



### School of Rembrandt

#### Hermit before a Cross

Oil on panel, 34.3 x 24.8 cm

on verso, frame, upper left, illegible inscription in blue; centre right, inscribed in pencil: "Wappensiegel: Herzog v. Orléans"; lower right, inscribed in pencil: "32 x 24"

on panel, upper left, handwritten label: "Staveren, Jan van Leiden um 1625–nach 1668 Leidener Fein und Genremaler. Lesende und betende Einsiedler und Greise in Höhlen oder abgestorbenen Bäumen sind sein Stoffgebiet Walther Bernt Holl. Maler d 17e Jahrh. Blz 786."; underneath the label, inscribed in black ink: "Mo[...]"; second white label: "DM 1 100.-"; centre left, inscribed in black ink: "original article IXI"; centre, red seal wax with a crown and three Fleurs-de-Lis [Dukes of Orléans]; lower right, white label: "Jan van Staveren (Leiden um 1625–Leiden 1668 oder 1669) Eremit. Öl auf Eichenholz. Auf der Rückseite das Siegel des Herzogs von Orléans. Aufschrift (Tinte) "Original article I X I" Das Bild ist durch überscharfe Reinigung beschädigt. So fehlt der Stich an der Wand"

#### Provenance:

(...)

Duke of Orléans ?

(...)

1937: Eduardo Lucas de la Peña Moreno, Paris (per RKD Friedländer)

(...)

Hildebrand Gurlitt

Thence by descent: Private Collection, South Germany

#### Primary sources:

Hildebrand Gurlitt and Cornelius Gurlitt Papers:

Photographs: BArch, N 1826 Bild-2130 [January 1981]

BArch, N 1826 Bild-1655 [=12.1\_F1247], [n.d.]

Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie, The Hague:

Folder 550 Rembrandt, file 12

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Lost Art

Ministère des Affaires étrangères, Archives diplomatiques, Paris

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Musée du Petit Palais, Paris (Documentation Marianne Roland-Michel)

National Archives, College Park, Maryland

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Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie, The Hague (Max Friedländer Notebook)

Verzeichnis national wertvoller Kunstwerke ("Reichsliste von 1938")

Witt Library, London

#### Note:

Expert opinion suggests that this work was not executed by Jan Adriaensz van Staveren but by the School of Rembrandt. A corresponding picture card from the Friedländer photo archive was found at the Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie. The information on the card mentions the Spanish art dealer Eduardo Lucas de la Peña Moreno (1902–1946) and the year 1937. It has not proven possible yet to establish when and from whom Gurlitt or Lucas Moreno acquired the work. Among the personal papers found in Cornelius Gurlitt's Salzburg home is a collection of about 2400 photographs of artworks. Photograph no. 12.1\_F1247, is a reproduction of this work; inscribed on verso, "P. Boer" [?] and other illegible remarks.

The red wax seal on verso bears the coat of arms of the Dukes of Orléans, which were in use in that composition from the 14th until the 19th century.

An interior shot of the family residence in Southern Germany, dating from 1981, shows the artwork on display.

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