

Alfred Baber Fonds

Correspondence

Rhode Island School of
Design

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN

TWO COLLEGE STREET PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903 TELEPHONE 401-454-6402

October 27, 1993

Dr. Alfred R. Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53211

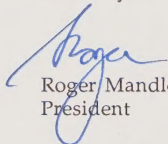
Dear Alfred:

Thank you very much for your letter nominating Dr. Barry Hannegan for the directorship of the Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art.

I appreciate your words of recommendation on behalf of Barry. I have forwarded your letter to our Human Resources Director, Kathleen Alvino. She will contact Barry (confidentially) directly regarding the nominations.

Alfred, thank you, again, for contacting me. I remain,

Sincerely,



Roger Mandel
President

cc: Kathleen Alvino



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

October 20, 1993

Dr. Roger Mandle
President
Rhode Island School of Design
Two College Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Roger:

I had hoped to see you at the meeting of the Historians of Netherlandish Art, but understand how busy you must be in your new position.

I also understand you may have an opening on your curatorial staff, and I would like to recommend a man whom I have known for some years, and respect greatly.

He is Dr. Barry Hannegan, who got his PhD under Donald Posner at the Institute of Fine Arts, and some years ago was curator at the Haggerty Museum of Marquette University. It is there that I got to know Barry.

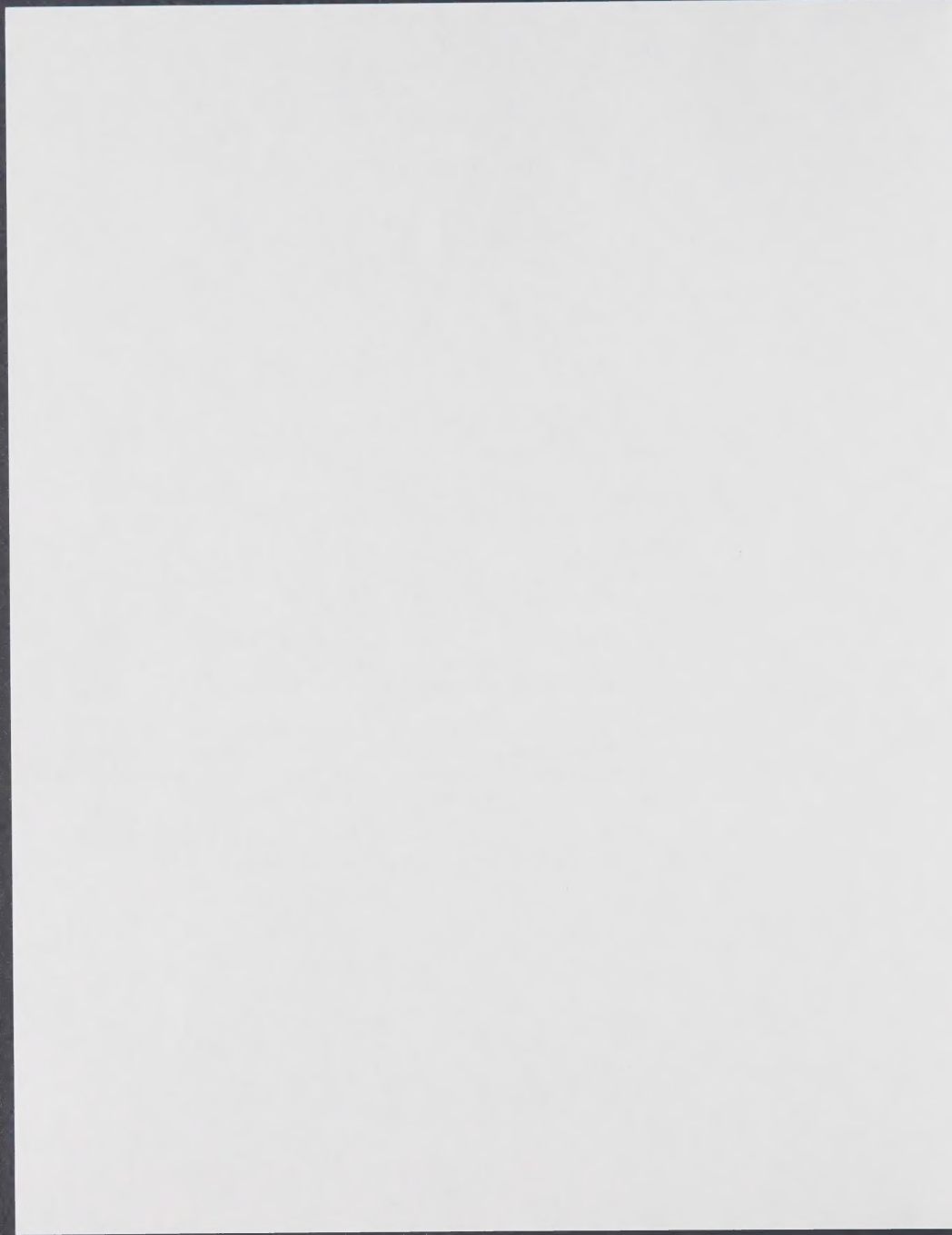
Barry knows a great deal, not just about his specialty which is 18th century Venetian art, but also about older and more modern works, and during his tenure here, the Haggerty Museum received more gifts than at any time before or since.

During the last six years, the Haggerty Museum has had five curators, at least three of whom were dismissed summarily by the director, Dr. Curtis Carter. The curator following Barry Hannegan, Dr. Jane Goldsmith, was dismissed just days before the museum learned that it was being funded for her Bramer exhibition!

