

Alfred Bader Fonds

Alfred Bader Fine Arts
- Correspondence

Held, Julius
1991-93

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ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

May 13, 1993

ESTABLISHED 1961

Professor Julius Held
81 Monument Avenue
Bennington, Vermont 05201

Dear Julius,

Your thought-provoking letter of April 12th has given me a great deal of pleasure for two reasons.

First, I agree with you that Jan Lievens at his best can rival Rembrandt, but the idea that he was really first class only when he was close to Rembrandt is mistaken, and I enclose a photograph and description of a late portrait which I like even better than the painting called Rembrandt's Mother. The portrait is of Jacob Junius who was born in 1608 and so I presume that Lievens painted it in the 1660's. The second cause for pleasure was the fact that you ended your letter with "Best greetings Julius" and I very much hope that you won't mind my addressing you as Julius, and hope that you will call me Alfred.

Your comments about my double portrait show how difficult it is to judge a painting from photographs only. My restorer's comments are enclosed, and they show clearly in what good condition the portrait is. I will consider the possibility that it might be Italian, although I can't think of anything comparable. Charles Munch has restored more Rembrandt school paintings than almost any other restorer, and he has wondered whether this painting might not be by Samuel van Hoogstraten, pointing to the costume in Sumowski 838 and the strange, almost 19th century way of seeing as in Sumowski 880.

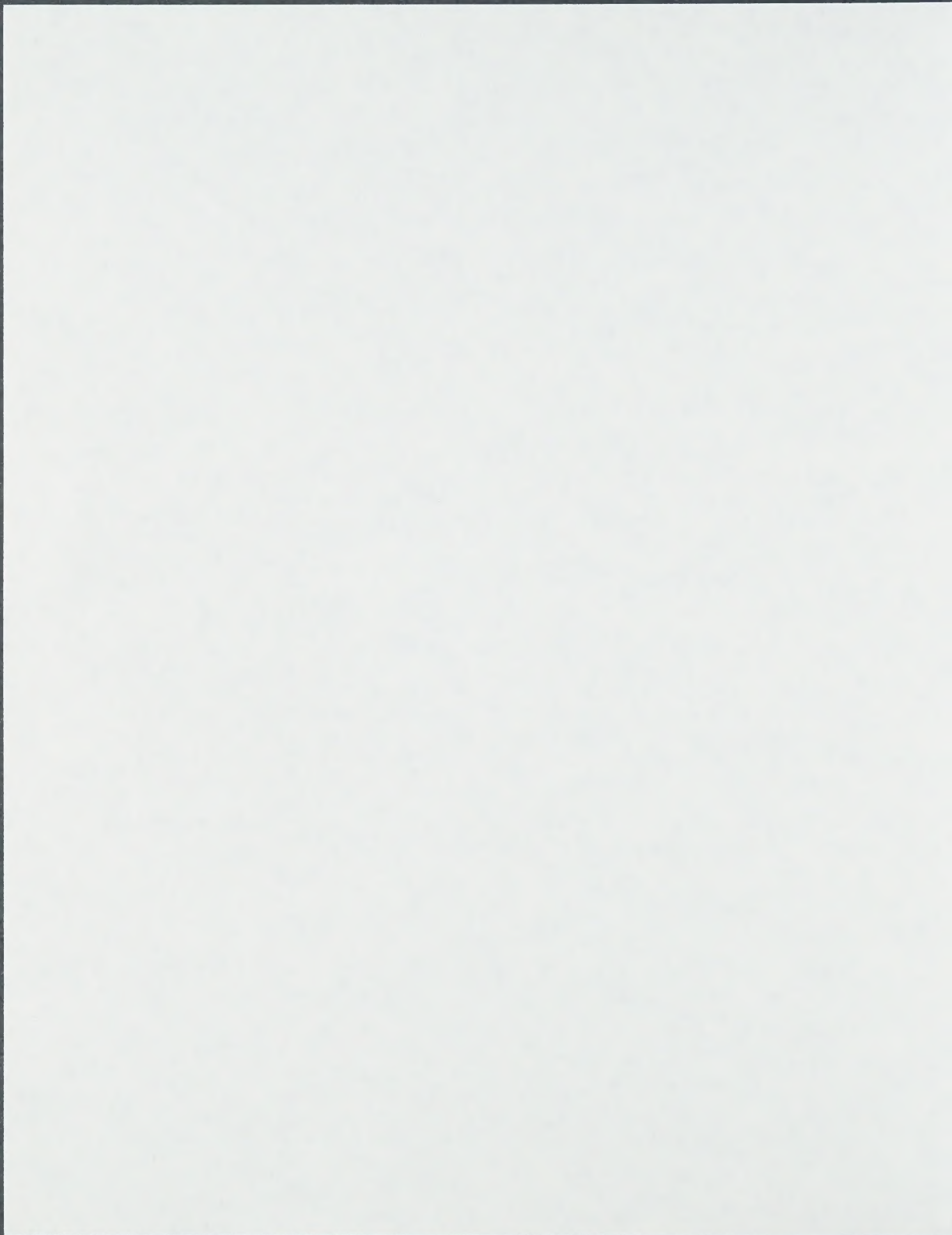
It is one of my favorite paintings, whoever painted it, and I just hope that your travels will bring you to Milwaukee so that I can show you the original.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

Enclosures

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
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

April 5, 1994

Professor Julius Held
81 Monument Avenue
Bennington, Vermont 05201

Dear Professor Held:

What a pity that we saw each other only so briefly at the meeting of Netherlandish art historians, and that Isabel and I will not have a chance to visit you in Bennington this spring.

Recently, I acquired a painting for my personal collection, of which I enclose a photograph and a color snap shot. I must tell you that I love this work even though I don't know who the artist is, nor even what the subject is.

When it was sold at Sotheby's in London last December it was attributed to Sweerts, but I am much more confident of your little gem being by Sweerts than of this painting. Various other suggestions have been made, for instance, Jacob van Oost, the Elder, and Jan Lievens from his Antwerp period, but I find neither convincing.

At first, I thought that the figure in the background may be a woman, but Isabel doesn't think that women in the 17th century would wear such berets. Could it be an allegory of old age?

Physically the painting is in excellent condition; what little abrasion there is, is all around the edges where a frame must have rubbed.

I would appreciate any help you can give me.

All good wishes, also from Isabel.

Sincerely,



H

ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961
February 12, 1993

Professor Julius Held
81 Monument Avenue
Bennington, Vermont 05201

Dear Professor Held:

Thank you for your very kind letter of January 16.

Could we tentatively set Saturday afternoon and evening, May 15, as a date for our meeting in Bennington? Of course, I will confirm early in May to make sure that the visit is still convenient.

Perhaps my experience with that wonderful Rembrandt portrait sold to the Rijksmuseum, RRP-A80, has taught me to concentrate far more on the face of a portrait than on the hands. In the portrait by Rembrandt the hands may be by a student and only the face is truly inpainting.

With the Flemish portrait here, there is no doubt in my mind that the artist concentrated far more on the face, but I do not really think that face and hands were done by two different artists. Perhaps if you saw the original you would not feel as strongly.

