



Zentralinspektor Benesch (Chief Inspector Benesch)
Egon Schiele

Measures: 18 x 11 1/2 " (45.7 x 29.3 cm)
Inventorynumber by Jane Kallir: 2098

Description:

As per Gute Kunst und Klippstein, Catalogue, Auction № 57 from 1956: Nr. 43

Zentralinspektor Benesch. Schwarze Kreide u. Tempera. 37,5:23,5 cm.

Ausdrucksvolle Porträtstudie. Kopf und Hände ganz ausgeführt und von wunderbarer Farbigkeit. Auf glattem Maschinenpapier. Voll signiert und «1917» datiert. Der Dargestellte ist der Vater des Direktors der Albertina Otto Benesch und einer der frühesten Sammler von Schiele.

As per Jane Kallir: Egon Schiele, The Complete Works 1998, New York: №:2098

Chief Inspector Benesch, Zentralinspektor Benesch

Gouache, watercolor, and black crayon. Signed and dated, lower right. (45.7 x 29.3 cm).

Comments: Schiele apparently began this series of studies of Benesch at the end of July 1917 after the latter returned from a trip (Nebehay, 1979, #1238). The artist had painted Benesch with his son Otto in 1913 (P. 250). See: D. 2099—2101. Related to: P. 308

As per Archiv Neue Galerie Nr. 324/84:

Alter Mann mit angelegtem braunem und grünem Anzug. 1917. - 46 x 29 1/2

Provenance:

THE LOST COLLECTION OF FRITZ GRÜNBAUM

www.collectiongruenbaum.com

As per Archive Neue Galerie Nr. 324/84:

1928 in possession of Fritz Grünbaum

As per Correspondence Kornfeld/Bratschi (handed over by Thomas Buomberger Delivery to Bern by M. Lukacs, April 24th 1956 for purchase (May 22nd, 1956): BookkeepingNr. 36769

The law firm of Dunnington Bartholow & Miller LLP is leading efforts to recover Fritz Grunbaum'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 Grunbaum 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.