

date: 9/16/91

Approval
E.S. 9/23/91
E.R. _____

Conservation meeting with Elizabeth Steele
Researcher: Jenny Burden

Artist: Kenzo Okada

Work: Footsteps

Acc. No: 1443

Medium line: Oil on canvas

Measurements: 60 3/8 x 69 7/8 (153.5 x 177.4)

Signature: Signed l.l. in burnt umber: Kenzo Okada

Technique:

1. It was painted on a commercially prepared canvas with a white ground.
2. The composition is built up using oil washes. There are some areas of unpainted ground between passages, but close inspection shows that most of the canvas was covered in thin scumbles and glazes.
3. Drips are part of the technique, and Okada turned the canvas as he worked so that they run in all directions.
4. The black circular shapes are made by Okada daubing the canvas with a very thin wash; in some instances, he has daubed the same area a second time so that he creates halo images.
5. Texture is achieved by a variety of means including scraping back, painting wet into wet with thin washes, splattering paint onto a dry surface, and painting with a dry brush.
6. There is no varnish on the surface, and its overall appearance is extremely matte with slight variations in sheen.