Barry is a truly thoughtful, painstaking, giving human being, and I am convinced that he would be an asset to every museum with a serious collection, such as yours.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,





Chemists Helping Chemists in Research and Industry

aldrich chemical company, inc.

Dr. Alfred Bader
Chairman

October 17, 1986

Dr. Franklin W. Robinson
Director
Museum of Art
Rhode Island School of Design
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Frank:

Isabel and I much look forward to being with you next Thursday.

As you will see from the enclosed, the American Chemical Society Section has decided that I should talk on "The Bible through Dutch Eyes" rather than on "Chemistry in Art." Thus I won't have a chance to discuss the Bega Alchemist or any other alchemical paintings. The A.C.S. will get a surprise: The talk they picked has nothing whatever to do with chemistry.

If you like that talk, maybe you would invite me some other time to talk on chemistry in art. I promise you that it deals only with 5% chemistry and 95% with the adventures of a mad collector.

Isabel and I will be driving from New Haven and will go first to the chemistry department of Brown University, where we have a number of old friends. I will telephone you from there, and perhaps you could then direct us to your house. It might be nice to be able to wash up before the dinner.

We so look forward to being with you. I must caution you, I am bound to bring a few originals and a good many photographs along for your opinion.

I do hope that the museum was told that for the talk we will need two projectors or either one large white wall or two screens, so that we can show two slides at the same time. We will bring our own packed Kodak Carousels. I can hardly wait to see what the Porcelain Gallery is; was it named after a person called porcelein?

Happily yours (because I am so looking forward to seeing you).

Alfred Bader
AB:mmh
Enclosure



MUSEUM OF ART RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903 401-331-3511

April 15, 1986

Dr. Alfred Bader, Chairman
Aldrich Chemical Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 353
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Dear Alfred:

My many thanks for your letter. Margaret and I would be delighted to have both of you stay with us. Our guest room has twin beds.

It would be great to have the reception for the American Chemical Society here on October 23, and your lecture to the group. They have not been in touch with us. "Chemistry in Art" sounds great; I hope you show plenty of alchemists by Bega, Wyck, Steen, and so forth!

That day is rather a busy one for us - there will be another lecture then, by Philip Pearlstein - so your colleagues will have a sense of this remarkable institution. Our big show then will be of early American furniture.

Your two paintings are fascinating. I can't put names to them yet, but I'll keep thinking. The dancing fisherman is stunning, and I'm sure it's 17th century Dutch.

Best regards,



Franklin W. Robinson
Director

FWR:ca



MUSEUM OF ART RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903 401-331-3511

April 15, 1986

Dr. Alfred Bader, Chairman
Aldrich Chemical Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 353
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

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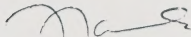
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Best regards,



Franklin W. Robinson
Director

FWR:ca



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Chemists Helping Chemists in Research and Industry

aldrich chemical company, inc.

Dr. Alfred Bader
Chairman

April 3, 1986

Dr. Franklin W. Robinson
Director
Museum of Art
Rhode Island School of Design
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Frank:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of March 24.

Isabel and I very much look forward to being in Providence on Thursday, October 23, and I hope that the American Chemical Society will have made arrangements for the talk on "Chemistry in Art" to be held at the museum. Don't let the title scare you; it deals with 95% art and 5% chemistry.

Might you also like me to give a talk on "The Bible through Dutch Eyes" to people at the museum, during the day?

Thank you for your gracious invitation, but would not two of us descending upon your house be an inconvenience?

I also like the portrait of the widow very much, and in fact, Prof. Sumowski will publish it as a Jan van Noordt. The paint handling is certainly different from that of my Joseph Selling Corn.

Unbeknownst to both of us, I have been bidding against George Abrams who told me after the sale that the portrait really depicted a woman of pleasure. I assured him that it had already given me a great deal of pleasure for over an hour! Incidentally, I very much like the work of a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, John Whalley, and I enclose reproductions of two of his works.

May I ask you for your help with two more paintings that are real puzzles, which I acquired recently. One is the portrait of an charming girl, surely around 1640. The other, of dancing fishermen, is an even greater puzzle. When I first saw it, I thought that it is 18th century French. But since then, I have been assured that

Dr. Franklin W. Robinson
Rhode Island School of Design
April 3, 1986
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it must be all sorts of things, from an unusual Dutch artist of the late 17th century, to French or Italian of the 19th century. My restorer, who is very competent, believes that it is much closer to 1700 than to 1800. Can you help as you did with the widow?

Thank you so much for sending me your handbook which looks beautiful. Isabel and I so look forward to seeing the originals and being with you in October.

Fond regards.

As always,

Alfred Bader
AB:mmh
Enclosures



Chemists Helping Chemists in Research and Industry

aldrich chemical company, inc.

Dr. Alfred Bader
Chairman

February 3, 1986

Dr. Franklin Robinson *14 College St.*
Director
The Rhode Island School of Design
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Frank:

Last year, I purchased a small portrait of a woman which fairly cries out "Ask Frank Robinson."

I enclose a black and white photograph as well as some color reproductions.

Can you help?

It has been so long since I have seen you last. Do your travels never bring you near Milwaukee?

I plan to be speaking to the American Chemical Society on Thursday, October 23—believe it or not, on an art historical subject. However, I very much hope that you might have a chance to visit us before then.

Fond regards.

As always,

Alfred Bader

AB:mmh

Enclosures

