

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION: LANGUAGE AND EXPLANATION	I
1. The objects of explanation: pictures considered under descriptions	I
2. Descriptions of pictures as representations of thought about having seen pictures	I
3. Three kinds of descriptive word	5
4. The ostensivity of critical description	8
5. Summary	10
I. THE HISTORICAL OBJECT: BENJAMIN BAKER'S FORTH BRIDGE	12
1. The idiographic stance	12
2. The Forth Bridge — a narrative	15
3. Putting questions: why at all and why thus?	25
4. Sorting the causes of form	29
5. The triangle of re-enactment: a descriptive construct	32
6. Summary	34
7. The peculiarity of the pictorial object	36
II. INTENTIONAL VISUAL INTEREST: PICASSO'S <i>PORTRAIT OF KAHNWEILER</i>	41
1. Intention	41
2. The pictorial Charge and the painter's Brief	42
3. Who set Picasso's Brief?	46
4. The cultural painter: <i>troc</i>	47
5. Picasso's market: structural cues and choice	50
6. Excursus against influence	58

7. Angles on process: positing the intentional flux	62
8. Kahnweiler, Picasso and problems	68
9. Summary	72
III. PICTURES AND IDEAS: CHARDIN'S <i>A LADY TAKING TEA</i>	74
1. Painters and thought	74
2. Vulgar Lockeanism and vision	76
3. <i>A Lady Taking Tea</i> : distinctness and brightness	80
4. Distinctness of vision: accommodation and acuity	81
5. Chardin and past art	87
6. Middle-men: La Hire, Le Clerc, Camper	89
7. Substance, sensation and perception	93
8. A pictorial corollary approximated	97
9. <i>A Lady Taking Tea</i> : Lockean viewing	99
IV. TRUTH AND OTHER CULTURES: PIERO DELLA FRANCESCA'S <i>BAPTISM OF CHRIST</i>	105
1. Cultural difference	105
2. Knowledge of other cultures: participant's understanding and observer's understanding	109
3. <i>Commensurazione</i> — an old word	111
4. Three functions of old words: necessity, strangeness and superostensivity	113
5. Truth and validation: external decorum, internal decorum and positive parsimony	116
6. Three iconographies	121
7. Plain reading of the picture	125
8. The authority of the pictorial order	131
9. Criticism and questionability	135
TEXTS AND REFERENCES	138
INDEX OF SUBJECTS	148
PLATES	149