



Surface Beauty:

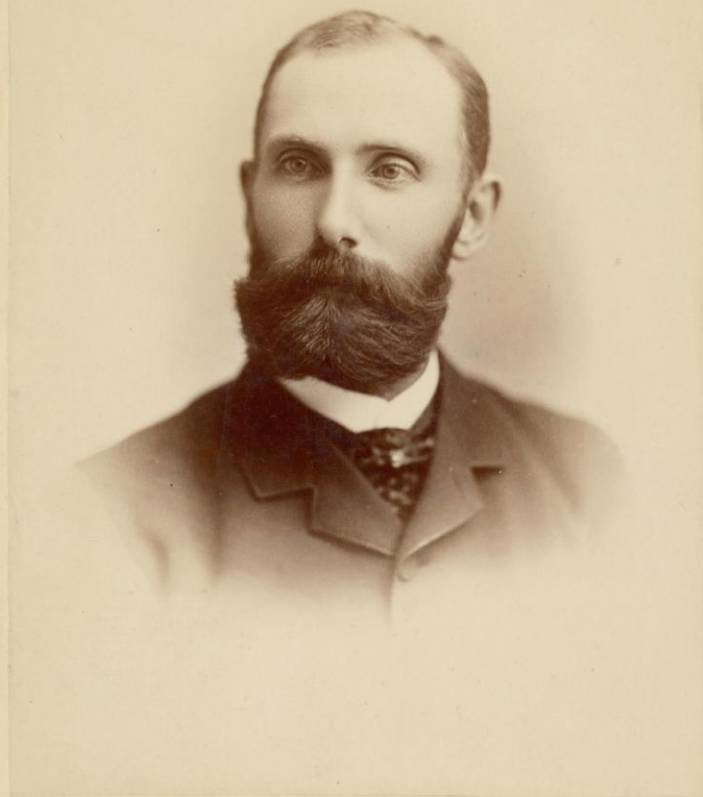
American Art and Freer's Aesthetic Vision

*Lee Glazer, Ph.D.
Freer Gallery of Art / Arthur M. Sackler Gallery
November 9, 2008*







