



### Jean-Honoré Fragonard

#### Näiades et anges (Naiads and angels)

Pencil and watercolour on paper, mounted and laid down on paper, 240 x 345 mm, mounting: 370 x 467 mm (455 x 555 x 25 mm)

on verso, upper centre on frame, inscribed in blue pen: "23 [...]"; lower centre, inscribed in black pen: "23" and directly below again: "23"; lower centre, label remnants

#### Provenance:

(...)

By 28 April 1944: with Raphaël Gérard, Paris (per Cornelius Gurlitt Papers)

By September 1953: Hildebrand Gurlitt, Dusseldorf (per Cornelius Gurlitt Papers)

By descent to Cornelius Gurlitt, Munich/Salzburg

From 6 May 2014: Estate of Cornelius Gurlitt

#### Primary sources:

Cornelius Gurlitt Papers, Salzburg:

Photographs, no. 12.1\_F12152 [n. d.]

List Raphaël Gerard, reference no. in process, [28 April 1944], [item no. 23b]

List of artworks with Raphaël Gerard, reference no. in process [c. September 1953], [item no. 23b]

Seizure Inventory [Sicherstellungsverzeichnis], 2012, no. SV (Part 2)/123

#### Further sources consulted:

Michel, André, ed. *François Boucher*. Paris: Piazza, 1906.

Ananoff, Alexandre. *L'Œuvre dessiné de Jean-Honoré Fragonard*. Vol. 1–4. Paris: de Nobele, 1961–1970.

Ananoff, Alexandre. *L'Œuvre dessiné de François Boucher (1703–1770)*. Vol. 1. Paris: de Nobele, 1966.

Ananoff, Alexandre. *François Boucher*. Lausanne: La Bibliothèque des Arts, 1976.

Pierrette, Jean-Richard, ed. *L'Œuvre gravé de François Boucher dans la Collection Edmond de Rothschild*. Paris: Musées Nationaux, 1978.

*Drawings by Fragonard in North American Collections*. Exh. cat., National Gallery of Art, Washington, 19 November 1978–21 January 1979; Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge, 16 February–1 April 1979; The Frick Collection, New York, 20 April–3 June 1979.

Knox, George. *Giambattista and Domenico Tiepolo: A Study and Catalogue Raisonné of the Chalk Drawings*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1980.

*Aspects de Fragonard: Peintures-Dessins-Estampes*. Auct. cat., Galerie Cailleux, Paris, 23 September–7 November 1987.

Gemin, Massimo, and Filippo Pedrocco. *Giambattista Tiepolo: I dipinti: Opera completa*. Venice: Arsenale Editrice, 1993.

Molotiu, Andrei, ed. *Fragonard's Allegories of Love*. Exh. cat., Sterling & Francine Clarke Art Institute, Williamstown, 28 October 2007–21 January 2008; J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, 12 February–4 May 2008.

Foerster, C.F. *Jean Honoré Fragonard: Ausgewählte Handzeichnungen*. Berlin: Propyläen, 1924.

Business records Hildebrand Gurlitt

Correspondence Hildebrand Gurlitt

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 unsigned work is not included in the catalogue raisonné of Fragonard works by Alexandre Ananoff.

This work was one of over 70 works with the art dealer Raphaël Gérard in Paris in 1944. It is unclear whether at the time Gérard and/or Gurlitt owned or co-owned these works, whether they had been placed on commission, or indeed simply deposited with Gérard. It is conspicuous that an inventory of works with Gérard was drawn up in the very late stages of the war; one possible hypothesis is that Gurlitt placed for safekeeping with Gérard works that he had acquired in occupied Paris, with the intention of moving these objects at a later date.

In 1953, some of these works were shipped to Gurlitt in Dusseldorf, while others remained with Gérard until 1957 (at Gurlitt's cost). The inscription "23" on verso refers to two inventories of artworks with Gérard, one dated 28 April 1944, the other dating from about September 1953. This work is respectively referred to herein as "FRAGONARD: Nàiades et anges" (1944) and "Fragonard: Nàiaden u. Engel-Zchg / ausrahmen" (1953).

The personal papers found in Cornelius Gurlitt's Salzburg home include a collection of about 2,400 photographs of artworks. Photograph no. 12.1\_F12152 is a reproduction of this work; on verso, upper right, inscribed in black: "Munich [?]", at centre in black: "Fragonard".

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