



**Jean-François Millet**

**Bathing Women**

Pencil on paper, 45 x 35 mm

on recto, lower left, black stamp: "J. F. M." [Lugt 3728]

on verso, stamp at upper left: [illegible]

**Provenance:**

Estate of the artist

Sale: Vente Veuve Millet, Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 24–25 April 1894 (per stamp)

(...)

Acquired by Hildebrand Gurlitt in France, c. 1942

By descent to Cornelius Gurlitt, Munich/Salzburg

From 6 May 2014: Estate of Cornelius Gurlitt

**Bibliographical reference:**

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[www.marquesdecollections.fr/detail.cfm/marque/11236/total/1](http://www.marquesdecollections.fr/detail.cfm/marque/11236/total/1) (6 July 2015)

**Primary sources:**

Business records Hildebrand Gurlitt:

Sale ledger 1937–41

28 May 1942

20 June 1942 [no. 139]

Correspondence Hildebrand Gurlitt:  
26 September 1947 [vol. 10, fol. 445; vol. 12, fol. 334]

Cornelius Gurlitt Papers, Salzburg:  
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National Archives, College Park, Maryland (NARA):  
Ardelia Hall Collection, Munich Collecting Point, 1945–1951. Statement Hildebrand Gurlitt, 26 September 1947  
[www.fold3.com/image/270055508/](http://www.fold3.com/image/270055508/)

Yad Vashem Archives, Jerusalem:  
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Folder Jean-François Millet [variant composition]

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Répertoire des Biens Spoliés

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Verzeichnis national wertvoller Kunstwerke ("Reichsliste von 1938")

Witt Library

**Note:**

The Millet drawings found in the Schwabing Art Trove are typical of his oeuvre during his residence near Fontainebleau, where he arrived in 1871. He concentrated on capturing the landscape and the humble inhabitants of this region.

The stamp "J F M" [Lugt 3728] indicates that the work was in the possession of Millet's widow and was auctioned after her death in 1894.

According to the extant sale ledgers, this was one of about forty works that Gurlitt claimed to have acquired from the art dealer Jean Lenthal in Paris on 20 June 1942. Research by the Taskforce revealed these to be false entries. Post-war correspondence between Gurlitt and Lenthal, which was found in Cornelius Gurlitt's Salzburg residence, proved that Gurlitt coerced Lenthal into issuing fake receipts for works that Lenthal never owned or sold. Gurlitt provided Lenthal with a statement to this effect in 1947.

Jean Lenthal (recte Hans Loewenthal, 1914 Vienna–1983 Paris) was an art dealer in Paris. On account of his Jewish descent, Lenthal was deported in 1943, first to Drancy and thereafter to Auschwitz, Sachsenhausen and Mauthausen concentration camps. After the liberation in 1945, Lenthal returned to live in Paris where he resumed his art dealership.

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