

## **CONDITIONS OF USE FOR THIS PDF**

The images contained within this PDF may be used for private study, scholarship, and research only. They may not be published in print, posted on the internet, or exhibited. They may not be donated, sold, or otherwise transferred to another individual or repository without the written permission of The Museum of Modern Art Archives.

When publication is intended, publication-quality images must be obtained from SCALA Group, the Museum's agent for licensing and distribution of images to outside publishers and researchers.

If you wish to quote any of this material in a publication, an application for permission to publish must be submitted to the MoMA Archives. This stipulation also applies to dissertations and theses. All references to materials should cite the archival collection and folder, and acknowledge "The Museum of Modern Art Archives, New York."

Whether publishing an image or quoting text, you are responsible for obtaining any consents or permissions which may be necessary in connection with any use of the archival materials, including, without limitation, any necessary authorizations from the copyright holder thereof or from any individual depicted therein.

In requesting and accepting this reproduction, you are agreeing to indemnify and hold harmless The Museum of Modern Art, its agents and employees against all claims, demands, costs and expenses incurred by copyright infringement or any other legal or regulatory cause of action arising from the use of this material.

### **NOTICE: WARNING CONCERNING COPYRIGHT RESTRICTIONS**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship, or research." If a user makes a request for, or later uses, a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use," that user may be liable for copyright infringement.

FOR STUDY PURPOSES ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	AHB	I.A.320

PAUL J. SACHS  
WIDENER LIBRARY · ROOM F  
CAMBRIDGE 38 · MASSACHUSETTS

KIRKLAND 7-7600  
EXTENSION 2170

September 12, 1955

Alfred H. Barr, Esq.  
The Museum of Modern Art  
11 West 53rd St.  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Alfred:

On my return to my desk this morning I find your kind lines of September 9th.

The correction is certainly entertaining, and I have made the change. For all sorts of reasons I have had to somewhat condense your story, as I have others, without losing the flavor of any of them.

Meta and I send our best love to you and Marga.

I have not yet put aside my cane and probably shall have to use it for the next few months but I am distinctly better, and, as you see, back on the job.

Devotedly,



PAUL J. SACHS

PJS:H

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	AHB	I.A.320

cc: D. Miller

Sachs

September 9, 1955

Dear Paul:

I am just back and have read your letter of August 4th.

Use my Rousseau story as you wish. However, I must pass on to you one correction made by Marga who accompanied me on my visit to see the picture in Madame Ruckstuhl's house at Kussnacht-am-Rigi. We both agree that the picture was very hard to see, but whereas I remembered a single electric bulb hanging from the ceiling, Marga tells me quite emphatically (I am sure she is right) that it was an elaborate crystal chandelier, originally designed for some ballroom or dining room and then transferred to a chalet so that it hung from the middle of the ceiling down to within 2 feet of the floor in the small room, thereby blocking the view of the picture.

This correction is not intended to be pedantic, but I think it is entertaining.

My best love to Meta and you. I hope you will have put aside your cane by the time this letter reaches you.

Sincerely,

Professor Paul J. Sachs  
Hotel Continental  
29 Garden Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

FOR STUDY PURPOSES ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	AHB	I.A.320

PAUL J. SACHS  
WINDANNE LIBRARY - ROOM 1  
CAMBRIDGE 38 - MASSACHUSETTS

August 26, 1955

Marshall House  
York Harbor, Maine  
August 4, 1955

Alfred H. Barr, Esq.  
The Museum of Modern Art  
New York 19, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Barr:

You must have wanted to explain to you that Mr. Barr has not yet returned from Europe and has, therefore, not yet received your letter of August 4th. Since he is traveling so much during the last part of his visit, I thought it best to hold your letter here.

It was good of Mr. Barr will be back in the Museum after September 6th, your 25th anniversary exhibition and all the other things that you had to do prior to your departure.

