



Madonna Adoring the Child

Date

ca. 1510

Primary Maker

Boccaccio Boccaccino

Medium

tempera on wood

Description

The somewhat awkward composition of this intimate devotional image was ultimately derived from paintings by Alvise Vivarini and Giovanni Bellini, where the Madonna adores the Christ Child lying in her lap. The painting is similar to Boccaccino's *Madonna Adoring the Child* (Venice, Museo Correr), of ca.1512, which is believed to have been derived from a lost painting by

Giovanni Bellini. The Christ Child is posed in the same way, but leans against a pillow. The figure of the Virgin is similar to that in Boccaccino's *Madonna* (Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York). The attribution of the work, known as the "Otto Beit Madonna" after its first known owner, has been controverted. Wilhelm Bode tentatively attributed the painting to Ortolano (1488-1525?), an attribution accepted by Giuliano Frabetti. Bernard Berenson, Alfredo Puerari, and Fern R. Shapley ascribed it to Boccaccino.

Dimensions

Sight: 19 3/4 x 15 3/8 in. (50.2 x 39.1 cm) Framed: 27 1/4 x 23 x 2 1/2 in. (69.2 x 58.4 x 6.4 cm)