Giovanni Antonio Canal, called Canaletto
Santa Giustina in Prà della Valle, Padua (The Prato della Valle with Santa Giustina in Padua), second half of 18th century

Etching on paper, paper: 409 x 548 mm (etching: 297 x 427 mm)
in the plate, lower left, signed and inscribed: “A. Canal f.”; towards centre: “S. Giustina in Prà della Valle”
on verso, centre right, inscribed in pencil: “Canalet”, “A de Vesme”, “BMB”
watermarks at left and right

Provenance:
(…)
By latest 2012: Cornelius Gurlitt, Munich/Salzburg
From 6 May 2014: Estate of Cornelius Gurlitt

Bibliographical references:
Bromberg, Ruth. Canaletto’s Etchings: A catalogue and study illustrating and describing the known states, including those hitherto unrecorded. London: Sotheby Parke Bernet, 1974. [no. 7, fig. VI]

Primary sources:
Hildebrand Gurlitt and Cornelius Gurlitt Papers:
Seizure Inventory [Sicherstellungsverzeichnis], 2012, no. SV 32/8

Hildebrand Gurlitt and Cornelius Gurlitt Papers – possible reference:
Correspondence: BArch, N 1826/178, fol. 53 [=vol. 6, fol. 320]. Letter from Magdalene Haberstock, 18 December 1945

21 September 2017 (interim results)
Further sources consulted:

- 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, The Hague
- Verzeichnis national wertvoller Kunstwerke (“Reichsliste von 1938”)
- Witt Library, London

Note:

Canaletto executed a panoramic view of the square of Prato della Valle, divided into two separate plates. This work constitutes the left half of this composition, with the Basilica of Santa Giustinia at left.

This etching was printed in an edition of unknown size. Owing to the fact that this sheet does not bear the inscription “E2” at the lower right (the mark of the second state), it is assumed that this particular impression is of the first state.

In-depth research by the Task Force has shown the possible provenance that was tentatively assigned to the artwork in the course of its seizure, and later published on Lostart.de, to be erroneous.

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 as of 14 January 2016. That report was updated by the Gurlitt Provenance Research Project on 21 September 2017.

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