Very sincerely yours,

The reason why I have not written to you sooner is that the day before you wrote that letter of July 5th, I had a painful fall and tore the muscle above my knee so that for the last month I have spent most of my time on my back or in a wheelchair. However I am now much better and, as Professor Paul Sachs, I expect to be about in the usual way very soon. I am really doing pretty well each day with a York Harbor, Maine

Once more, my heartfelt thanks for your delightful story which I shall use in part, either as a direct quote or in words of my own, following your story very closely and giving you full credit.

Meta joins me in our best to you and Margo.

Faithfully yours,

PAUL J. SACHS

FJS:H  
Dictated but not signed by Mr. Sachs.

FOR STUDY PURPOSES ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	AHB	I.A.320

PAUL J. SACHS  
WIDENER LIBRARY · ROOM F  
CAMBRIDGE 38 · MASSACHUSETTS

KIRKLAND 7-7600  
EXTENSION 2170

Marshall House  
York Harbor, Maine  
August 4, 1955

Alfred H. Barr, Esq.  
The Museum of Modern Art  
New York 19, N. Y.

Dear Alfred:

You must have wondered these many weeks why I have not sooner answered your welcome letter of the fifth instant enclosing your words about the Rousseau--a story for which I shall certainly find a place before I send the book to the publishers in September.

It was good of you to make such an effort at the time you were so busy because of your 25th anniversary exhibition and all the other things that you had to do prior to your departure.

The reason why I have not written to you sooner is that the day before you wrote that letter of July 5th, I had a painful fall and tore the muscle above my knee so that for the last month I have spent most of the time either flat on my back or in a wheelchair. However I am now much better and, being a chronic optimist, I expect to be about in the usual way before too long. I am really doing pretty well each day with a cane.

Once more, my heartfelt thanks for your delightful story which I shall use in part, either as a direct quote or in words of my own, following your story very closely and giving you full credit.

Meta joins me in our best to you and Margo.

Faithfully yours,

*Paul J. Sachs*  
PAUL J. SACHS

PJS:H  
Dictated but not signed by Mr. Sachs.

FOR STUDY PURPOSES ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	AHB	I.A.320

cc: DM

Sachs

Sachs

done

PAUL J. SACHS  
WIDENER LIBRARY · ROOM F  
CAMBRIDGE 38 · MASSACHUSETTS

, 1955

KIRKLAND 7-7600  
EXTENSION 2170

May 5, 1955

Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Esq.  
The Museum of Modern Art  
New York 19, N. Y.

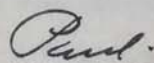
Dear Alfred:

Forgive this delay in answering your kind lines of the 18th ultimo. I have been out of town for several weeks and am only back at my desk this morning. In the meantime the photograph of the Sleeping Gypsy has arrived safely. Many thanks.

Do please not have the writing of the piece on your mind until after the opening of your exhibition on May 24th. If then you could get it to me before July 1 I shall be very grateful because the book is finished and I am busy now on the final revision. I can foresee the difficulty of including what I should so much like to have from you, once the book goes to the publishers. *So I hope I may hear it before July 1.*

My best to Margo and yourself.

Devotedly,



PAUL J. SACHS

PJS:H

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	AHB	I.A.320

cc: BU

Sachs

To be done

PAUL J. SACHS  
521A WY LIELEST - ROOM 7  
CAMBRIDGE 38 - MASSACHUSETTS

April 18, 1955

January 25, 1955

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.  
The Museum of Modern Art  
New York 19, N. Y.

Dear Paul:

On my return from Washington I found your welcome  
lines of the 15th of January. I've sent off the photograph of the Sleeping Gypsy  
to the Metropolitan Museum's Sleeping Gypsy. It will  
be exactly the kind of story I need for my  
for an exhibition opening on May 24th which is taking up all my time  
picture book. I like it very much. I'll try to work it up for you.  
like now. Could you let me know when you would need to have the  
present, cleaned up and ready to go. I can persuade  
know that I can persuade you to have it after  
text and whether it would inconvenience you to have it after  
that date. If so, I'll try to work it up for you.  
I put it in this way: "Perhaps not after all, but your story  
can be told in a way that is just fine. So, please,  
not expect too much in the book."