I have now also sent photograph and color transparency to Roger Mandle at the National Gallery to get his comments about the attribution to Jordaens rather than to de Vos.

The inscription really does say SU with a period after the SU, but of course a slight paint loss might have changed the "i" to a period.

How interesting that the young man looks faintly familiar to you; should the penny drop please let the Milwaukee Art Museum know.

Many thanks for your help, and best personal regards.

Sincerely,

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



ALFRED DODD'S 1882 DATA

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JULIUS S. HELD

III / 10 / 93

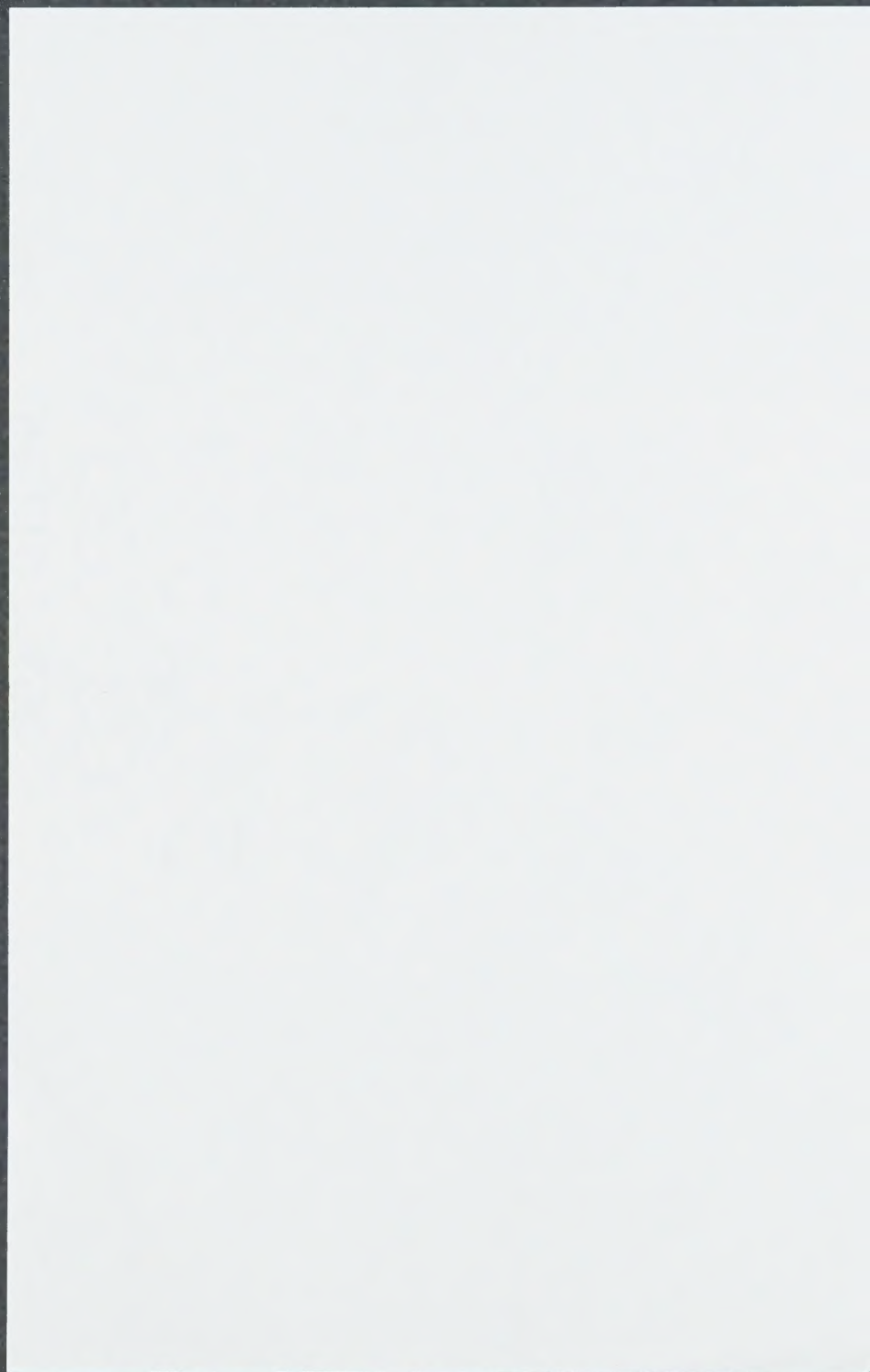
Dear Dr. Bader,

It will be a pleasure to see you and Mrs. Bader again. Looking at your own plans (to fly to England on the 20th of May) I assume Tuesday the 18th would be better for you than the 19th for a visit here.

I shall make a reservation for you and Mrs. Bader at the Paradise Motel for the 18th of May. (The number for the Paradise is (802) 442-8351).

With my best greetings,

Julius S. Held



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

March 5, 1993

Professor Julius Held
81 Monument Avenue
Bennington, Vermont 05201

Dear Professor Held:

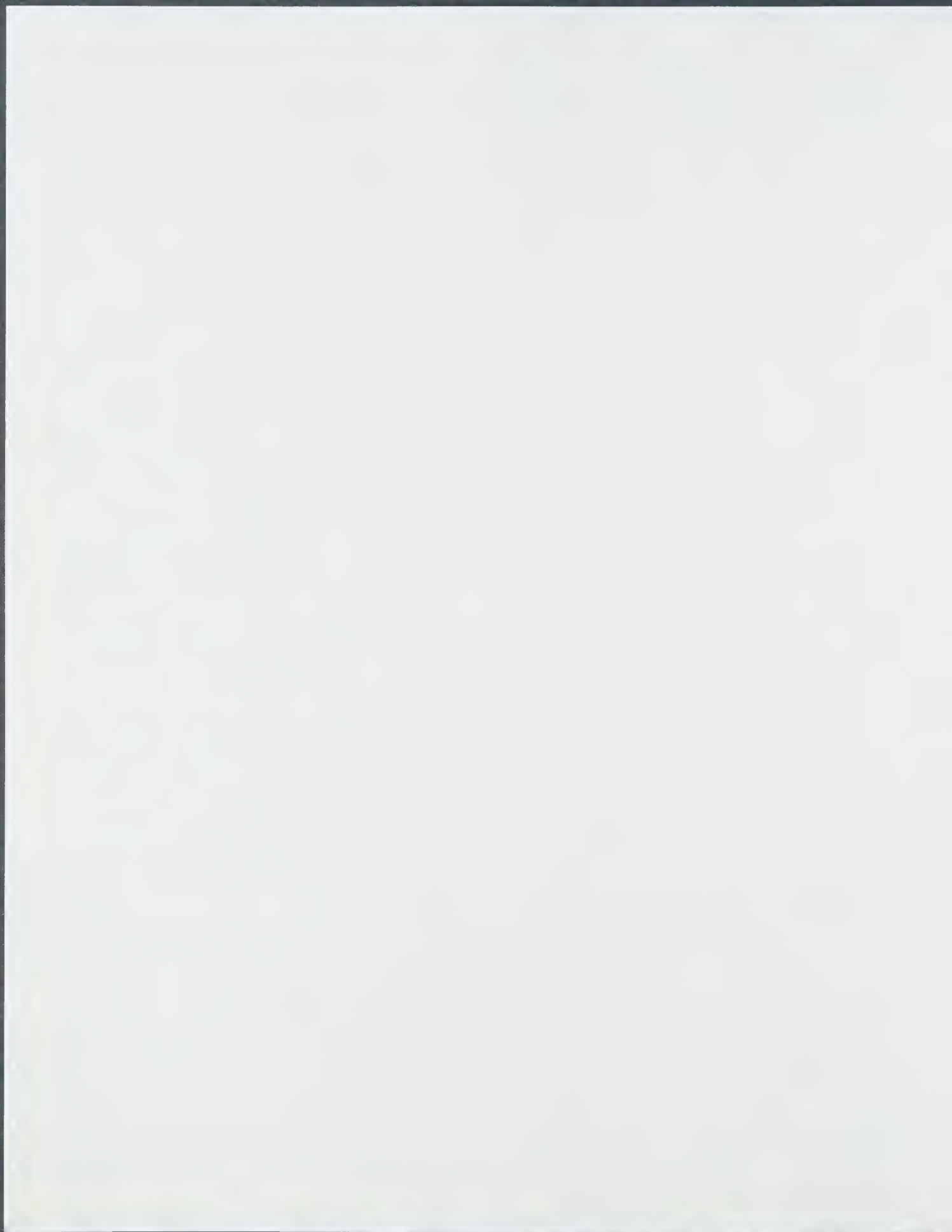
Plans for our trip to Harvard on the way to England in May are now taking shape, and I am wondering whether we could finalize our visit with you for either Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon and evening, May 18 or 19. Of course, we hope that you will again be able to join us for dinner, and we would like to ask you to make a reservation at that comfortable motel in Bennington for either Tuesday or Wednesday night.

