Foreword

The death of Guy C. Bauman on February 25, 1990, deprived the Metropolitan Museum of one of its most capable, promising, and congenial curators. AIDS cut short his life at thirty-eight years, but the quality of his published work assures him a secure place in art-historical scholarship. He was a valued member of the Metropolitan Museum Journal’s Editorial Board, and his colleagues on the board have chosen to perpetuate his memory by dedicating this volume to him.

Mr. Bauman’s very first article, based on a seminar at Princeton University, “The Miracle of Plautilla’s Veil in Princeton’s Beheading of Saint Paul” (Record of the Princeton University Art Museum 35, 1 [1977]), already demonstrated a highly sophisticated handling of religious iconography. He became lecturer, then curatorial assistant, at The Frick Collection. In 1983 he joined our staff as a part-time assistant in the Department of European Paintings, attaining the rank of associate curator in 1987. He excelled as a cataloguer, sorting out factual detail and communicating complex issues with patience and probity, as witness his entries on Early Netherlandish paintings in The Jack and Belle Linsky Collection in The Metropolitan Museum of Art (1984, with a further addendum in these pages, MMJ 21, 1986) and in our exhibition catalogue Liechtenstein: The Princely Collections (1985). His “Early Flemish Portraits” was a particularly memorable issue of the Metropolitan Museum of Art Bulletin (41, 4, Spring 1986). Succeeding Katharine Baetjer on the Journal’s Editorial Board, he served for a very short time but impressed all with the acuity of his observations as well as with the kindly manner in which he expressed them. His last article was for the Journal: “A Rosary Picture with a View of the Park of the Ducal Palace in Brussels, Possibly by Goswijn van der Weyden” (MMJ 24, 1989).

I join with the members of the Journal board in thanking Mr. Bauman’s friends and colleagues for their contributions to our tribute.

Philippe de Montebello
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