



**Northern German School, Late Sixteenth Century,  
Follower of Bartholomäus Spranger (possibly Hinrich Aldegrevor ?)  
Neptun und Coenis (Neptune and Coenis), c. 1600**

Oil on wood, 41 x 31.5 cm

on verso, upper left, typewritten label: "Bartholomäus Spranger. Anvers 1546–1627 Prag. Bilder von seiner Hand in allen grossen Museen der Welt. DM 850.-"; upper left, handwritten label: "1951/7", "Fot"; upper right, label: "613", "Regal 232"; centre left, inscribed in red and blue: "Wie 1951/7"; centre right, in black: "Aldegrevor"; lower left, in pencil: "Spranger"

**Provenance:**

(..)

Possible sale: Kunsthaus Heinrich Hahn, Frankfurt/Main, 16 April 1935, lot 57

(...)

Fr. G.. [?] (per auct. cat.)

Possible sale: Kunsthaus Heinrich Hahn, Frankfurt/Main, 25 June 1935, lot 104

(...)

By latest 1945: Hildebrand Gurlitt, Aschbach

1945–1950 Central Collecting Point Wiesbaden, no. WIE 1951/7

From 15 December 1950: Hildebrand Gurlitt, Dusseldorf

Thence by descent to Cornelius Gurlitt, Munich/Salzburg

From 6 May 2014: Estate of Cornelius Gurlitt

**Bibliographical references:**

*Sammlung F.M., Kleinkunst u.a.; Sammlung M.S. Gemälde, Keramik, Metallarbeiten; Barockmöbel aus einem gräflichen Hause u.a. Besitz, (= Auktion XLIII).* Auct. cat., Kunsthaus Heinrich Hahn, Frankfurt am Main, 16 April 1935. [lot 57, as *Poseidon and Amphitrite*]

*Gemälde, Plastik, Möbel, Kunstgewerbe, Perserteppiche (= Auktion XLIV).* Auct. cat., Kunsthaus Heinrich Hahn, Frankfurt/Main, 25 June 1935. [lot 104, as *Poseidon and Amphitrite*]

*Bartholomäus Spranger: Splendor and Eroticism in Imperial Prague.* Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, 4 November 2014–1 February 2015. [p. 284]

**Primary sources:**

Hildebrand Gurlitt and Cornelius Gurlitt Papers:

Seizure Inventory [Sicherstellungsverzeichnis], 2012, no. SV (Part 2)/136

National Archives, College Park, Maryland:

M1947, Wiesbaden Central Collecting Point, Property Card no. WIE 1951/7

[www.fold3.com/image/231952130/](http://www.fold3.com/image/231952130/) (23 July 2015)

Witt Library, London:

Folder Bartholomaeus Spranger [preliminary study]

**Further sources consulted:**

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Niederstein, Albrecht. *Das graphische Werk des Bartholomäus Spranger*. Berlin: de Gruyter, 1931.

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DaCosta Kaufmann, Thomas. *The School of Prague: Painting at the Court of Rudolf II*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1988.

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Albertina, Vienna (database)

Alinari Archives, Florence

Arthistoricum.net (German Sales 1901–1945)

Base Joconde

Base Rose Valland MNR

Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris (Bibliothèque numérique "Gallica")  
Bildarchiv Foto Marburg (Bildindex)  
bpk-Bildagentur  
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"  
Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek  
Europeana Collections, The Hague  
Galerie Heinemann Online  
Germanisches Nationalmuseum, Nuremberg  
Getty Provenance Index, German Sales Catalogs  
Herzog Anton Ulrich-Museum, Brunswick  
Hessisches Hauptstaatsarchiv Wiesbaden  
Heidelberger Digitale Bibliothek (Auktionskataloge; Heidelberger Historische Bestände)  
Institut für Stadtgeschichte, Frankfurt (Main)  
Kunsthhaus Zurich (database)  
Kunsthalle Bremen (database)  
Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna  
Kunstmuseum Basel (database)  
Kunstmuseum Luzern (database)  
Kunstmuseum Winterthur (database)  
Landesgeschichtliches Informationssystem Hessen (LAGIS)  
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Lost Art  
Musée du Louvre, Documentation générale  
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Museum Folkwang, Essen (database)  
Národní Galerie, Prague  
National Archives, London (Image Library)  
Répertoire des Biens Spoliés  
Rheinisches Bildarchiv, Cologne  
Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie, The Hague  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (Archives)  
Verzeichnis national wertvoller Kunstwerke ("Reichsliste von 1938")  
Westfälisches Landesmuseum, Muenster

**Note:**

The traditional attribution of this work to Bartholomaeus Spranger, the Flemish artist and painter to the imperial court in Prague, is doubtful.

The work is thought instead to have been executed by an anonymous artist of the Northern Renaissance, after an engraving of 1580 by Johannes Sadeler the Elder. Sadeler's engraving was based on a Spranger painting of about 1578. That painting, now lost, is probably identical to no. 1214 in the 1621 inventory of the imperial collection of Prague, for which a preliminary drawing

survives. One possible attribution is the artist Hinrich Aldegrever, as per the obliterated inscription on verso.

The label "Regal 232" (on frame verso) indicates the painting's specific location in the storage facilities of the Wiesbaden Central Collecting Point in the immediate post-war period.

The original report on the provenance of this work, as submitted to the Task Force Schwabing Art Trove, was made accessible online at [www.taskforce-kunstfund.de](http://www.taskforce-kunstfund.de) as of 14 January 2016. That report was updated by the Gurlitt Provenance Research Project on 1 August 2018.

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