We plan to rent a car in Boston and drive to Bennington, and leave from Boston for Gatwick on Thursday afternoon.

We so look forward to seeing you.

Best regards.

Sincerely,





Handwritten mark

ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

March 30, 1993

ESTABLISHED 1961

Paradise Motel
141 West Main Street
Bennington, Vermont 05201

Handwritten signature

Dear Madam:

This is to confirm our telephone conversation of today that you are reserving for my wife and me a double room, non-smoking with one bed. My check for full payment of \$52.92 is enclosed.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

940 W. ST. PAUL AVE.
MILWAUKEE, WI 53233

1103

PAY
TO THE
ORDER OF

Paradise Motel

March 30 19 *93* $\frac{12-5}{750} 143$

92 \$ *52.92*

- Fifty two and

100

DOLLARS

M&I Marshall & Ilsley Bank
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

FOR

double room, non smoking, 5-18-93

Alfred Bader

⑈001103⑈ ⑆075000051⑆ 000⑈36 8296⑈

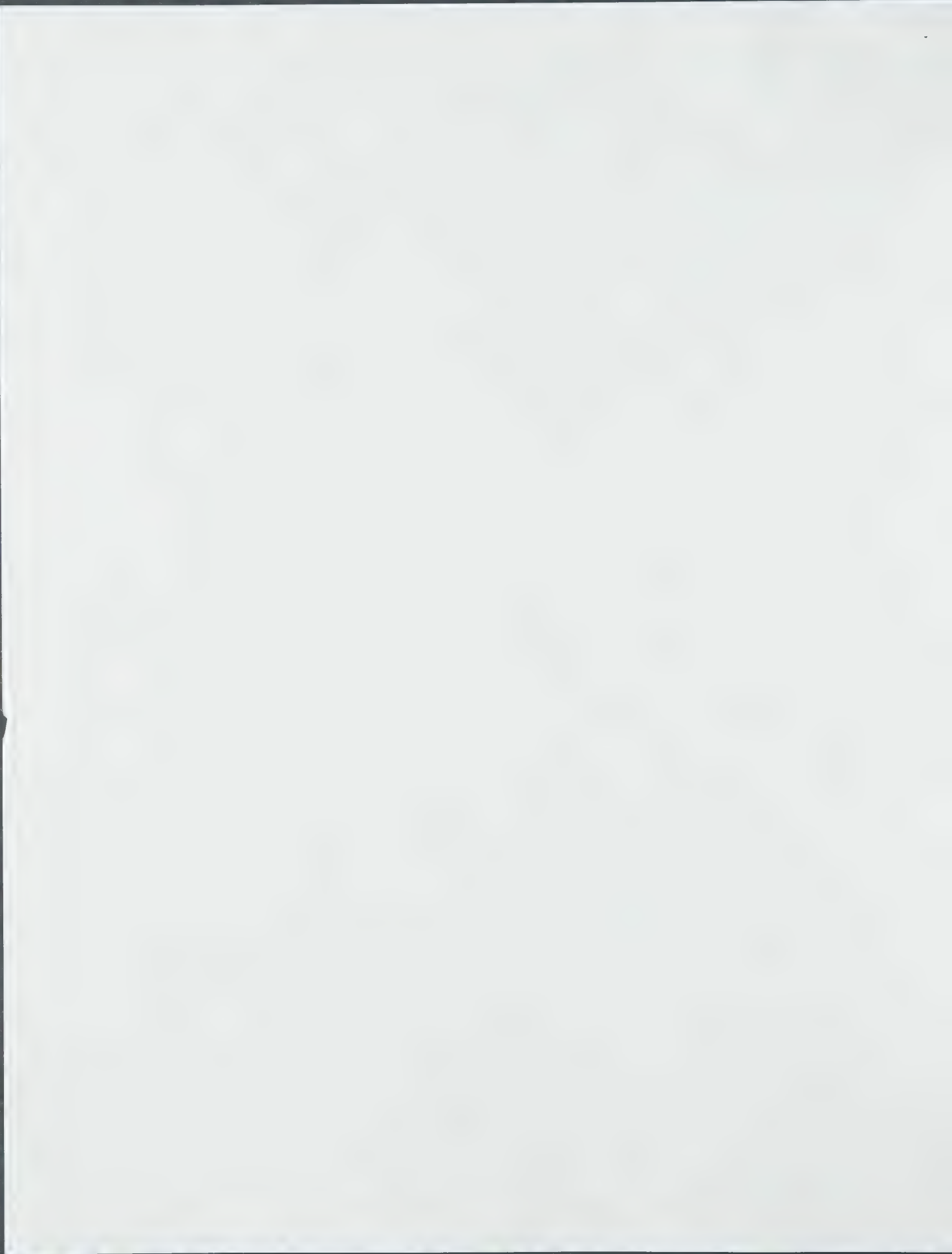
By Appointment Only

ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622

924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE

MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53202

