



Eugène Delacroix

Page de croquis, chasse à courre (Study, Mounted Hunt)

Pencil and watercolour on paper, 215 x 338 mm

on recto, lower right, inscribed in pencil: "Delacroix"

on verso, study of two Arab men; lower right, inscribed in pencil: "Delacroix"

Provenance:

By 1927: Baron Joseph Vitta (per cat. rais.)

(...)

(Probably acquired by Hildebrand Gurlitt in France in the 1940s)

By descent to Cornelius Gurlitt, Munich/Salzburg

From 6 May 2014: Estate of Cornelius Gurlitt

Bibliographical references:

Escholier, Raymond. *Delacroix: peintre, graveur, écrivain*, Paris: Henri Floury, 1927 [vol. 1, pl. 147]

Primary sources:

Business records Hildebrand Gurlitt – possible references:

Sales ledger 1937–41: 14 December 1938 [no. 65]

Imports & exports ledger: September 1941 [fol. J. 49]

17 June 1943 [fol. J. 72]

Cornelius Gurlitt Papers, Salzburg:

Photographs, no. 7.1_F712 [17 June 1943]

Seizure Inventory [Sicherstellungsverzeichnis], 2012, no. SV 41/131

Further sources consulted:

Exposition des œuvres d'Eugène Delacroix. Exh. cat., Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts, Paris, 1864.

Robaut, Alfred. *L'œuvre complet de Eugène Delacroix: peintures, dessins, gravures, lithographies, 1813–1863*. Paris: Charavay Frères, 1885.

- Eugène Delacroix*. Exh. cat., Salon Paul Cassirer, Berlin, 4 November–4 December 1907.
- Catalogue des tableaux modernes, aquarelles et dessins (...) provenant de la Collection V. [Vitta]*. Auct. cat., Hôtel Drouot, 27–28 June 1924.
- Von Delacroix bis Picasso: hundert Gemälde, Aquarelle und Zeichnungen französischer Meister des XIX. Jahrhunderts*, Exh. cat., Kunsthandlung Hugo Perls, Berlin, February–March 1925.
- Handzeichnungen moderner Meister (= Auktion XLVIII)*. Auct. cat., Paul Graupe, Berlin, 11–12 September 1925.
- Exposition Eugène Delacroix*. Exh. Cat., Musée du Louvre, June–July 1930.
- Roger-Marx, Claude. *Dessins et peintures des Maîtres du XIXe siècle à nos jours. Choix de cinquante dessins de Eugène Delacroix*, Paris: Braun, 1933.
- Catalogue des tableaux, aquarelles et dessins par Eugène Delacroix composant la collection M. Georges Aubry*. Auct. cat., Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 11 March 1933.
- Sérullaz, Maurice. *Dessins d'Eugène Delacroix: 1798–1863*. 2 vols. Paris: Réunion des musées nationaux, 1984.
- Delteil, Loys. *Delacroix: The Graphic Work: A Catalogue Raisonné*. 1st ed., Paris: self-publ., 1908; transl. and rev. by Susan Strauber, San Francisco: Alan Wofsy, 1997.
- Joseph Vitta: Passion de collection*, Exh. cat. Palais Lumière, Évian, 15 February–1 June 2014.

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:

The first known owner of this work was the banker Baron Joseph Vitta (1860 Lyon–1942 Le Breuil), an important patron of the arts and a collector with a particular interest in Delacroix. His collection was partially dispersed in a series of sales, including but not limited to an auction at the Hôtel Drouot in 1924.

Vitta, who was of Italian-Jewish descent, lived in Le Breuil (near Vichy) in the department of Allier from 1939. Vitta suffered increased anti-Semitic discrimination under the Vichy government, and died shortly after the German occupation of the French Free Zone 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_F712 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 17 June 1943. This document shows that the work was on the market in the 1940s in occupied France; there is a high probability that Gurlitt acquired the work during that period.

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