

17th Century FLORENTINE SCHOOL

The Head of a Young Man with a Cap

Red chalk on buff paper.

Made up at the left top and right edges, and with traces of a framing line in red chalk.

141 x 123 mm. (5 5/8 x 4 7/8 in.)

The distinctive cap seen in this small drawing is found in paintings by a number of 17th century Florentine artists, including Cristofano Allori (1577-1621) and Lorenzo Lippi (1606-1665).

The present sheet bears the collector's mark of the 20th century Milanese industrialist Giorgio Dalla Bella (b.1923). Born in Venice, Dalla Bella worked in the chemical and pharmaceutical industry for some forty-five years, and in 1953 began collecting Old Master drawings, particularly of the Italian school. He acquired drawings at auction and from art dealers, as well as from such fellow collectors as the Milanese banker Cesare Frigerio (1890-1977[?]), and began applying a collector's mark to his drawings around 1960. In 1996, having assembled a collection of some 1,200 drawings, Dalla Bella sold about half of these works, excepting mainly drawings by Venetian and Lombard artists.