TEL 414 277-0730 FAX 414 277-0709



JULIUS S. HELD

5-20-1993

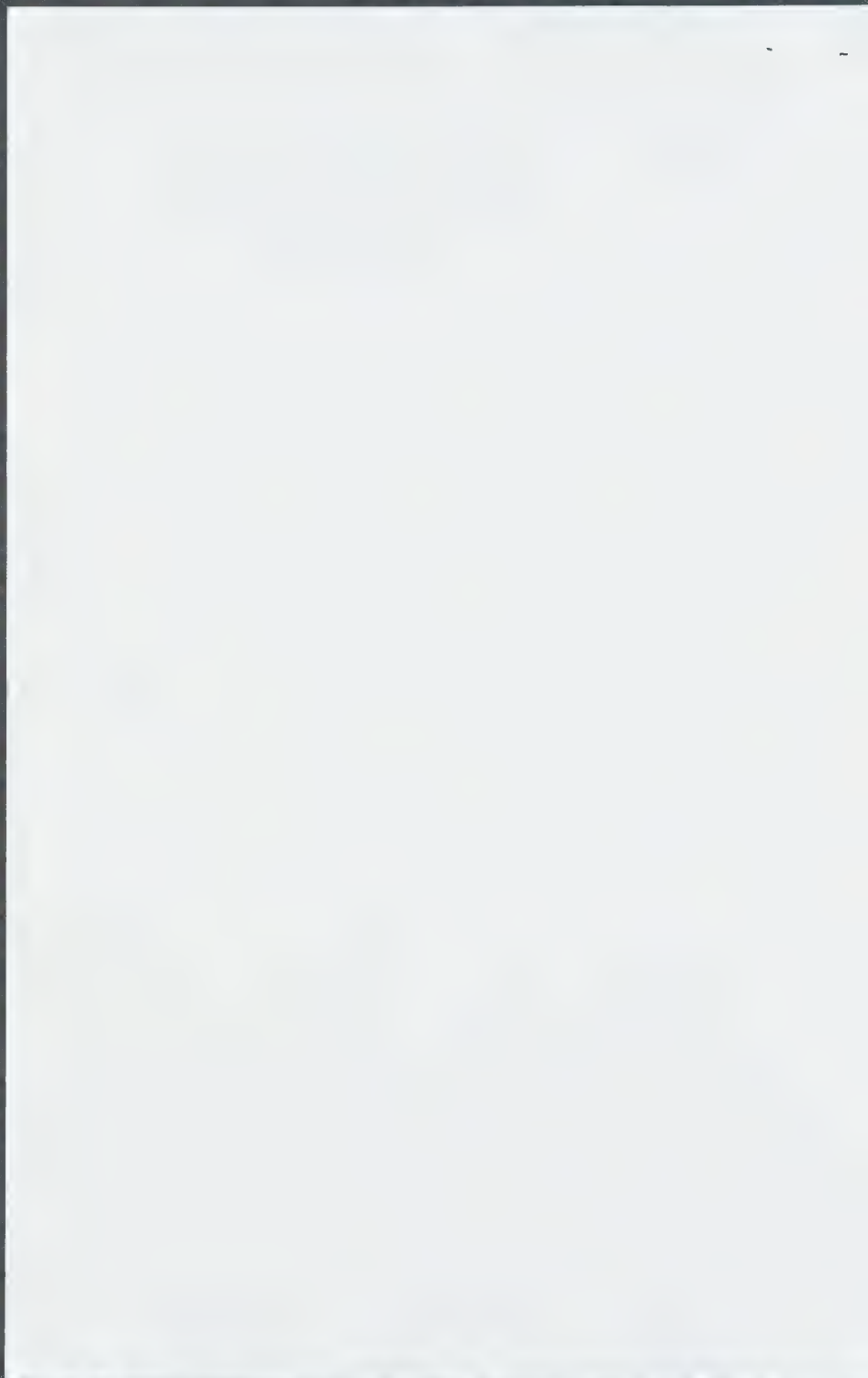
Dear Dr. Bader,

I have made a reservation for
you at the Paradise Hotel ¹⁴¹ (West Main St.)
(852-442-8351), for the night
of May 15th. 05201

5792 The price of the room (their
best) is ~~\$93.72~~ (incl. tax)
but I was told it is their
policy to have ~~the~~ a deposit
(preferably the total amount)
I suggest that you personally
get in touch with them, and
above all, if you must change
the reservation, or if you should
arrive after 4 pm.

My best greetings,

Julius S. Held



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

March 5, 1993

Professor Julius Held
81 Monument Avenue
Bennington, Vermont 05201

Dear Professor Held:

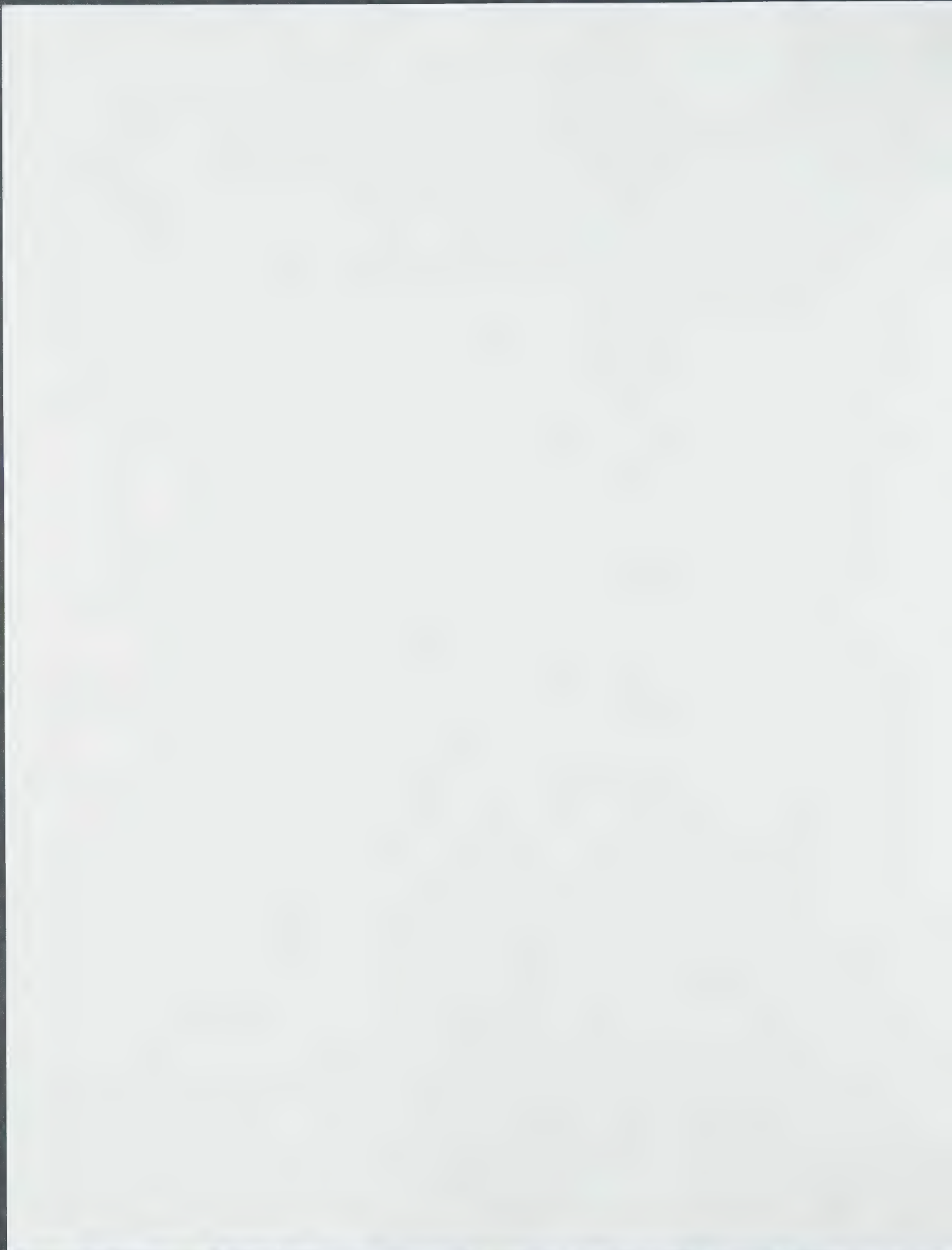
Plans for our trip to Harvard on the way to England in May are now taking shape, and I am wondering whether we could finalize our visit with you for either Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon and evening, May 18 or 19. Of course, we hope that you will again be able to join us for dinner, and we would like to ask you to make a reservation at that comfortable motel in Bennington for either Tuesday or Wednesday night.

