



# Jean-François Millet La récolte des pommes de terre (Peasants harvesting potatoes)

Pencil on paper, 145 x 225 mm on recto, lower right, signed in pencil: "J. F. M."

## **Provenance:**

(...)

Acquired by Hildebrand Gurlitt in France, c. 1942 By descent to Cornelius Gurlitt, Munich/Salzburg From 6 May 2014: Estate of Cornelius Gurlitt

## **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:

Correspondence, ref. no. in process [21 August 1947, 4 October 1947, 2 December 1947]

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/

Yad Vashem Archives, Jerusalem:

**International Tracing Service** 

Witt Library, London:

Folder Jean-François Millet [variant composition]

Seizure Inventory [Sicherstellungsverzeichnis], 2012, no. SV 41/44

#### Further sources consulted:

Catalogue de la vente aui aura lieu par suite du décés de Jean-François Millet. Auct. cat., Hotel Drôuot, Paris, 10–11 May 1875.

Sensier, Alfred. La vie et l'œuvre de Jean-François Millet. Paris: Quantin, 1881.

Cartwright, Julia. *Jean-François Millet: His Life and Letters*. London: Swan Sonnenschein and New York: The Macmillan Company, 1896.

Gensel, Walther. *Millet und Rousseau.* Vol. 57 of *Künstlermonographien.* Bielefeld: Velhagen & Klasing, 1902.

Peacock, Netta. Millet. London: Methuen, 1905.

Hoeber, Arthur. The Barbizon Painters. New York: The Mentor Association, 1914.

Moreau-Nélaton, Etienne. Millet: raconté par lui-même. Paris: Henri Laurens, 1921.

Graphik und Handzeichnungen des 19. und 20. Jahrhunderts (= Auktion 72). Auct. cat., Paul Graupe, Berlin, 5–7 May 1927.

Antiquitäten, Gemälde, modernes Mobiliar (= Katalog 2094). Auct. cat., Rudolph Lepke's Kunst-Auctions-Haus, Berlin, 1–2 November 1935.

Dessins de Jean-François Millet. Exh. cat., Musée du Louvre, Paris, 1960.

Mégret, Frédéric. "Millet: l'apôtre des paysans." In: Connaissance des Arts, no. 251, January 1973.

Bacou, Roseline. Millet: One Hundred Drawings. London: Harper & Row 1975.

Jean-François Millet. Exh. cat., Grand Palais, Paris, 1975.

Fermigier, André. Jean-François Millet. Geneva: Skira, 1979.

Murphy, Alexandra. Jean-François Millet. Boston: Little, Brown & Co, 1984.

Laughton, Bruce. The Drawings of Daumier and Millet. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1991.

Meyer, Andrea. "Zwischen Original und (Ver-)Fälschung: Werke von Jean-François Millet in deutschem Privatbesitz." In: *Geschmacksgeschichte(n): Öffentliches und privates Kunstsammeln in Deutschland 1871–1933*, ed. Ulrike Wolff-Thomsen and Sven Kuhrau. Kiel: Ludwig, 2011.

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")

## Note:

The drawings by Millet 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. A drawing with a similar composition at the Musée du Louvre.

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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