

31st December, 1934.

My dear Fred,

I received your letter this morning, with the one enclosed which I am now returning. I do not know the name, but he is probably one of the younger modern painters, though his letter is very honest and he evidently means well. I am enclosing a letter which you might please forward to him, and add to it your own explanation, as you did in my letter, illustrating the explanation with a small diagram showing how the canvas should be placed in relation to the window. I am sure he will appreciate it.

We enjoyed our visit to you yesterday very much, and were glad to see you all in such good health. May you all be blessed with many happy years together, and I hope in the next year I will see more of you.

Do let me know when you feel inclined to come up and stay a few days. I am longing to do that sketch of you of which we spoke - the one with the globe.

31st December, 1934.

Mr. A. Palthe.

Dear Sir,

My friend Mr. Baldry has handed me the letter which you addressed to him, and I am very pleased to read your appreciation of my book on painting a portrait. It gave me great satisfaction to know that you find the book of use to yourself and your colleagues.

Yes, it is very necessary to begin to work with an unbiassed mind, without any intentions as to how to handle it, but let yourself be impressed, and with thorough knowledge try to understand what you see.

Regarding your complaint that you cannot get rid of the shine in your painting, this is a very difficult question to answer. I am afraid my painting shines too, as it must shine, being mixed with oil, but I use zinc white, which is already prepared thinner, and try to mix my colours with as little oil as possible. Besides this, I try to keep my picture at an angle as though it were falling forward, when no reflection can reach it. This is the only advice I can give you in the matter.

I am sending this letter to my friend Baldry, who may be able to tell you more.

Yours very truly,