We plan to rent a car in Boston and drive to Bennington, and leave from Boston for Gatwick on Thursday afternoon.

We so look forward to seeing you.

Best regards.

Sincerely,



JULIUS S. HELD

IX-15-1972

Dear Dr. Bader,

Many thanks for your kind letter. Although "next spring" is still a long time away, I shall be delighted to welcome you and Mrs. Bader when you come again this way.

The study of a youth, belonging to a friend of yours, is clearly "in the manner" of Flemish (rather than Dutch) head-studies, from Van Dyck and his circle more than Rubens? But since it is obviously 19th Century, the question is whether it is a copy of an existing work, or one (as the Germans would say) "nachempfunden". I am more inclined to the first possibility but do not recall the exact model. (I shall enclose xerox copy of a Flemish study in the Hermitage which is vaguely related).

As regards Rubens' painting of David strangling the Bear, I am surprised to hear that there is some doubt about its condition.

I have seen it only once, but do not recall any serious shortcomings regarding its state of preservation. Have you seen my review of a Copenhagen publication in Master Drawings, v. 29, no. 4, 1991, p. 416 ff. where the picture is reproduced? I'd be interested to hear what is wrong with the work. Has it been overcleaned? I certainly have no problem with the attribution.

With my best greetings.

Sincerely,

Julius J. Held

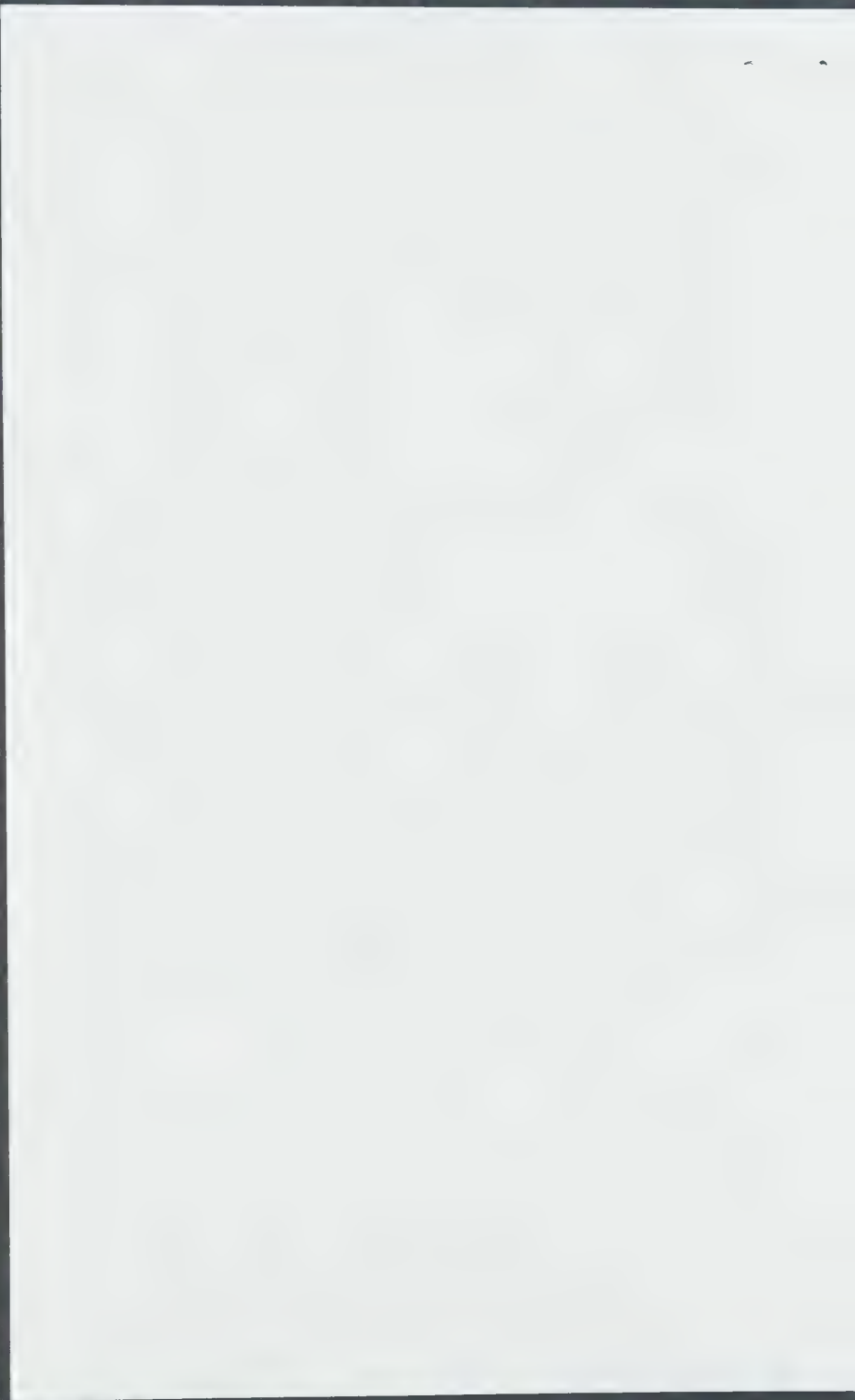


Портрет молодого человека,—раб. неизвестного фламандского художника XVII вѣка.

Portrait d'un jeune homme,—par un peintre flamand inconnu. XVII-e siècle.

имъ тутъ и залито яркими красками, всевозможныхъ цвѣтовъ и оттѣн-ковъ; только задній планъ таетъ въ сѣрыхъ тонахъ, закутанный дымкою.

