



Louis Carrogis, called Carmontelle

Portrait de Saint-Lambert (Portrait of Jean François de Saint Lambert)

Pencil and watercolour on cardboard, 332 x 237 mm

on verso, lower centre, inscribed in red pen: "19a"; lower right, inscribed in pencil: "no. [?] 30"

Provenance:

(...)

Le Comte Foy (per Cornelius Gurlitt Papers)

(...)

Roger Delapalme, Paris (per Cornelius Gurlitt Papers)

Acquired after February 1941: Hildebrand Gurlitt, Hamburg (per Cornelius Gurlitt Papers)

By descent to Cornelius Gurlitt, Munich/Salzburg

From 6 May 2014: Estate of Cornelius Gurlitt

Bibliographical reference:

Buffenoir, Hippolyte. *La Comtesse d'Houdetot; sa famille – ses amis*. Paris: Henri Leclerc, 1905. [p. 255 pl. VII]

Primary source:

Cornelius Gurlitt Papers, Salzburg:

Appraisal François Max-Kann, no. 12_1227 [25 February 1941]

Supplement List François Max-Kann ["Betr. Dr. Gurlitt"], reference no. in process [n.d.]

Seizure Inventory [Sicherstellungsverzeichnis], 2012, no. SV 41/146

Further sources consulted:

Gruyer, François Anatole. *Les portraits de Carmontelle*. Paris: Plon, 1902.

Tableaux modernes, tableaux anciens, dessins anciens par Carmontelle et Hubert Robert, objets d'art et d'ameublement. Auct. cat., Galerie Charpentier, Paris, 14 May 1935.

Collection de feu M. Dubois Chefdebien: première vente. Auct. cat., Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 18–19 December 1940.

Catalogue des tableaux anciens et modernes. Auct. cat., Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 18 December 1942.

Jardins en Île-de-France, dessins d'Oudry à Carmontelle: collection du Cabinet des Dessins du Musée de l'Île-de-France. Exh. cat., Musée de l'Île-de-France Sceaux, Orangerie du Château de Sceaux, Paris, 15 October–15 December 1990.

Les quatre saisons de Carmontelle: divertissement et illusion au siècle des Lumières. Exh. cat., Musée de l'Île-de-France Sceaux, Paris, 17 April–18 August 2008.

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 portrayed gentleman is the French poet, philosopher and military officer Jean François de Saint-Lambert (1716–1803), the lover of Sophie Comtesse d'Houdetot. The drawing is thought to have originated in the erstwhile collection of the Comte Foy, Houdetot's great-grandson.

It was later acquired by Roger Delapalme (1892 Paris–1969 Paris), the son of the public notary Pierre-Marie Delapalme. Roger Delapalme was professionally employed in the management of the Compagnie des Courtiers Jurés d'assurances, an insurance company, where he served first as Treasurer and then as Deputy Director. His wife Yvonne was the daughter of Henry Chabert, the director of the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas. The couple lived in Paris at 92, rue de Richelieu.

The extant papers of Cornelius Gurlitt contain an inventory of art works said to belong to Roger Delapalme of Paris, 65, rue La Boétie, as appraised by the art expert François Max-Kann in early 1941. This appraisal itemizes 40 lots (comprising a total of 44 artworks), including this Carmontelle drawing.

While the exact circumstances of the transaction are not yet known, it is most likely that Gurlitt acquired these works after February 1941, possibly through Max-Kann who may have acted as intermediary.

A smaller variant of this drawing, attributed to Carmontelle, was sold at Hôtel Drouot in Paris on 10 April 2008 (lot 93).

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