

SIGNIFICANT COLLECTION OF A SOUTH GERMAN INDUSTRIALIST

Wide landscapes, colourful figure staffage, and social tavern scenes – it is those motives from 17th-century Dutch painting that mostly appealed to a South German industrialist and shaped this extraordinary private collection. Circa 40 masterworks from the Dutch Golden Age, but also outstanding paintings from the 19th century were assembled with great expertise.

The entrepreneur and art lover began following his passion in the 1920s and built up an important art collection in the subsequent years. He was supported by the renowned art historian Dr Walther Bernt, who could advise the collector especially on his specialty: the works of the Dutch masters from the 17th century. It is thus no surprise that the focus of the collection is on this area.

For three generations the collection has been family-owned. There were lived with in the rooms of a grand mansion. Almost all paintings – except for the entries in the relevant catalogue raisonnés – are unknown to the public and thus freshly enter the market.

Among the highlights of the Old Masters is Jan van Goyen's "Wirtshaus mit Aushängeschild" (Tavern with Figurehead"), which reached the collection in 1928, and Salomon van Ruysdael's "Landschaft mit Kühen" ("Landscape with Cows") dated 1642. The painting of the Antwerp painter Josse de Momper the Younger received a skilled iconographic deciphering during the research.

The list of the works offered reads like a "Who is Who" of 17th century art: Karel Dujardin, the Rembrandt student Gerbrand van den Eeckhout, Adran van Ostade, and Esaias van de Velde, to name only a few. Outstanding and style-defining artist are united in this collection. Paintings from the 18th century attracted the collector's interest. Significant names like Johann Conrad Seekatz, Christian Georg Schütz, Johann Friedrich August Tischbein, or Jan van Os bear witness to his high-quality standards.

There are also new known names among the artists from the 19th century. Cornelis Springer's "Winterliche Szene im Jüdischen Viertel in Amsterdam" ("Winter Scene in the Jewish Quarter of Amsterdam") from 1870 is especially outstanding. Further, there are extraordinary works by Carl Georg Adolph Hasenpflug and Johann Wilhelm Schirmer included in this private collection. The collector family had a particular passion for the Munich artist Heinrich Bürkel, two of whose paintings are offered as well. Others will follow in the second part of the auction for this collection.

We would like to thank art historians and experts for their profound and thorough support during the research on the objects in this collection. Each work of this collection was examined thoroughly concerning its provenance. This is why we would particularly like to thank those who dealt intensively with this complex provenance and restitution research.

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