



François Bonvin

Nature morte au bocal de cerises (Still Life with Jar of Cherries), 1885

Oil on canvas, 40.2 x 31.5 cm

on recto, signed and dated lower right: "F. Bonvin 1885"

on verso, frame, upper left, inscribed in blue: "X"; upper right, inscribed in pencil: "U.A.A.A."; lower right, illegible inscription; lower right, inscribed in white chalk: "1271"

stretcher, upper right, old label: "French Gallery F. Bonvin No. 22639"; centre stretcher bar, label: "Kunsthandel Huinck & Scherjon N.V. Amsterdam – Heerengracht 469 No. 1574 F. Bonvin 'Bocal de cerises'", inscribed in pencil on label: "1800.-"; lower right, inscribed in pencil: "1554"; typewritten label: "François Bonvin (Vaugirard 1817–St-Germain-en-Laye 1887) Stilleben 'Einmachglas mit Kirschen' Signiert und datiert 'F. Bonvin 1885'"

on canvas, upper left, inscribed in grey: "2387"

Provenance:

Galerie Gustave Tempelaere, Paris (per inscription)

(...)

1926/1927?: The French Gallery, London (per label and exh. cat.)

(...)

By latest 15 October 1938: Huinck & Scherjon, Amsterdam (per exh. cat.)

By latest 13 September 1944: Hildebrand Gurlitt, acquired from the above (per Möller archive)

Thence by descent: Private Collection, South Germany

Exhibitions:

Exposition de tableaux et de dessins par François Bonvin, Galerie D. Rothschild, Paris, 10–31 May 1886.

Nederlandsche- en Fransche Kunst, Kunsthandel Huinck & Scherjon, Amsterdam, 15 October–15 November 1938. [no. 2, as *Bocal de cerises*, ill.]

Bibliographical reference:

Weisberg, Gabriel. *Bonvin*. Paris: Ed. Geoffrey-Dechaume, 1979. [no. 181, ill.]

Primary Sources:

Hildebrand Gurlitt and Cornelius Gurlitt Papers:

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

Berlinische Galerie:

Archive Ferdinand Möller, nos. BG-GFM-C,II 2,503-2,504 and BG-GFM-C,II 1,532

Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie, The Hague:

Folder 3 Bonvin, file 1

Further sources consulted:

Catalogue de tableaux modernes, aquarelles et dessins parmi lesquels 32 tableaux importants de Bonvin [...]. Auct. cat., Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 9 March 1888.

Catalogue of [...] Modern Pictures and Water-colour Drawings of Mr. Henry Wallis [...]. Auct. cat., Christie, Manson & Woods, London, 21 and 23 February 1891; 20–21 November 1891; 4 March 1892; 17–18 March 1893.

Catalogue de tableaux, aquarelles et dessins par Bonvin. Auct. cat., Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 14 December 1893.

Annuaire de la curiosité et des beaux-arts et de la bibliophilie, vols. 1911–1914, 1920, 1922, 1924–1940.

Works by British & Foreign Artists. Exh. cat., The French Gallery, London, October 1926. [possibly no. 11, as *F. Bonvin, Still life*]

Pictures and Drawings by British and Foreign Artists. Exh. cat., The French Gallery, London, April 1927. [possibly no. 3 or no. 5, as *F. Bonvin, Nature Morte*]

Moreau-Nelaton, Étienne. *Bonvin: Raconté par lui-même*. Paris: Laurens, 1927.

Les ventes de tableaux, aquarelles, gouaches, dessins, miniatures à l'Hôtel Drouot. Vol. October 1940–July 1941, Paris: self-publ., 1941.

Les ventes de tableaux, aquarelles, gouaches, dessins, miniatures à l'Hôtel Drouot. Vol. September 1941–July 1942. Paris: self-publ., 1942.

Les ventes de tableaux, aquarelles, gouaches, dessins, miniatures à l'Hôtel Drouot. Vol. September 1942–July 1943. Paris: self-publ., 1943.

Maas, Jeremy. *Gambart Prince of the Victorian Art World*. London: Barrie & Jenkins, 1975.

Berès, Anisabelle. *François Bonvin: 1817–1887*. Paris: Galerie Berès, 1998.

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Archives Nationales, Paris

Bildarchiv Foto Marburg (Bildindex)

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”
Database “Sonderauftrag Linz”
Galerie Brame & Lorenceau, Paris (Archives)
Getty Provenance Index, German Sales Catalogs
Herkomst Gezocht
Lootedart.com
Lost Art
Ministère des Affaires étrangères, Archives diplomatiques, Paris
Musée du Louvre, Documentation générale
Musée d’Orsay, Paris (Documentation de la conservation)
National Archives, College Park, Maryland
Répertoire des Biens Spoliés
Verzeichnis national wertvoller Kunstwerke (“Reichsliste von 1938”)
Witt Library, London

Note:

The number “2387” on verso of the canvas most likely refers to the stock number of the art dealership Gustave Tempelaere, Paris who was Bonvin’s main dealer after 1877.

Due to the lack of business papers or annotated auction catalogues, it has not been possible to identify when exactly the work was exhibited by The French Gallery, London or who the buyer/seller was.

The provenance given in Weisberg’s catalogue raisonné for Bonvin has proven to be erroneous as the gallery of Huinck & Scherjon was liquidated in 1955 and the work is illustrated in the exhibition catalogue of 1938.

According to archival material preserved at the Berlinische Galerie, fellow art dealer Ferdinand Möller had the work in storage from ca. September 1944–October 1947 for Hildebrand Gurlitt who had acquired the painting from Huinck & Scherjon, Amsterdam.

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

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