



Eugène Delacroix

Conversation mauresque sur une terrasse (A Moorish couple in conversation on a terrace), c. 1832

Pencil on paper, laid down on cardboard, 128 x 162 mm

on recto, lower left, red stamp: "E.D." [Lugt 838 or 838a?]; lower right, inscribed in pencil: "50[?]"

on verso, inscribed in pencil, upper left: "A 15" [in a circle]; upper centre: "Delacroix 195", "Conversation mauresque sur une terrasse", "Studie zum Aquarell Robaut 497", "dans l'album de Comte de Mornay", "vente Baron du Teil", "Gal Charpentier Nov 1933", "Vente Viau 14"

on cardboard matting, verso, upper centre, inscribed in pencil: "Delacroix"; brown hinging tape at upper corners

Provenance:

Estate of the artist (?)

Possible sale: Vente Eugène Delacroix, Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 17–19 February 1864 (per stamp?)

(...)

Colonel Georges Baron du Teil, Paris

Sale: Vente du Teil, Galerie Jean Charpentier, Paris, 20–21 November 1933, lot 15

Georges Viau, Paris

Sale: Vente Viau, Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 11 December 1942, lot 14

Acquired at the above sale: Hildebrand Gurlitt, Dresden (per AMAE)

By descent to Cornelius Gurlitt, Munich/Salzburg

From 6 May 2014: Estate of Cornelius Gurlitt

Bibliographical references:

Lugt, Frits. *Les Marques de Collections de Dessins & d'Estampes*. 1st ed., Amsterdam: Vereenigde Drukkerijen, 1921; supplement, The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff, 1956. [no. L.838a, L.838]
www.marquesdecollections.fr/detail.cfm/marque/6699/total/1
www.marquesdecollections.fr/detail.cfm/marque/6698/total/1 (28 September 2015)
Succession du Colonel Baron du Teil. Auct. cat., Galerie Jean Charpentier, Paris, 20–21 November 1933. [lot 15]
Catalogue des dessins – aquarelles – gouaches – pastels, tableaux modernes, œuvres importantes de Degas composant la Collection de M. Georges Viau. Auct. cat., Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 11 December 1942. [lot 14]

Primary sources:

Archives de Paris:
Procès-verbal de vente, 11 December 1942, no. D149E3 17

Business records Hildebrand Gurlitt:

Sales ledger 1937–41:	11 December 1942 [no. 141] 4 January 1943 [no. 170]
Sales ledger 1937–?:	11 December 1942 [no. 1728] 4 January 1943 [no. 1728]

Cornelius Gurlitt Papers, Salzburg:
Photographs, no. 7.1_F703 [1 February 1943]

Correspondence Hildebrand Gurlitt:
3 January 1948 [vol. 6, fol. 218]

Ministère des Affaires étrangères, Archives diplomatiques, Paris:
Achats allemands en France, nos. 209SUP/824, 209SUP/389 [11 December 1942]
Demandes de licences d'exportation, nos. 209SUP/869 [19 January 1943],
1090/209SUB/196_A170 [26 November 1951]

Seizure Inventory [Sicherstellungsverzeichnis], 2012, no. SV 41/122

Further sources consulted:

Robaut, Alfred. *L'œuvre complet de Eugène Delacroix: peintures, dessins, gravures, lithographies, 1813–1863*. Paris: Charavay Frères, 1885.
Exposition E. Delacroix. Exh. cat., Musée du Louvre, Paris, June–July 1930.

Cultural Plunder by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg: Database of Art Objects at the Jeu de Paume
Database “Central Collecting Point München”
Database “Kunstsammlung Hermann Göring”
Getty Provenance Index, German Sales Catalogs
Lootedart.com

Lost Art

Répertoire des Biens Spoliés

Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie

Verzeichnis national wertvoller Kunstwerke ("Reichsliste von 1938")

Witt Library

Note:

This work is probably a preparatory drawing for the Delacroix watercolour *A Moorish couple on their terrace* at the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art, New York (accession no. 63.215).

It is unclear to date whether the stamp "E.D" is the true Delacroix mark [Lugt 838a] or the false mark used by the artist's assistant Pierre Andrieu [Lugt 838]. If verified as the former, this would indicate that the watercolour was included in the sale of Delacroix' estate in 1864. In that sale, drawings were listed by subject matter, sometimes in lots comprising numerous items, with descriptive titles but without measurements or illustrations. It has not so far been possible to identify this particular drawing in the sale catalogue.

The first known owner of this work was Colonel Georges Baron du Teil (1854 Paris–1933 Paris), the long-serving President of the Société Hippique Française. The drawing subsequently passed to the dentist Dr. Georges Viau (1855–1939 Paris), a well-known collector and patron of the arts. Viau began collecting at about the turn of the century and went on to assemble one of the largest private collections of Impressionist and Pre-Impressionist art in Paris. Sales of Viau works took place in 1907, 1909, 1925 and 1930, and posthumously in 1942, 1943 and 1948. This work was acquired by Hildebrand Gurlitt at the sale of Viau's estate in 1942.

The personal papers found in Cornelius Gurlitt's Salzburg home include a collection of about 2,400 photographs of artworks. Photograph no. 7.1_F703, is a reproduction of this work; inscribed on verso, a statement of authenticity by art expert André Schoeller of Paris, 13, Rue de Téhéran, dated 1 February 1943.

A reference to one Delacroix drawing titled *Zwei Mauren zwischen Kissen* can be found in the correspondence of Hildebrand Gurlitt. It was sent to a restorer in January 1948.

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