Можетъ быть, тоже въ картинной галереѣ висѣли двѣ «картины на фарфорѣ», рѣдкія севрскія (32 × 25 сант.), изображающія пышные букеты въ роскошныхъ вазахъ и сочные фрукты; исполнены онѣ художникомъ Micaud въ 1775 г., и надпись на оборотѣ сообщаетъ, что онѣ «du Cabinet de M. Boujon, Fermier Général de Paris»; нынѣ онѣ принадлежатъ гр. С. Д. Шереметеву, но известно, что ихъ приобрѣлъ графъ Николай Петровичъ и помѣстилъ въ Останкинѣ.



Dr. Alfred Bader
Chairman Emeritus



October 21, 1991

Prof. Julius Held
81 Monument Avenue
Bennington, Vermont 05201

Dear Prof. Held:

The hours with you last weekend gave Isabel and me a great deal of pleasure. In retrospect, I just wish that we had had a chance to get to know each other better personally many years ago.

Now, you are stuck with us, and I hope that you will allow us to visit you whenever we can take a day or two during our travels to the east.

Thank you so much for allowing me to look at the manuscript of your truly moving speech in Mosbach on November 10, 1988. I was in Vienna that night in 1938, and my mother by adoption, my father's sister, died in Theresienstadt. Hence, I was particularly moved by the end of the secondlast paragraph on page 4 of your manuscript, which I return, with thanks.

Enclosed find a color reproduction of the portrait of a woman, which we discussed. I believe that it is a study of Jan de Bray's wife; Sumowski published it as a work by Heerschop. I also have a work by that artist, depicting an alchemist (reproduction enclosed), and I doubt that both are by the same hand.

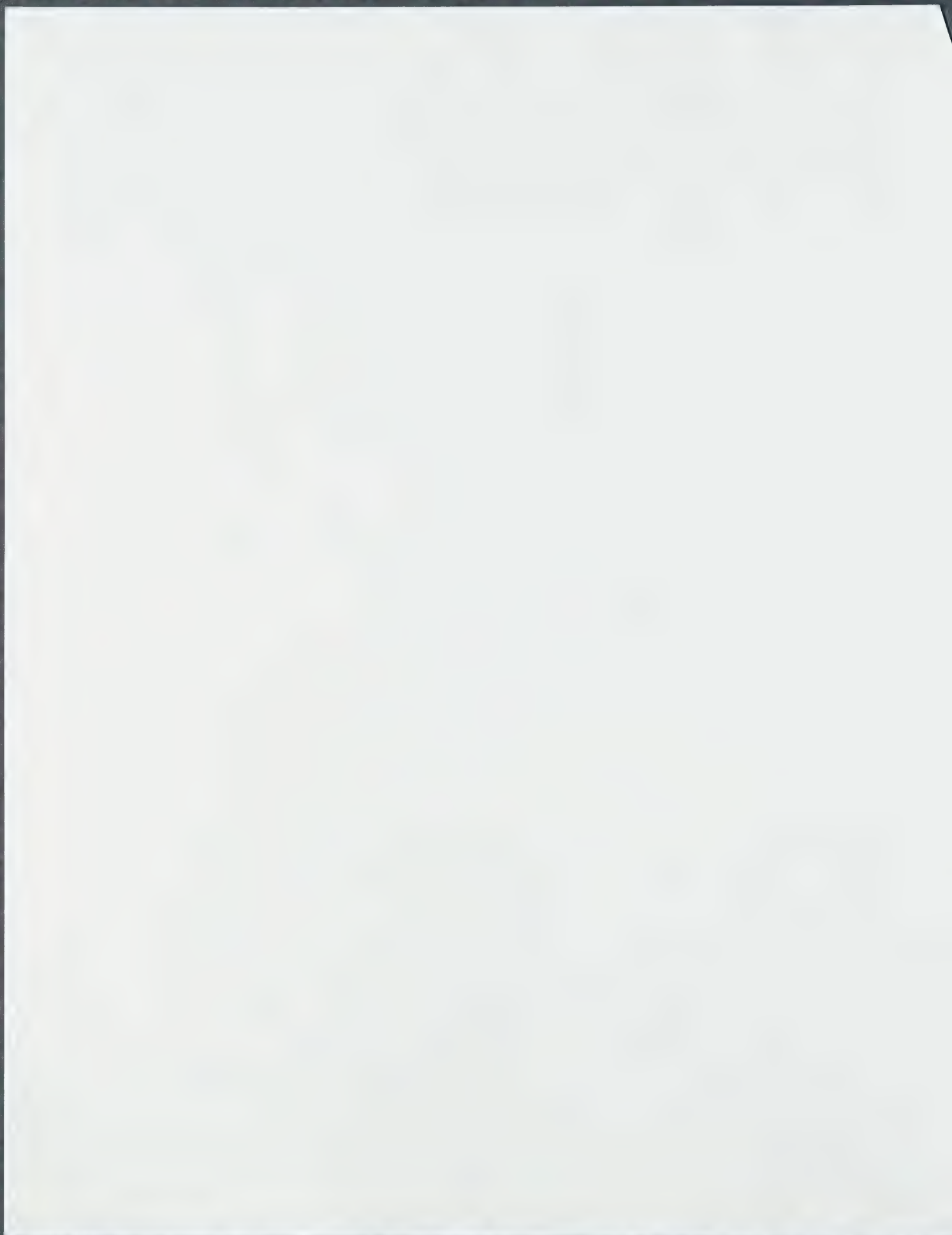
Best regards, and again many thanks from Isabel and me.

Sincerely,

Alfred Bader
Enclosures

SIGMA-ALDRICH

P.O. Box 355 Milwaukee Wisconsin 53201 USA Telephone (414) 273-3850 Cable Aldrichem TWX 910-262-3052 Telex 26-843



Dr. Alfred Bader
Chairman Emeritus

September 17, 1991



Prof. Julius Held
81 Monument Avenue
Bennington
Vermont 05201

Dear Prof. Held:

The older I get the more I think about my life, and, of course, regret a number of things. Not so much the things I did as the things I didn't do; among these, is that I did not try hard to get to know you better.

Isabel and I plan to be in New England the weekend of October 26, 27, and I am wondering whether we might drive up to Vermont and spend a little time with you.

One of the subjects which I would really like to discuss with you is the meaning of the painting attributed to Rembrandt in the Hermitage which is now generally called Haman Recognizing his Fate.

Would a visit that Saturday be convenient to you?

