



Attributed to Jacques Louis David

Female head study (recto)

Study of a male corpse, laid out on a carved bed (verso)

Red chalk and pencil on paper, 346 x 271 mm

on recto, lower right, paraph "ED" [Lugt 839]; lower left, round stamp "COLLECTION COUTAN HAUGUET SCHUBERT MILLIET" [Lugt 464]

on verso, pencil drawing of a lying male nude; upper right, inscribed in pencil "Louis David" [upside down]; lower right, inscribed in pencil: "195_98"

Provenance:

Eugène David (son of the artist) (per inscription)

(...)

Louis Joseph Auguste Coutan, Paris (per stamp)

Thence by descent within the extended family (Hauguet, Schubert and Milliet)

Possible sale: *Collection Coutan-Hauguet.*, Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 16–17 December 1889, lot 109 or 111

(...)

By latest 10 November 1989: Cornelius Gurlitt, Munich/Salzburg (per Gurlitt papers)

From 6 May 2014: Estate of Cornelius Gurlitt

Bibliographical references:

Vente après décès: Collection Coutan-Hauguet: Catalogue des tableaux, aquarelles, dessins (...). Auct. cat., Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 16–17 December 1889, lot 109 or 111. [An annotated copy available online: <http://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k1243198r.r=coutan%20hauguet> (11 July 2016)]

Lugt, Frits. *Les Marques de Collections de Dessins & d'Estampes*. 1st ed., Amsterdam: Vereenigde Drukkerijen, 1921; supplement, The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff, 1956. [no. 464]
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Primary source:

Hildebrand Gurlitt and Cornelius Gurlitt Papers:

Miscellaneous: BArch, N 1826/37, fol. 37. Cornelius Gurlitt packing list, 10 November 1989, item no. 32

Register of Salzburg works, 2014, no. Wien 95_98

Archives de Paris:

D42E3 74. Auctioneer M. Escribe, Procès-verbal, Vente Coutan-Hauguet, 16–17 December 1889

Further sources consulted (selected):

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Base Rose Valland MNR

Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris (Bibliothèque numérique "Gallica")

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

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Institut national d'histoire de l'art (French sale catalogues)

Lootedart.com

Lost Art

Musée des Arts-Décoratifs, Paris

Musée d'Orsay, Paris (Documentation de la conservation)

Musée du Louvre, Paris (Département des Arts graphiques)

Répertoire des Biens Spoliés

Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie, The Hague

Verzeichnis national wertvoller Kunstwerke ("Reichsliste von 1938")

Witt Library, London

Note:

This female portrait is most likely a preliminary study for David's painting *Bélisaire demandant l'aumône* (*Belisarius Begging for Alms*), now at the Palais des Beaux-Arts in Lille (inv. no. P436). The drawing on verso is thought to be a study for the painting *La douleur et les regrets d'Andromaque sur le corps d'Hector son mari* (*Andromache Mourning Hector*), now at the Musée du Louvre, Paris (inv. no. D.L. 1969-1).

This drawing originated in the collection of Louis Joseph Auguste Coutan, who died in 1830. His estate passed first to his widow (deceased 1838); then his brother-in-law Ferdinand Hauguet (deceased 1860); thence to Ferdinand's only son, Albert Hauguet; his widow; and ultimately to her siblings Jean Schubert and Madame Gustave Milliet. Some works were gifted to the Louvre in 1883, the remainder was dispersed at a sale in 1889. That sale included several female studies, many of which are not described in any detail, making it difficult to identify this work among the auction lots.

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