



4, Whitehorse Mews, 37-39 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB 01-261 1419

10th April 1991

CONDITION REPORT ON PORTRAIT OF "THE THREE CHILDREN OF THE GRAND DUKE OF PARMA". ATTRIBUTED TO JOHAN ZOFFANY. OIL ON CANVAS. 170 X 137.5 CMS

The painting was lined and extensively restored at least fifty years ago. The paint surface is covered with a darkened varnish but the discoloured retouchings can be seen quite clearly through this.

The paint layer has seriously chipped and flaked in its lifetime and lost paint as a result. The losses are mainly along the margins of cracks, resulting in some filling and a good deal of retouching, often in excess of the loss.

This type of damage applies to the whole surface of the painting but the areas with the most retouching are the following:

A. The child's face in profile on the left

Her forehead, eye, mouth and neck are heavily overpainted. From the tests I did on the eye and mouth, I would say that the original paint is substantially still there (See photographs B,C and D) The background in this area is also heavily overpainted.

B. The central child and floor

It was not necessary to test these areas as the retouchings are obvious and in the main follow the lines of the cracks (See photographs A, E and H)

The client is asked to note that all paintings are accepted by the restorer on the basis the restorer cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to them howsoever caused while in the restorer's studio or otherwise in the restorer's care. the client is asked to arrange such insurance as he thinks appropriate in respect of these risks.

Other Comments

- 1. In photographs A and E, a join in the canvas can be seen approximately 8" from the top running the width of the painting just above the central child's head. The area above the join is heavily overpainted.
- Photograph A shows a burn that has not only damaged the varnish but also the paint layer beneath.
- 3. There is general wearing of the whole paint surface consistent with a painting of this age that has undergone restoration.
- 4. Excluding the area above the join, there is approximately a 15% loss of paint.