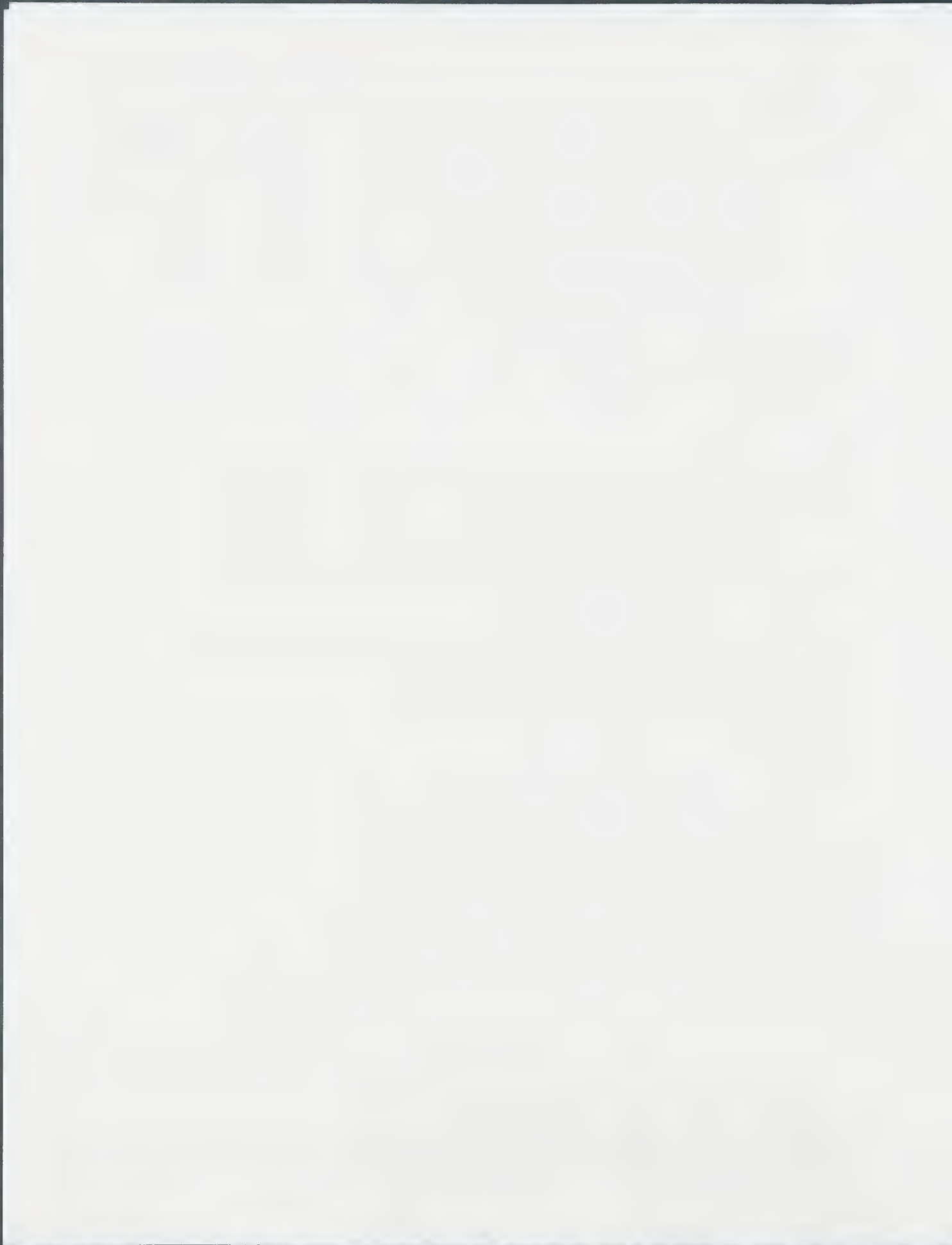
Best regards.

Sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB:mmh

SIGMA-ALDRICH

P.O. Box 355 Milwaukee Wisconsin 53201 USA Telephone (414) 273-3850 Cable Aldrichem TWX 910-262-3052 Telex 26-843



Dr. Alfred Bader
Chairman



March 15, 1991

Dr. Julius S. Held
81 Monument Avenue
Old Bennington
Vermont 05201

Dear Dr. Held:

While eagerly awaiting your revised edition of Rembrandt essays--which I hope will arrive soon--I have been refreshing my memory by reading your first edition. There I came across your discussion of Harmen Becker, at one time owning that very strange Juno. This reminded me of another painting which I now own, and which may have belonged to Harmen Becker also. My painting was described in "The Detective's Eye" under number 34, copy enclosed.

The painting has now been cleaned and I enclose a slide of the cleaned painting. Art historians who have seen just photographs are not sure whether the Louvre or mine is the better version. On the other hand, art historians who have seen both much prefer mine, and so do I.

When next you are in the middle west I would very much like to show you mine, and a good many other paintings I have acquired recently.

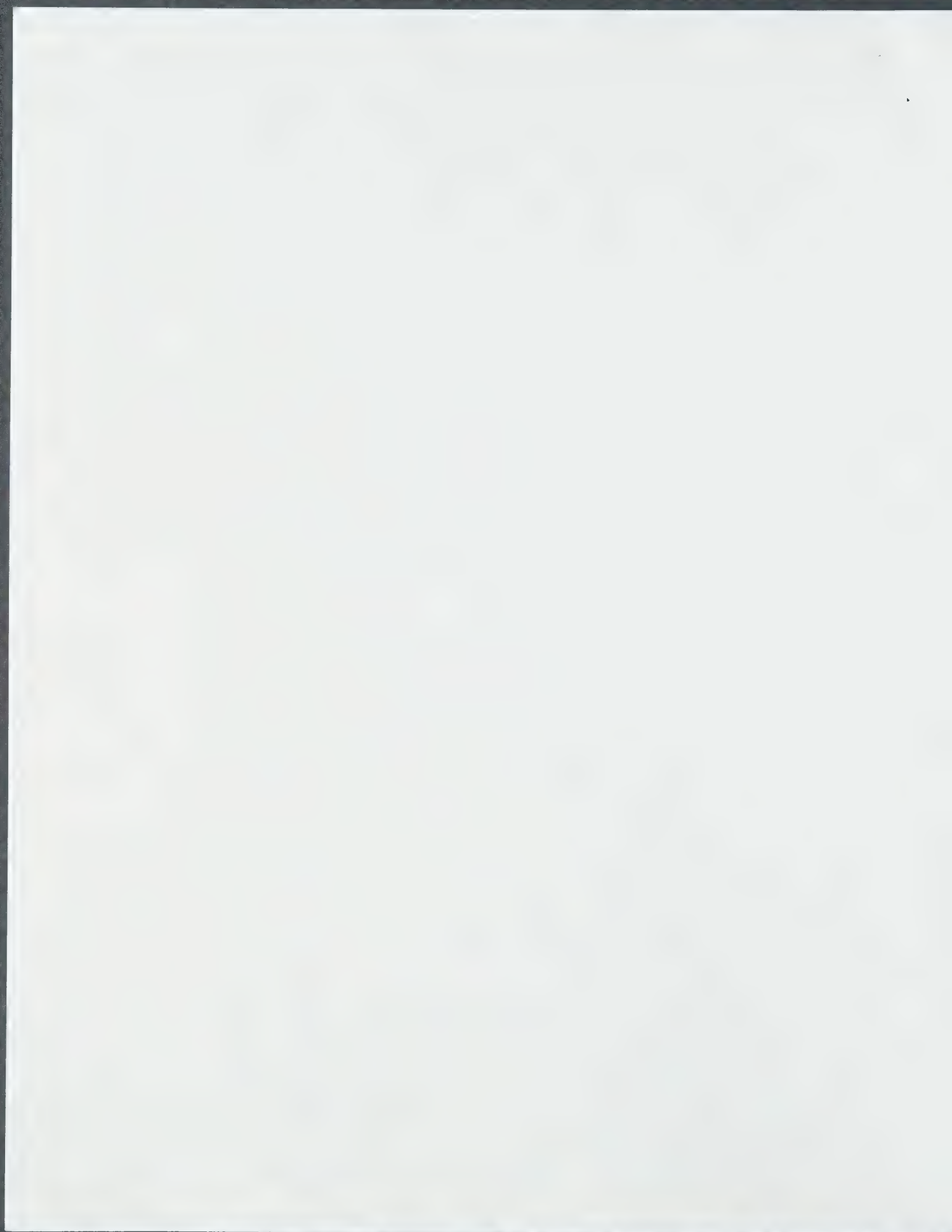
Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB:mmh
Enclosures

