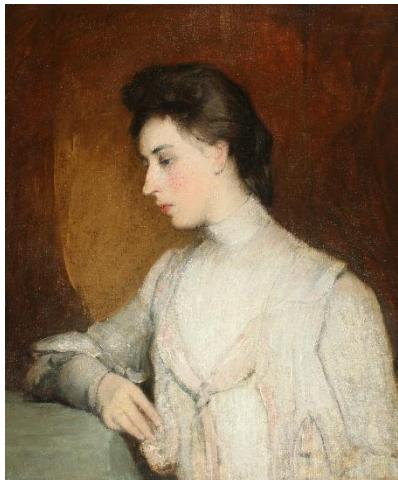




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JULIAN ALDEN WEIR (1852-1919)

The Rose Pink Bodice
oil on canvas
30 1/4 x 25 1/8 inches
Signed upper left

A distinguished American artist, J. Alden Weir was a founder of the Society of American Artists and The Ten American Painters, a president of National Academy of Design, and a trustee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Weir's figurative work entitled *The Rose Pink Bodice* comes from a private New York Collection and has an impressive exhibition history. First exhibited in 1904 at the New Haven Paint and Clay Club, the painting was featured in exhibitions at major institutions over the next twelve years including the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, the Cincinnati Art Museum, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Worcester Art Museum, and the St. Louis Art Museum. The work was included in Weir's memorial exhibition held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 1924.

The Rose Pink Bodice depicts a woman in profile resting her right arm on a fabric draped chair or table while her downward gaze reveals a moment of marked contemplation. In 1905, the painting was exhibited with an earlier work entitled *The Green Bodice* at the *One Hundredth Anniversary Exhibition of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts*. During the run of the exhibition, Weir was awarded the Temple Medal from the academy for the *Green Bodice*, however, a critic for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* believed *The Rose-Pink Bodice* to be the finer of the two portraits.¹

Weir revisited the same subject matter just two years later. In 1906, Weir depicted the same model wearing the same dress. While her



J. Alden Weir, *The Green Bodice*, by 1898,
Metropolitan Museum of Art.

¹ "The Latest News in Art Circles," *The Philadelphia Inquirer* (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) Sun, Mar 5, 1905, 30.



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gaze remains downward facing, her body has turned to face the viewer. Entitled *A Gentlewoman*, the painting can be found today in the collection of the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

J. Alden Weir, *A Gentlewoman*,
1906, Smithsonian American
Art Museum.