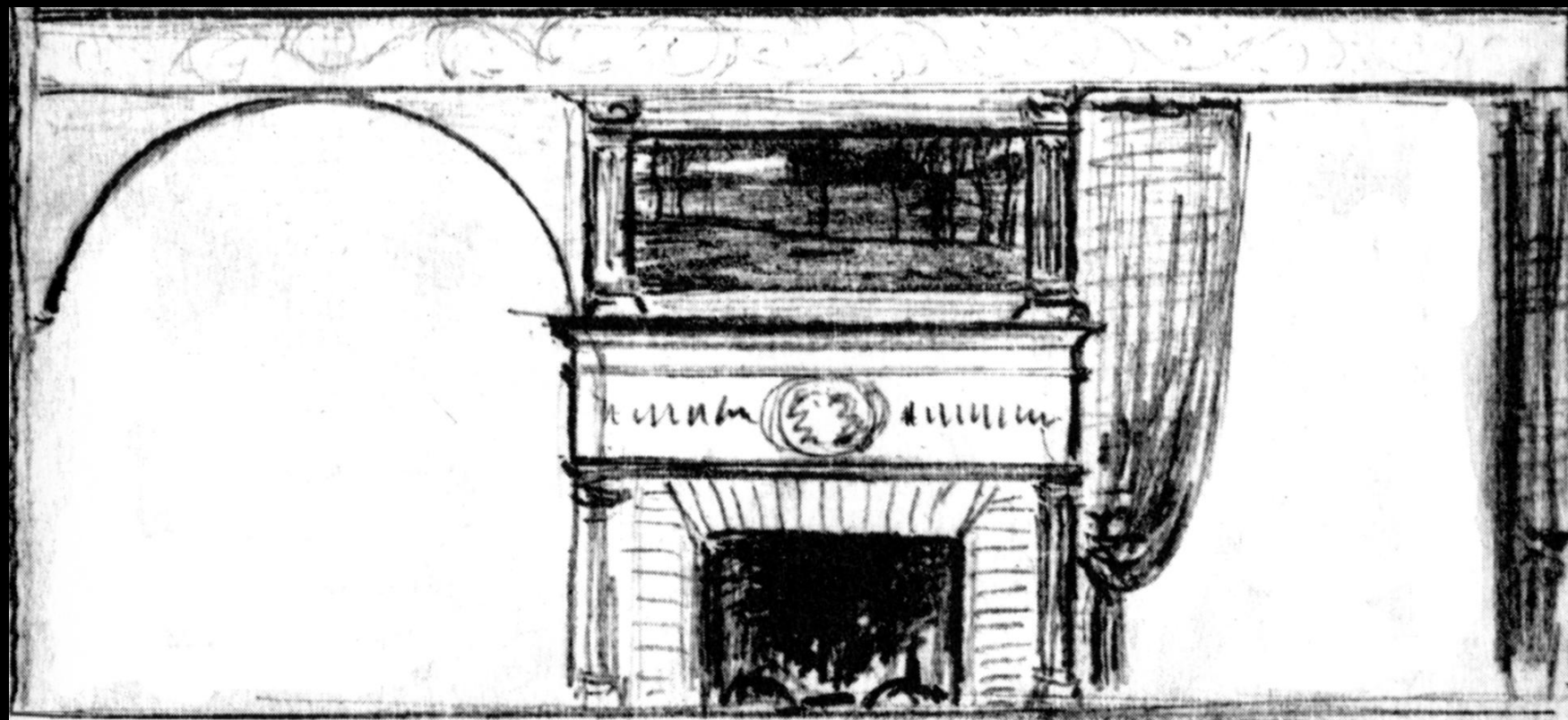


BRACY, DIEHL & CO.,

CABINET.

DETROIT, MICH.





THE GAINSBOROUGH,

226 West 59th Street,

New York,

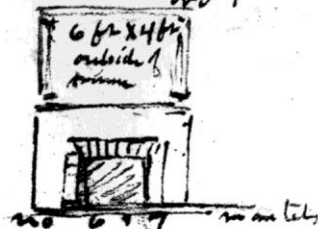
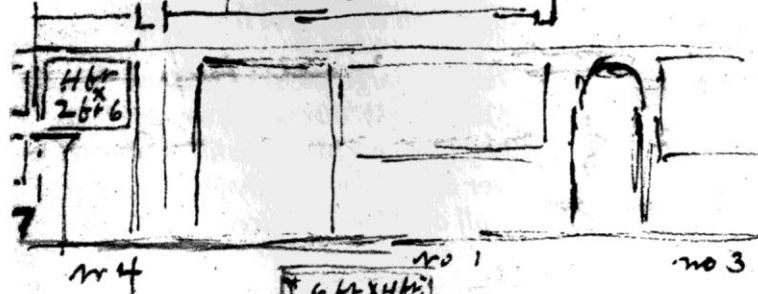
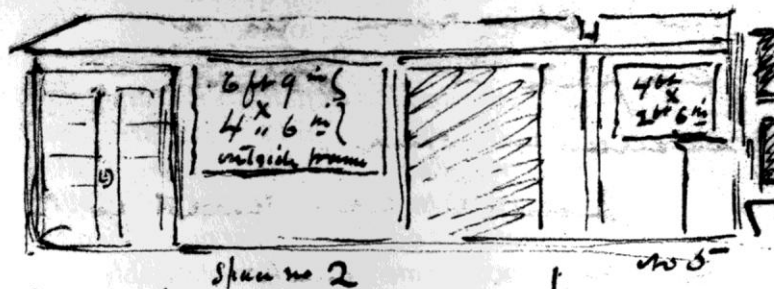
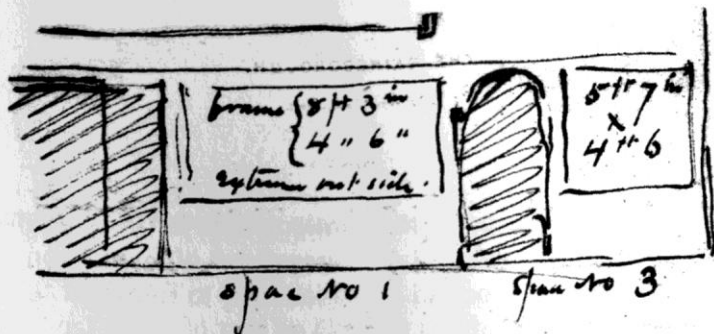
18

Dear Mr. Fries

I saw Mr. Ryan yesterday & we talked over all matters which we could think of in connection with your house - even the colors of all rooms leading out of hall so a perfect harmony may be felt between them & hall. He says the hall chimney we talked of is all right architecturally & I think it will be in effect



a long case or something of that kind can be hung so as to carry the line of coloring along & a rug or tapestry can be hung on wall above giving even such effect as the above rough sketch

















To C. L. F. from J. W. D.



