



Tote Stadt III (Dead City III)
Schiele, Egon

Measures: 14 5/8 x 11 3/4" (37.1 x 29.9 cm).
Inventorynumber by Jane Kallir: 213

Description:

As per Otto Nirenstein, Egon Schiele, Persönlichkeit und Werk, Paul Zsolnay Verlag, 1930: Die Tote Stadt I

Häuserblock, der von einem tiefblauen Fluß von drei Seiten umflossen wird

Höhe 37,1 cm, Breite 29,9 cm Holz

Sign.: Egon Schiele 1911 (eingekratzt)

As per Jane Kallir: Egon Schiele, The Complete Works, New York, 1998: No:213

Dead City III (City on the Blue River III) Tote Stadt III (Stadt am blauen Fluss III)

Nirenstein 94 Kallir 140 Leopold 182

Oil and gouache on wood. Signed and dated, upper right. Inscribed „Tote Stadt“ by another hand, verso. 14 5/8 x 11 3/4" (37.1 x 29.9 cm). Rudolf Leopold

Provenance:

As per Otto Nirenstein, Egon Schiele, Persönlichkeit und Werk, Paul Zsolnay Verlag, 1930:

Owner: Fritz Grümbaum, Wien

Slg. Dr. Alfred Spitzer

THE LOST COLLECTION OF FRITZ GRÜNBAUM

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Privat property, Vienna

As per Jane Kallier: Egon Schiele, The Complete Works, New York, 1998:

Acquired from the artist; Arthur Roessler; Alfred Spitzer; Fritz Grünbaum; Gutekunst & Klipstein, Bern; Galerie St. Etienne, New York

Provenance as per Research Database Leopoldmuseum, 2010:

Before 1918 Arthur Rössler (Acquired from the artist); (1)

Alfred Spitzer, (3.December 1861, Friedeck, Silesia - 26.April 1923, Vienna); (2)

(1939) Franz Friedrich Grünbaum (pseudonym: Fritz Grünbaum), Vienna (7.April 1880-14.January 1941);(3)

1941 Elisabeth Grünbaum, Vienna, (28.4.1898-10.10.1942);

[Elisabeth Grünbaum was - according to a testament which was presented 1954 on the occasion of to file a petition to the declaration of death- residuary legatee of Franz Friedrich Grünbaum.] (4)

Mathilde Lukacs, Vienna, afterwards (from approximately 1946) Brussels; [Mathilde Lukacs nee Herzl (30.September 1883-15.December 1979) was a sister of Elisabeth Grünbaum, nee Herzl.]

1956 Klipstein & Kornfeld, Bern (Purchase of Mathilde Lukacs); (5)

1956 Otto Kallir, Gallery St. Etienne, New York (Purchase of Klipstein & Kornfeld, Bern, Sales exhibition, 8. September - 6.October 1956);

1958 Private collection Rudolf Leopold, Vienna (By way of exchange from Otto Kallir, Gallery St. Etienne, New York); (6)

1994 Leopold Museum (Foundation).

[Early in 1998 the painting became seized by the office of the district attorney after an exhibition in New York. In September 1999 the confiscation became lifted and the painting returned to Vienna].

Decision Comission Michalek (based on Dossier Fritz Grünbaum, provenance research bm:ukk), 2011: Were these paintings national property, and were the Art Restitution Act Fed. Law Gazette I 1998/181 as amended by Fed. Law Gazette I 2007/117 applicable, an actus reus pursuant to section 1 par. 1 of the Art Restitution Act could not be identified on the basis of the materials available to the commission.

The law firm of Dunnington Bartholow & Miller LLP is leading efforts to recover Fritz Grünbaum's stolen art collection on behalf of his heirs. On August 4, 2016, Justice Charles Ramos (Supreme Court, New York County) in a case captioned *Reif v. Nagy* permitted the heirs' claims to proceed against London art dealer Richard Nagy and denied the application of the art title insurance company ARIS to intervene in the action. This case is currently proceeding. In 2014, as commemorated in a ceremony featuring former District Attorney Robert Morgenthau at the Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial To The Holocaust, Dunnington negotiated the restitution and auction of Schiele's *Town on the Blue River* at Christie's auction house in a very successful sale. The high auction price shows that it pays to do the right thing. The heirs would appreciate any information about the artworks stolen from Fritz Grünbaum while he was in the Dachau Concentration Camp and would appreciate any persons of good faith voluntarily stepping forward to return these artworks. The heirs call on art historians and experts in the museum community to have the courage to release scholarly reports on the stolen items in museum collections and to call on the governments of Austria and the United States to work towards taking these stolen artworks out of museum collections.