

Erwin Panofsky to William Heckscher, October, 1963.

Many thanks for your letter of September 30<sup>th</sup>. . You are only too right in assuming that Eka's sudden death is an unretrievable loss. He was probably our closest friend in Princeton and apart from yourself the only one with whom a conversation in the form of a Mozart trio could be conducted. He spent an evening with us practically every week, and, as a matter of fact, died only about half an hour after having left our house. It was a particularly charming evening in the course of which he gave me an excellent tip concerning (needless to say) a Titian problem. In the morning I went to the library to follow up this tip and found exactly what I wanted, that is to say, the source of the curious Emperor's statue in Titian's early *Miracle* of the New-Born Infant in Padua. About noon I tried to phone him to report and to express my gratitude only to hear that he had been found dead by his young friend Giesey when the latter had gone to see him in the morning. He must have died within a few seconds because he had not even gone upstairs to undress, and he died exactly as he would have wished, without any impairment of his faculties and without protracted suffering. But for his friends this sudden disappearance has something un-real about it and I often catch myself on the way to the phone when I have come upon some question which only he would have been able to answer.