

HARVARD UNIVERSITY CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02153

October 13, 1977

Dr. Alfred Bader 2961 North Sheard Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

Dear Alfred,

Thank you so much for the wonderful hospitality in Milwaukee. I really enjoyed your collection. Seymour and I were just raving about some of your marvelous pictures from the Rembrandt School.

I just took the photographs you gave me to Sydney Freedberg who is a wonderful connoisseur. He got extremely excited about the oil sketch with the two heads and thinks that you are very lucky as he is convinced that it is by Annibale Carracci. If he were allowed to give you an estimate, it might be as high as six figures. It is obviously an object which would help him very much in his teaching. The other Carraccesque portrait (he agrees with Middledorf) belongs to the generation of Carracci followers, but he does not think it is by Guercino. As I promised, I will send the photograph to Erich Schleier in Berlin. He also looked at the Crucifixion with Saints and suggested Puligo or perhaps even one of Puligo's followers for this picture rather than Bacchiacca. Remember Puligo was one of the alternatives I had in mind at first, but then discarded. He obviously, however, cannot give a certain attribution on this picture without seeing the original.

I also looked at the photographs and reproductions of works by Thomas Cole and Thomas Doughty, and your painting is infinitely closer to Cole than Doughty. I will have to wait for a photograph to check it further, but I am certain that it belongs to the earlier generation rather than the later.

Do not forget about the Sandrart. Mark Haxthausen, the nice curator of the Busch-Reisinger, a good middle-American who you met, would find a St. John with the Frauenkirche sehr gemutlich in his museum.

Seymour sends his best regards--he's wracking his brain to find an attribution for your beautiful Jacob and Esau, but in vain.

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The stay in Milwaukee was definitely the high point of my trip and alot of fun. Best wishes to your wife.

All the best,

Konrad Oberhuber Curator of Drawings Professor of Fine Arts

KO/ms

P.S. I am just looking at a letter from Suzanne Lepsius, the friend of Schapiro, and she told me that the sale will take place at Christie's, so things seem to be settled definitely the way you would like them. FOGG

HARVARD UNIVERSITY CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

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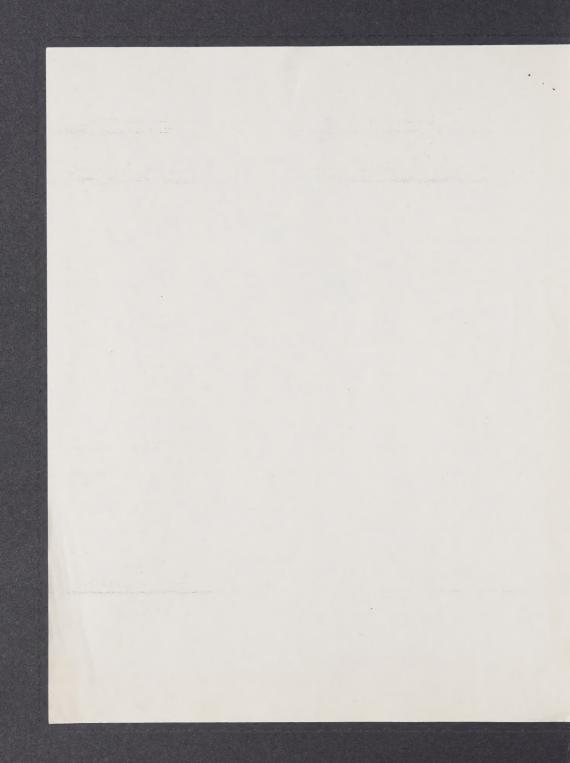
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David de Witt 5 January 2012 ANNIBALE C.

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