

OBJECT RESEARCH



**Alfred Stieglitz (American, 1864–1946)**

## The Dancing Trees

1922

Palladium print

Alfred Stieglitz Collection

**AIC accession number:** 1949.772

**Stieglitz Estate number:** 23A

**Inscriptions:** Inscribed recto, on hinged mat, lower left, in graphite: "Treated by Steichen - 2/1950"; recto, on hinged mat, lower center, in graphite: "Alfred Stieglitz"; recto, on hinged mat, lower right, in graphite: "Dancing Trees, 1921 Palladiotype"; recto, on hinged mat, lower right, in graphite: "XRF @ AICon 7/07 (EG)"; inscribed verso, on print, left center, in graphite: "[illegible]"; verso, on print, center, in graphite: "[illegible] A"; verso, on print,

lower right, in graphite: "Ch 23A"; inscribed verso, on hinged mat, lower left, in graphite: "Leica / #23A"

**Dimensions:** 24.3 x 19.5 cm (image) 25.1 x 20.1 cm (paper)

**Print thickness:** 0.284 mm

**Mount:** Original; with original presentation window mat

**X-ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrometry:**  
See below

**X-RAY FLUORESCENCE (XRF) SPECTROMETRY**

XRF spectral readings were taken from the recto of the work and from the mount when available. The elements listed below have been positively identified in the work; elements in bold have been attributed to the processing of the print.

Print: **Fe, Pd**

Mount: Ca, Ti, Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, Sr, Pb

The graph below shows XRF spectra for three distinct measurement areas on the print: the darkest, maximum-density image area (Dmax, purple); the lightest, minimum-density image area (Dmin, green); and the mount, when available (orange). The background spectrum (gray) represents the characteristic contribution of the instrument itself as measured on a Teflon reference and is included in order to discount irrelevant elements from the print's signature. Elements were identified based on the presence of their characteristic peaks. Analysis was performed with a Bruker ARTAX air-path portable micro-XRF system equipped with a laser pointer, an integrated camera system, a Mo 12.5µm filter, and a Mo tube. Measurements were taken for 250 LT at 50 kV and 800 µA. The spectrum below illustrates the significant peaks for this print in the energy range from 2 to 15 keV.

Figure 1. (right)  
Locations of XRF measurements



Figure 2. (below)  
XRF spectra from the Dmax, Dmin, mount, and background signal produced by the analyzer.

