 96 D - 52066 AACHEN

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

24/12/93

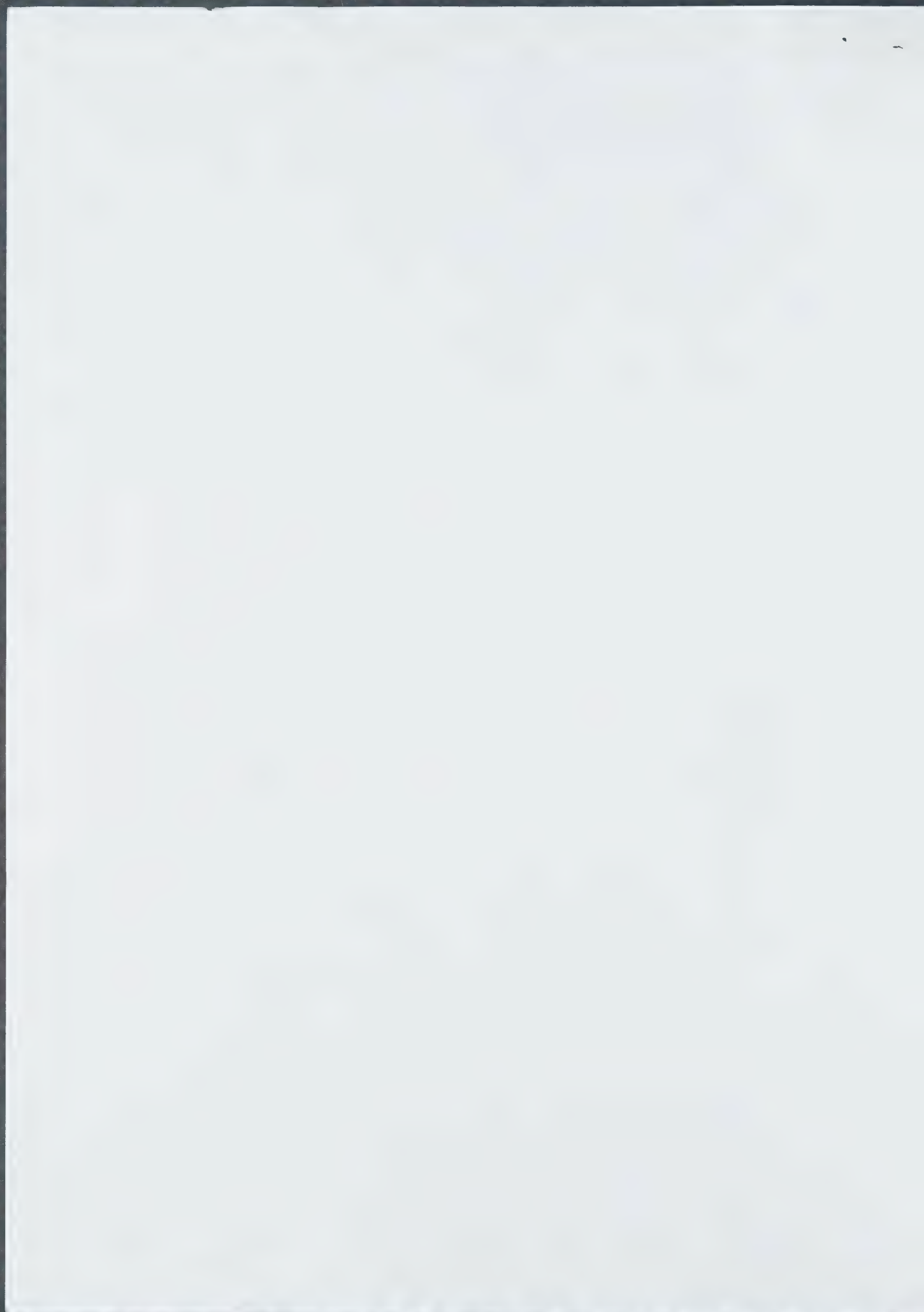
Dear Dr. Bader,

Dr. Wolf from the Dorotheum in Vienna informed me that you might be still interested in a painting attributed to Willmann, which was offered in october at the Dorotheum sale, lot no. 338. Unfortunately the painting did not sell and hencefore returned to me. As you will surely have noticed from my letterhead, my profession is to create art and not to deal in it. But with this painting, which has been in our family for quite some time, I had hoped to finance a skiing holiday. This might now become still possible, since we both can wave away the auctioneer's commission finding a mutually pleasing price. The best price I could offer the painting to you is US-\$ 4,000.00 payable on collection in Aachen.

