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Dr. Alfred Bader Chairman

May 1, 1987

Prof. Richard E. Spear Department of Art Oberlin College Oberlin, Ohio 44074

Dear Richard:

My heartiest congratulations on your winning the Guggenheim Fellowship.

What a bit of luck: Here I went to the University of Wisconsin at Eau Claire to give some lectures and of course walked into the one antique store in town, and found that tattered canvas, snapshot taken with my camera obscura, enclosed. Of course, I had no idea that one of my good art historian friends, Richard Spear would be working just on the workshop practices of that artist! The nice thing about the picture is that it is on the original canvas and has never been lined or cleaned. The paint losses due to the arrows missing Sebastian are really quite trivial. The canvas is inscribed on the back in what is certainly an old hand "Andrea Sacchi" and I wonder whether Sacchi ever copied Reni.

As you know, there are all sorts of collectors. On the one extreme are people who get a great deal of advice and study every painting before finally deciding to buy it. On the other extreme are characters like me who buy a great many paintings, without any advice, and then do their homework and keep only the very few paintings they like. I think that characters like me have much more fun, but we also make many more mistakes.

Fond regards.

As always, und

Alfred Bader AB:mmh Enclosure



74. Lot and his Daughters. 1615–16. London, National Gallery. (Cat.no.47; see also Col. Plate IV)

75. St Sebastian. 1615–16. Genoa, Palazzo Rosso. (Cat.no.48)

76. The Magdalen. 1615–16. Vaduz, Liechtenstein Collection. (Cat.no.49)







77. The Assumption of the Virgin. 1616-17. Holkham Hall (Norfolk), collection of Viscount Coke. (Cat.no.51)

78. *St James.* 1617–18. Madrid, Museo del Prado. (Cat.no.53)



79. St Sebastian. 1617–18. Madrid, Museo del Prado. (Cat.no.54)







181. St Sebastian. 1635. Present whereabouts unknown. (Cat.no.155)



182. St John. 1635. Turin, Galleria Sabauda. (Cat.no.156)





<sup>222.</sup> St Sebastian. 1639-40. Bologna, Pinacoteca Nazionale. (Cat.no.194)









