



THE HUNTINGTON

Library, Art Collections, and

Botanical Gardens

Volunteer
Academy

Family Ties: Portraiture and History

Kevin Murphy – Associate Curator, American Art

Monday, September 21, 2009 - Draft Outline

1. Brief overview of portraiture in colonial America
 - a. Historical background
 - i. Puritans
 - ii. Death
 - b. Function
 - i. Memory
 1. John Smibert, *Benjamin Lynde, Sr.*
 - ii. Commemoration
 1. Robert Feke, *Mrs. Benjamin Lynde, Jr.*
 2. John Singleton Copley, *Mrs. Henderson Inches (Sarah Jackson)*
 - iii. Kinship
 1. Smibert and Feke
 2. The Strange Case of the Three Georges (Peale, Polk, Stuart)
 - a. Looking exercise: Which of these is not like the others?
 - i. Military (Peale, Polk)
 1. Battle of Princeton
 - a. Excerpts from C.W. Peale's campaign diary
 - ii. President/Statesman (Stuart)
 - b. Cult of George Washington in the early Republic
 - i. Replication of portraits and idea of originality
 1. Peale
 - a. Battle of Princeton commission
 - b. Special problem of the HEH version
 2. Peale Polk
 3. Stuart
 - a. HUG Athenaeum type
 - b. *Lawrence Reid Yates*
 - c. The artists
 - i. Charles Willson Peale
 - ii. Charles Peale Polk
 1. Peale family
 - a. James Peale portraits
 - b. Raphaelle Peale
 - iii. Gilbert Stuart
 - d. Style matters
 - i. Conceptual vs. Perceptual
 - ii. Linear vs. Painterly
 1. Copley, *The Western Brothers*



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3. Listening to portraits: applying knowledge
 - a. John Singer Sargent
 - b. Augustus Saint-Gaudens
 - c. George Bellows
 - d. Thomas Hart Benton