

~~never~~ Canaletto
Sir,

I am glad to tell you, that I was very pleased to have looked again at the Canaletto, after it has been cleaned. When I saw it before in London, covered with old yellow varnishes, it was not easy to imagine that it could come out in such a beautiful state. I have to admit that this painting, because the interesting subject, the rather important measures ($22\frac{1}{2} \times 36$ inches) and its perfect conservation has to be considered as a real masterpiece by Antonio Canal.

The large view of the Molo, looking ^{to} the front of the Palazzo Ducale

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and the Piazzetta until the Chiesa
della Salute is most impressive.
The lagoon is crowded with barks
and gondolas, whereas the Bucintoro
is ready to start for the "Marriage
with the Sea". The colours are brilliant,
all things appear crystalline in the
clearity of the sunny spring-morning.

This excellent painting has
to be placed, in my opinion, at
the maturity-period of Canaletto,
circa 1745 - 50.

Yours very sincerely

Antonius Moray