

October 17, 1995

Andy Warhol Art Authentication Board, Inc.
525 West 20th Street, 7th Floor
New York, New York 10011

Not sure why he also didn't
mention the tape recorder.

Re: Self-Portrait, 1964, silkscreen/canvas
24" x 20" overall size unstretched

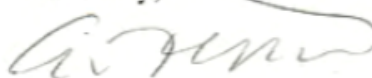
Gentlemen:

As a painter living in New York City at 333 Park Avenue South during the 1960's, I visited and attended informal gatherings many times at Warhol's uptown studio which was situated directly across the street from the YMCA. This memory of the location is quite distinct because of the telescope that Andy had at his front windows that focused on the weight lifters in the YMCA. Ivan Karp, a friend who also could be found at the studio on occasions, was responsible for my first show at Pace Gallery in 1964.

The Warhol premises was crudely wrapped with silver foil that extended on to parts of the ceiling and walls. His furniture was of the 1950's and covered with very thick clear plastic. Another particular memory of the apartment was that there was a pay telephone which had to be used if you wished to make a phone call. This confirmed his reputation as being notoriously frugal. I recall a particular incident with the telephone. During a party, Andy received a phone call on the pay telephone from which he was loudly speaking for everyone to hear "No! Naomi, I will not come down and bail you out, I don't want to spend the money and I don't care what they do to you" and then he hung up.

At the time that I received the painting, a close friend of mine, Mr. Richard Ekstract, a magazine publisher for the Hi-Fi trade, had given Warhol a Betamax which he used in his early film making activity. Warhol was so appreciative on receiving this Betamax that he gave both Richard and myself one of the self-portraits. My first impression of the painting was that it was on very cheap canvas and stretched upon a very inexpensive wood stretcher. This must have been a further indication of his frugality. This painting has been in my collection since acquiring it from the artist. The painting received by Richard Ekstract has been sold some time ago.

Sincerely,



Alan Fenton