My best to Meta and yourself.

Sincerely,

Acting on your advice to "let it go," I am at  
present engaged in a final revision and the present danger  
is now that I am able to "talk the book" to Mrs. Hebb, the  
d---d thing may be too wordy. Be that as it may, I have  
often been told that I talk better than I write and so I am  
just pacing up and down and talking this one.

Professor Paul J. Sachs  
29 Garden Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

that you and Marge and that witch of  
have a meal with us.

AHB:ma

Affectionately,

*Paul*

PAUL J. SACHS

PJS:H

FOR STUDY PURPOSES ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	AHB	I.A.320

PAUL J. SACHS  
WIDENER LIBRARY · ROOM F  
CAMBRIDGE 38 · MASSACHUSETTS

KIRKLAND 7-7600  
EXTENSION 2170

January 25, 1955

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.  
The Museum of Modern Art  
New York 19, N. Y.

Dear Alfred:

On my return from Washington I found your welcome lines of the 18th instant and am delighted that you propose to tell the story about Rousseau's Sleeping Gypsy. It will be exactly the kind of story I am sure that I am looking for particularly since you had the wisdom to purchase the picture when no dealer would touch it. In addition I should like to have a glossy photograph of the picture in its superb present, cleaned condition, in the hope that I can persuade Knopf that I may have the number of illustrations that I want.

You ask me how many words I would like to have. Shall I put it in this way:- Perhaps not over 1,000, and if your story can be told in about 700 words that would be fine. Do, please, not expect too much in the book.

Acting on your advice to "let myself go" I am at present engaged in a final revision and the present danger is now that I am able to "talk the book" to Mrs. Hebb, the d----d thing may be too wordy. Be that as it may, I have often been told that I talk better than I write and so I am just pacing up and down and talking this one.

Meta and I hope that you and Margo and that witch of a daughter are coming soon to have a meal with us.

Affectionately,

*Paul.*  
PAUL J. SACHS

PJS:H



FOR STUDY PURPOSES ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	AHB	I.A.320

Sachs

January 18, 1955

Dear Paul:

I think the "collecting experience" that looms largest in my mind is the purchase for the Museum of the Rousseau Sleeping Gypsy -- the largest partly because it's a picture which I deeply love and think of considerable importance, partly because we bought it at a time when no dealer would touch it since its authenticity had been questioned under curious circumstances. The story and the circumstances are fairly complicated so that I shall not take time to write them until you let me know about how many words you would like to have, and also whether you think the picture would be suitable for your purposes.

I am looking forward with more and more interest to your book.

Sincerely,

Professor Paul J. Sachs  
Hotel Continental  
29 Garden Street  
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

AHB:ma

FOR STUDY PURPOSES ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	AHB	I.A.320

PAUL J. SACHS  
WIDENER LIBRARY · ROOM F  
CAMBRIDGE 38 · MASSACHUSETTS

KIRKLAND 7-7600  
EXTENSION 2170

January 14, 1955

Mr. Alfred H. Barr, Jr.  
The Museum of Modern Art  
11 West 53rd Street  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Alfred:

If you think the "old man" is making a nuisance of himself in connection with Tales Of An Epoch please disregard these lines. On the other hand, if you can get any fun out of it I shall appreciate it if you will send me in compact form a letter about the collecting experience that looms largest in your mind, and give me permission to use it or indeed to quote it if I see fit, in whole or in part. I ask this because I think it might add great interest to the book if in addition to my own experiences I recited those of some of my most successful pupils in the old Museum Course.

I am prompted to do this because I have just had a fascinating account about the statue of Saint Gorgon that Gordon Washburn acquired years ago when at the age of 26 he became the new director of the Albright Art Gallery. I feel pretty sure that you and others may have equally good stories and possibly you would like me to use them if there is still time and room to include the same.

I am having some difficulty in including as many photographs of objects as I should like so that I cannot promise to make use of a photograph of your favorite acquisition but I shall do my best on that score also.

Awaiting the favor of your kind reply,

Faithfully yours,



PAUL J. SACHS

PJS:H