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ART

WHO IS THAT LADY IN THE PAINTING?

RANDY KENNEDY

▶ Making its first trip to the United States more than four centuries after its creation, Parmigianino's renowned, beguiling portrait of a turbaned woman — known since the early 18th century as “Schiava Turca,” or the Turkish slave, from 1531-34 — will go on view Tuesday at the Frick Collection, bringing along the question that has long trailed it: Who was she? Almost certainly neither Turkish nor a slave, an identification that came about in error because of her exotic costume. Some have wondered whether the woman was real at all or maybe just a feminine ideal dreamed up by the painter. But Aimee Ng, a research associate at the Frick and the show's curator, has a new theory based on subtle clues in the portrait: that she might have been Veronica Gambarà, an accomplished poet in Parmigianino's circle.

Joining the portrait will be a male companion, a rarely seen Parmigianino work from a private collection, “Portrait of a Man,” from 1527-31. The paintings will hang in a gallery with three of the



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Frick's own prized portraits, by Titian and Bronzino, making for a powerful Renaissance quintet. (1 East 70th Street, Manhattan; 212-288-0700, frick.org.)

“Schiava Turca,” a Parmigianino work from the 16th century, will hang at the Frick Collection.