The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Vincenzo Anastagi

El Greco (Doménikos Theotokópoulos) (Greek, active in Spain 1541-1614)

Date ca. 1575

Medium Oil on canvas

Dimensions 74 x 49 7/8 in. (188 x 126.7 cm)

Credit Line Henry Clay Frick Bequest

Accession Number 1913.1.68

Currently On View First Floor, Room 13, West Gallery

Commentary Born in Perugia, Vincenzo Anastagi (ca. 1531–86) joined the Knights of Malta in 1563 and was a leader in the heroic defense of that island during the massive Turkish siege of 1565. After holding various other responsible posts he was named Sergeant Major of Castel Sant'Angelo in Rome. Anastagi apparently was an expert on fortifications. This portrait, already characteristically intense and spirited in style, probably dates from El Greco's last years in Italy. Source: Art in The Frick Collection: Paintings, Sculpture, Decorative Arts, New York: Harry N. Abrams, 1996.

Collection History William Coningham. His sale, June 9, 1849, Christie's, Lot 51, sold to H. Farrer. Henry Labouchere, Stoke, near Windsor (1850). Inherited by Labouchere's grandson, E.A.V. Stanley, Quantock Lodge, Bridgewater, Somerset. Bought from him by Colnaghi and Knoedler, November, 1913. Frick, 1913. Source: Paintings in The Frick Collection: French, Italian and Spanish. Volume II. New York: The Frick Collection, 1968.