Looking forward of hearing from you.

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year

Roland Mertens





ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

January 24, 1994

Mr. Roland Mertens
Bismarckstrasse 96
D52066 Aachen
Germany

Dear Mr. Mertens:

It has been a very long time since I enjoyed a telephone conversation as ours last Thursday.

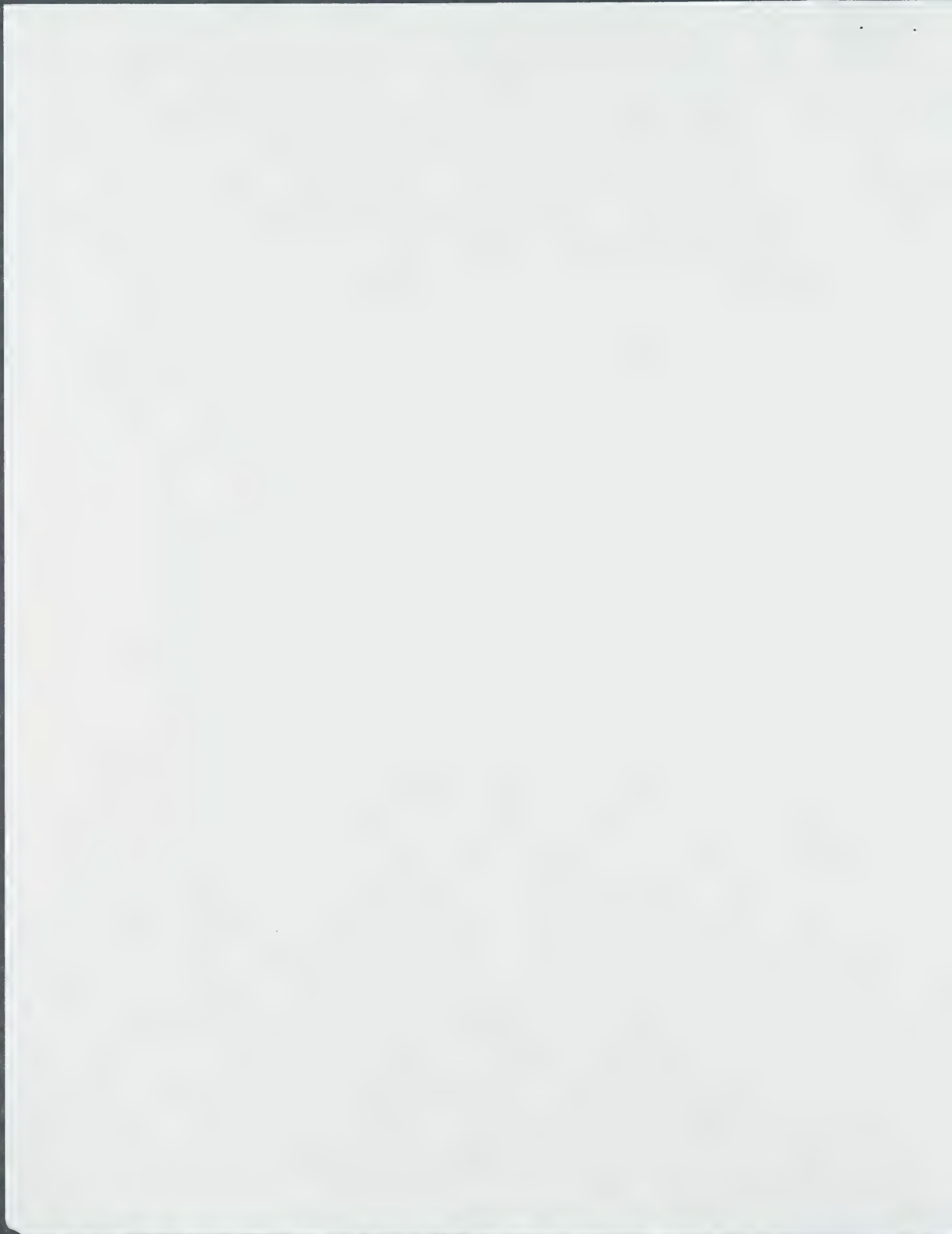
You are such a rare character--character in the best sense of the word--one combining knowledge of paintings with a fine sense of humor. Also, I suspect that you are the only person in your city who has all the volumes of Sumowski's work on Rembrandt students.

