

# ELISE S. HAAS CONSERVATION STUDIO

## Examination Report and Treatment Proposal

Date Examined 08/10/10

Lab Number 2010.121

Accession No. 98.298

Temp ID PS98.436

Credit Type Purchase

Conservator(s)

Barbara Schertel, SFMOMA

### WORK OF ART

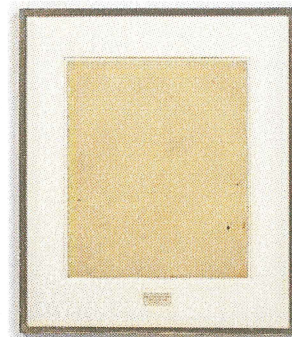
Artist Robert Rauschenberg

Title *Erased de Kooning Drawing*

Creation Date 1953

Media traces of ink and crayon on paper, mat, label, and gilded frame

Dimensions 25 1/4 in. x 21 3/4 in. x 1/2 in. (64.14 cm x 55.25 cm x 1.27 cm)



### EXAMINATION REPORT

Due to the delicacy of the gilded frame and the frequency of display, the frame was examined in detail prior to its loan to Pace Gallery in the fall of 2010. Barbara Schertel, Michelle Barger, Sarah Roberts and Amanda Hunter Johnson examined the frame.

The hardwood frame is mostly likely bass wood and is water gilded with gold leaf. The frame should be handled with gloves. There are two large security tabs installed with screws on the top and bottom leg. The screw holes have been stripped in the lower tab and the wood has cracked (and caused a one inch break out) and split in the area between the two holes. Currently the tabs must be removed prior to the removal of the drawing. The tabs are typically removed for packing and shipment.

The upper right corner mitre has been repaired on several occasions. The linen tape and paper tape on the verso has been peeled away and old adhesive and bronze paint are visible on and around the leg repair. Three small nails further secure the joint. Though removal of the nails would be ideal and would allow the joint to respond to environmental changes, it is not recommended as removal would damage the frame. The joint was reinforced with fish glue by conservation several years ago. Upon examination, the frame was found to be structurally sound.

There are several small holes on the right side of the verso of the frame and the gesso is revealed. The gilding and bole is lost on the corners and there are many scattered dents and abrasions throughout.

Digitally photograph the recto and verso of the frame.

Remove the security tabs and fabricate new, wider tabs (between 2-3" wide) which do not extend beyond the lip of the frame. The new tabs will screw into new locations in the frame and not be removed.

Adhere the loose wood and reinforce the split in the wood frame caused by the security tab.

Cut a slightly smaller piece of Plexiglas for the object as the current glazing is slightly too large.

Remove excess linen tape on the verso and remove detached linen tape in the upper corner.

Apply new linen tape to the upper corner of the verso.

### TREATMENT PROPOSAL

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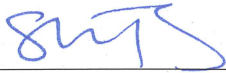
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Sarah Roberts

8/12/10

Authorized by:

Date