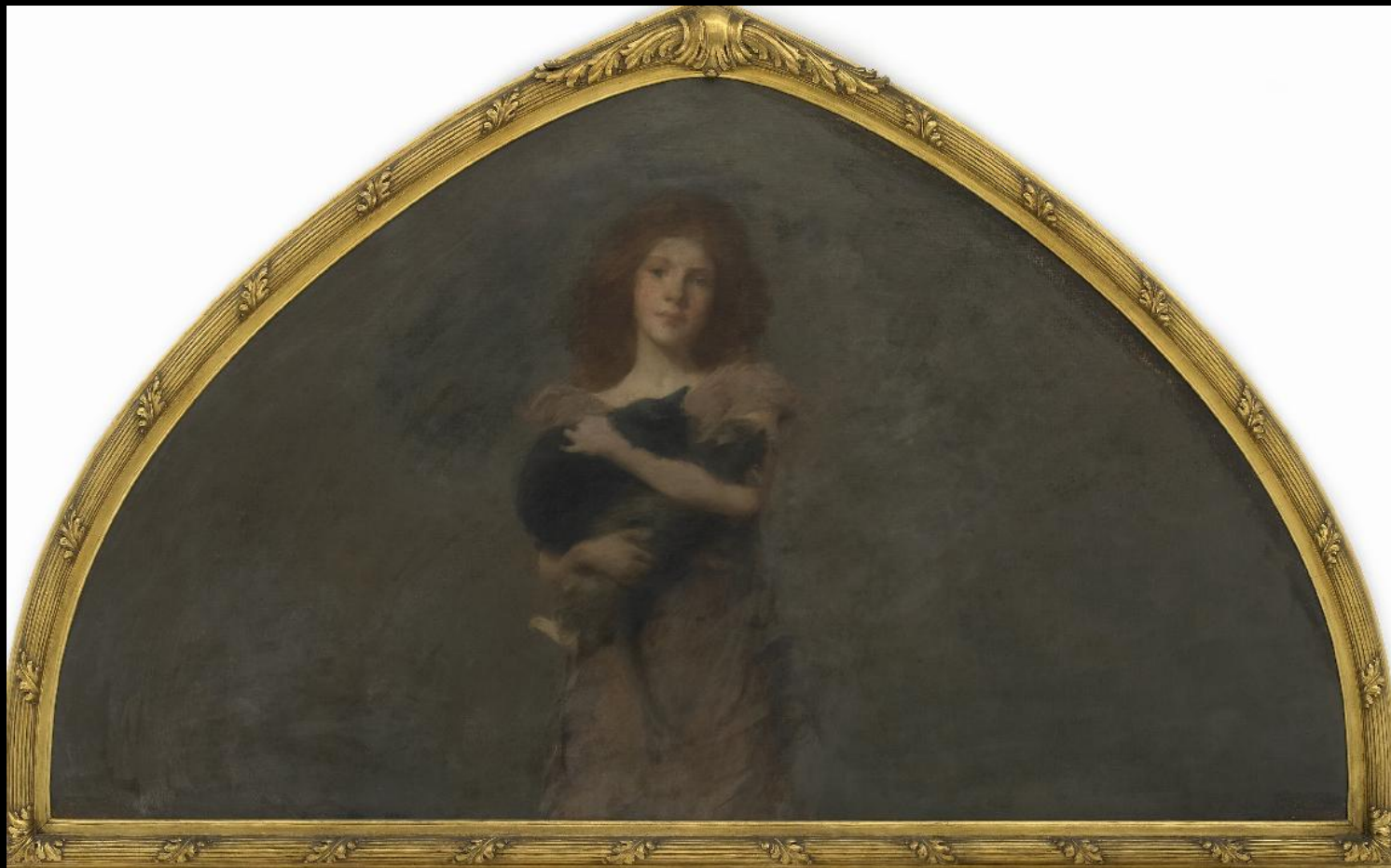






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1. Thomas Wilmer Dewing, *The Blue Dress*, 1892, detail.
2. Installation view of *Surface Beauty: American Art and Freer's Aesthetic Vision*, Freer Gallery of Art, opened February 2008 and continuing indefinitely.
3. Charles Lang Freer Comparing Whistler's *Venus Rising from the Sea* with an Islamic pot, photograph by Alvin Langdon Coburn, 1909. Charles Lang Freer Papers, Freer Gallery of Art/Arthur M. Sackler Archives.
4. Dewing, *The Garland*, ca. 1916.
5. Photograph of Charles Lang Freer, Charles Lang Freer Papers, Freer Gallery of Art/Arthur M. Sackler Archives.
6. Freer House at 33 East Ferry Avenue (now Ferry Street), 1906, Freer Papers.
7. Dwight William Tryon, Sketch of a treatment for Freer's Hall, 1891, Freer Papers.
8. Letter from Tryon to Freer, with sketch showing placement of paintings in Freer's hall n.d. [after April 5, 1891], Freer Papers.
9. Tryon, *The Sea: Night*, *The Sea: Morning*, 1892.
10. Tryon, *Springtime*, 1892.
11. Tryon, *Autumn*; *Summer*; detail of Stanford White frame surrounding *Autumn*.
12. Tryon, *Dawn*; *Winter*; both 1893.
13. Tryon, *Winter*, 1893.
14. Davenport & Co., Boston, armchair, 1892, Freer Study Collection, with details of silver-glazed arm and Stanford White frame surrounding *Winter*.
15. Photograph of Thomas Dewing with his daughter Elizabeth, Freer Papers.
16. Dewing, *The Piano*, 1891.
17. Dewing, *Portrait of the Artist's Daughter as a Young Girl*, 1893 shown with original painted wall surface (photograph: courtesy Detroit Institute of Arts Conservation Department)
18. Dewing, *Before Sunrise*, 1895; *After Sunset*, 1893; *The Blue Dress*, 1892.
19. Freer Gallery of Art, Washington, DC. (Charles Adams Platt, architect).