



The Years 1946-1947

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THE MAGNIFICENT WORCESTER GIFT



Portrait of a Young Man by Hans Maler zu Schwaz, Swabian School, active 1510-1529, the first German primitive which Mr. and Mrs. Worcester purchased.

Paintings of the modern school hang in the sitting room of the Worcester home. On this wall are Matisse's *The Green Sash*, Renoir's *Laundress*, Romagnoli's *Woman Eating Fruit*, and Vuillard's *Woman Sitting on a Sofa*.



Charles H. Worcester painting in the studio in his home.

CHARLES H. and Mary F. S. Worcester of Chicago are the Art Institute's most generous living benefactors. During forty years of collecting in Europe and this country and frequently advised by the Director of the Institute, they have built up an unusual collection of paintings and art objects. Mr. Worcester has approached collecting with the eye of an artist, for he has been interested in drawing and painting since he was a young man. Inherent quality rather than the luster of a famous name has determined the selection and acquisition of these works of art. Today, at the age of eighty-two, he paints enthusiastically on the top floor of his house.





Paintings on the wall of the library in the Worcester home include *The Marriage of Peleus and Thetis* by Rubens and *Christ Carrying the Cross* by the Master of the Hiltpoltstein Altar, a most distinguished German primitive acquired in 1928.



Lady Helen Boyle by Henry Raeburn, 18th century Scottish painter.

For a number of years the Worcesters have planned that their entire collection was eventually to come to the Art Institute. This intention was carried out in 1947. A further gift of 70 paintings and other objects in the Worcester home and on loan at the museum made the Art Institute the leader in this country in early German paintings and strengthened the section of the Italian Schools and the modern division. The Worcesters made an effort to include in their collection particularly those things which the Art Institute lacked.

Paintings from the Worcester home will be seen at the Institute from time to time.



Madonna of Humility by Jacobello di Bonomo, Venetian, late 14th century, represents one of two early panels which begin the Worcesters' collection of Venetian art.