

Morley

25/6/933

My dear Mr. Langlois,

I have been to the Exhibition, it is splendid. My only fear is that you will do what your neighbor ^{made hole} does the way I did - overwork yourself. I am perfectly clear that you are at your very best when you get a little where a chamber appears to you - that is natural however. Your portrait of Maudie Roydon is wonderful & as fine as a picture, as it is a portrait it is so happy in composition. I should think that it must reproduce exceedingly well. I know that you would mind my saying exactly what I think. The following portraits stand out in my memory as exceptionally fine - Earl Spencer, the Earl of Strathmore & Kinghorne, the Countess of Strathmore & Kinghorne, Field Marshal Viscount Bingley, the Earl of Scarborough, Viscount Cecil, the Archbishop, & the Countess Langlois Bickings. Which is a magnificent portrait in every respect - vitality, colour, composition & every thing

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is just perfect - in my humble opinion
 that is one of your finest portraits -
 which will be greatly sought after some
 day when we are all gone. Your other
 portraits are particularly happy & spirited
 & go splendidly with the Royal Portraits.
 The power in the hand of Vincent Ding
 is in my opinion one of the finest things
 in the exhibition - it is as full of vigour
 & character as Minotauri. This is a very
 remarkable face. The strength in the
 mouth & the almost wild look in the
 eyes make one feel that he is a man
 whose word means deed. A truly remarkable
 character. You have a very happy way
 of treating society ladies - La Marquesa
 del Monte was particularly good but what,
 I wonder, is the little dark spot on her
 upper lip? Is it a "beauty spot" which
 had to go in? It was very nice to see
 again your portraits of your sons, which
 you painted at Clark, & the delightful
 picture of Mr. De Kozlo. I am so glad
 that you had a successful Private View
 with more than one Royal presence.

My wife is going to the Exhibition later
on when she goes to town. I have
not seen any notice of it in "The Times"
but it would not be worth reading
in any case, as the Art Critic rarely
writes anything but ignorant nonsense,
mostly of the work of people about
whom the Times said the better! I am
afraid dear old Buldoy is pretty bad,
he will not need his spectacles much
more - it is heart-breaking for a man
of his stamp to see the trend of affairs
in the Art World. Yet - the fact that
a Hollman fetched over £3.000 shows
clearly that in the end, good works hold
their own. I shall never see the return
to sanity. I do hope that you will
lend a good sum to the A.G.B. as
a result of your Exhibition. I cannot
imagine how they make their grants.
There must be hundreds of "artists" who
apply, who are not really artists at all;
yet, how can they rule them out?
Everyone knows the great distress which
exists in these difficult times but it is

very difficult to help those who will not
help themselves & so spend all they
get, when they receive it. The dealers
are having a very bad time "living on
past profits" as they can sell next
to nothing.

With kindest regards to Mrs DeLong
& you all

Yours ever sincerely
Robert Hooley.