SIGMA-ALDRICH

P.O. Box 355, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201 USA, Telephone (414) 273-3850, Cable Aldrichem TWX 910-262-3052, Telex 26-843, FAX 414-273-4979



JULIUS S. HELD
81 Monument Avenue · Old Bennington, Vt. 05201
(802) 442-3164

January 10, 1990

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

Dear Dr. Bader:

What an interesting and instructive exhibition you (and the other authors) have brought together; let me thank you warmly for the catalogue and the photographs which you sent under separate cover.

As you can imagine I turned the pages with considerable interest, occasionally with amusement, once or twice with a question mark, but I am so deeply involved in two projects (one is the new printing, with additions, of the Rembrandt essays of 1969) that I can not go into details. Still, I am sure the exhibition must have been an eye-opener for many of the visitors.

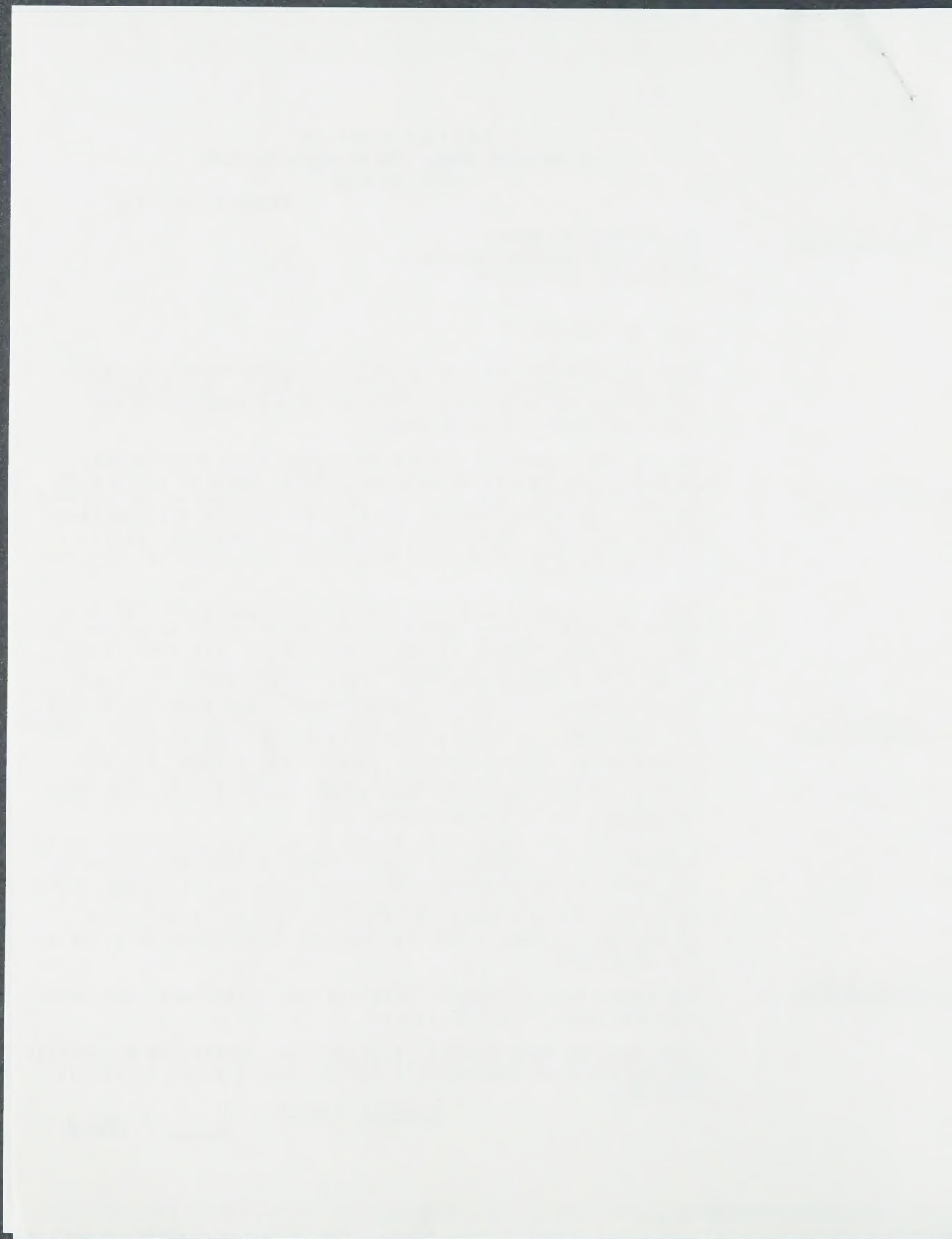
There is, however one item in the catalogue which has some special significance for me - the painting of an old woman by Jacob van Campen. I don't know if you are aware that I have mentioned that picture in a footnote of an article I wrote for Master Drawings, 1985, p.53, note 21. One of my colleagues - I don't remember who - had shown me a photo and its similarity with the print is indeed striking; whether my, admittedly tentative, attribution of drawings to van Campen will find acceptance remains to be seen. (By the way, if you read the Author's Note at the end of the text, please correct the word "regulated" to what I had written: relegated; it is close to the end.)

I am still very much interested in van Campen and may be able to ^{attribute} a truly important work to him (though the collector who owns it has much grander ideas for it). I wonder therefore if I could get a photo of your painting, and while I am at it, could I also get from you a photo of the print of Laurent Coster, after van Campen, reproduced on p. 82 of the catalogue?

The next issue of Master Drawings has a few more such head studies, mainly by deCraeyer.

Once more my best thanks, also for the permission to publish the painting of Rembrandt's father (about which I have no doubts),

Sincerely yours
Julius S. Held





Chemists Helping Chemists in Research and Industry

aldrich chemical company, inc.

Dr. Alfred Bader
Chairman

January 22, 1990

Prof. Julius Held
81 Monument Avenue
Old Bennington, Vermont 05201

Dear Prof. Held:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of January 10th.

A photograph of my painting of an old woman by van Campen is enclosed. However, I do not have a photograph of the print of Laurent Coster, which was taken from a fairly accessible book.

One of the sad failures of my life has been that we have not gotten to know each other better, personally. If only Vermont weren't quite so far from Wisconsin.

If your travels do bring you to the Middle West, Isabel and I would love to be able to show you our collection.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

Alfred Bader

AB:mmh

Enclosure