I think that you are right that your painting of the sleeping Jacob is by a second tier Rembrandt student, probably around 1660. The great question, of course, is what is the condition after removal of all the background overpaint.

I think that your price of \$4000 is not at all unreasonable, but always the businessman I try to shave the price a little by suggesting that you pay for the shipment. Actually, that won't be very difficult as there is no elaborate frame, and a good sturdy polythene bag around two plates of masonite should suffice to insure safe shipment. Also, my wife and I spend about three months each year in a small home in Sussex, England, and it has occurred to me that shipping the painting from Aachen to Sussex would be easier and much less expensive. Our address in Sussex is 52 Wickham Avenue, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN39 3ER, England, and we plan to arrive in Bexhill on June 21st and stay there until about July 10th. Of course during that time we might well go to Amsterdam and The Hague to talk to many art historian friends, and from there it isn't far to your beautiful city. But it might be quite difficult to carry so large a painting by hand.

More important to me than buying this painting is to get to know you, because there cannot be many people with our love for Northern paintings. The enclosed essay which appeared recently in an English chemical magazine will tell you a little bit about me.

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





Mr. Roland Mertens
January 24, 1994
Page Two

I was most interested in your referring to an El Greco which you found in a bar and sold in London. We must look for more El Grecos. Some years ago, I found a small early work in a restaurant in Brighton, and sold it very successfully at Christie's in New York. Last year, I found a heavily overpainted work in Madrid, and I believe that this is also by El Greco and I can hardly wait for my restorer to return it to me. The Xray looks so much better than the overpaint!

In any case, we will have a great deal to talk about.

If you would like to check whether you can rely on my paying you \$4000, by all means ask Professor Sumowski or Mrs. Ellen Bernt.

Also, should you ever travel either to England or America, I would love to meet you in either place. Here in Milwaukee, I would also have a great many paintings to show you.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

Enclosure



Faint text in the upper right corner, possibly a header or date.

First main paragraph of faint text, appearing to be the start of a letter or report.

Second line of faint text, possibly a sub-header or a specific point.

Third line of faint text, continuing the main body of the document.

Fourth line of faint text, possibly a concluding sentence or a signature line.

Faint text in the lower right area, possibly a signature or name.

Another line of faint text in the lower right area.

Final line of faint text in the lower right area.

Roland Mertens

ARTIST IN PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS

BISMARCKSTR. 96

D - 52066 AACHEN

Tel. ++49/241/511666

By appointment

Roland Mertens Bismarckstr. 96 D - 52066 AACHEN

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

24/12/93

Dear Dr. Bader,

Dr. Wolf from the Dorotheum in Vienna informed me that you might be still interested in a painting attributed to Willmann, which was offered in October at the Dorotheum sale, lot no. 338. Unfortunately the painting did not sell and hencefore returned to me. As you will surely have noticed from my letterhead, my profession is to create art and not to deal in it. But with this painting, which has been in our family for quite some time, I had hoped to finance a skiing holiday. This might now become still possible, since we both can wave away the auctioneer's commission finding a mutually pleasing price. The best price I could offer the painting to you is US-\$ 4,000.00 payable on collection in Aachen.

Looking forward of hearing from you.

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year



Roland Mertens

