

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 245-3200 Cable: Modernart

No. 62

Wednesday, May 7, 1969

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

An illustrated lecture entitled "Old Scraps, a Pictorial Detective Story" will be given by Alfred Frankenstein on Thursday, May 8, at 12 noon in The Museum of Modern Art Auditorium. Mr. Frankenstein, Adjunct Professor of Fine Arts at New York University and art critic for the San Francisco Chronicle, will reconstruct the process by which he exposed a long-undiscovered forgery.

The oil painting to be discussed, Old Scraps done in 1894 by John Frederick Peto, is a well-known work acquired by The Museum of Modern Art as a Harnett in 1940. Mr. Frankenstein, an expert on American still life painting, unearthed evidence that the painting was the work of Peto, to whom he attributed it in his book After the Hunt: William Harnett and other American Still Life Painters, 1870-1900 published in 1953 by the University of California Press. In 1967, the Museum's conservator, Miss Jean Volkmer, uncovered more startling evidence further confirming Mr. Frankenstein's theory, which he described in an article in Art News of September 1968.

The lunch-time lectures in the Museum Auditorium are devoted to various aspects of the Museum's collection and temporary exhibitions. They are open to the public, and entrance is included in the Museum's regular admission fee.

Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, and Linda Gordon, Associate Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 245-3200.