



Jean-François Millet

Peasant Woman leading her Cow

Pencil on paper, 199 x 137 mm

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

on verso, upper left, inscribed in pencil: "37"

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:

Lugt, Frits. *Les Marques de Collections de Dessins & d'Estampes*. 1st ed., Amsterdam: Vereenigde Drukkerijen, 1921; supplement, The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff, 1956. [no. L.3728]
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:
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 41/45

Further sources consulted:

Catalogue de la vente qui aura lieu par suite du décès de Jean-François Millet. Auct. cat., Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 10–11 May 1875.

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

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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”)
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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