



Christ Blessing

Date

ca. 1500

Primary Maker

Benedetto Diana

Medium

oil on wood

Description

The size, format, and subject matter of this painting suggest that it was a private devotional image. The figure was derived ultimately from Giovanni Bellini's ca. 1487 figure of Christ in the Transfiguration (Naples, Capodimonte). It is one among twenty-three versions cited by Fritz Heinemann (1962). In light of the fact that all other contemporary copies include a landscape or architectural setting, it is probable that this painting originally had some sort of background which has now been painted over. The authorship of this painting has

been controverted. Fern R. Shapley ascribed it to an artist of the Venetian School, ca.1500. Heinemann initially associated the work with Girolamo Mocetto, but subsequently agreed with the attribution to Benedetto Diana proposed by Antonio Paolucci and seconded by Burton B. Fredericksen and Federico Zeri.

Dimensions

Overall: 27 3/4 x 18 3/4 in. (70.5 x 47.6 cm) Framed: 39 1/8 x 30 x 3 in. (99.4 x 76.2 x 7.6 cm)