

Albert von Keller, Künstler/-in (*27.4.1844 Gais, +16.7.1920 München)



Title	Akt am Strand / Abend
Also known as	Nude on the Beach / Evening
Date	1874
Medium	Oil on panel
Dimensions	image: 22.5 x 49.5 cm
Signature	inscr. u. r.: Albert Keller 1874; b. l.: Bonicella B.
Inscription	-
Catalogue raisonné	-
Edition / number	-
Edition	-
Inv. No.	2009/0028
Credit line	Kunsthau Zürich, «Um 1940 von den Nationalsozialisten aus der Sammlung Jean und Ida Baer geraubt, 2012 aufgrund einer Übereinkunft mit den Erben und der Schenkung von Hannelore Müller erworben».
Accession year	2007
Object type	painting
Classification	C 1[1] painting 19th century CHE
Description	-
Provenance	Albert von Keller (*1844 Gais, +1920 München) (Künstler/-in) o.D. – 10.2.1919, Karl Haberstock (*1878 Augsburg, +1956 München) (Kunsthändler/-in), Berlin ab 1919 – höchstens bis 5.1939, Jean und Ida Baer (Sammler/in), Berlin 5.1939 – 8.1942, Verlust durch die nationalsozialistische Judenverfolgung Verbleib unbekannt o.D. – 9.1972, Klaus und Dorothea von Keller 9.1972 – 1994, Oskar A. Müller (*1899 Chur, +1994 Zürich) (Sammler/-in), Kauf 1994 – 2007, Hannelore Müller-Behrendt (*1930, +2013) (Sammler/-in), Nachlass ab 2007, Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft Kunsthau Zürich (Museum), Zürich, Geschenk ab 2012, Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft Kunsthau Zürich (Museum), Zürich, gütliche Einigung mit den Erben Jean und Ida Baer
Provenance category	-

About the provenance

In 2009, the Kunsthaus staged an exhibition on the work of Albert von Keller to mark a major gift of his paintings from the estate of the Zurich art collector Oskar A. Müller in 2007. On the basis of the catalogue compiled for the exhibition, external experts established that two of the paintings in the gift, the work 'Madame la Suire' (AvK 238) and the work discussed here, 'Nude on the Beach / Evening,' could be looted art. The Kunsthaus reviewed the evidence and, when the suspicions were confirmed, offered to return the works to the original owners' heirs or purchase it from them. Alfred von Keller's 'Nude on a Beach / Evening' had been in the collection of the Berlin commercial judge and merchant Jean Baer since 1919. When he died in 1930, his widow Ida Baer inherited the art collection. After the National Socialists came to power, Ida Baer was collectively persecuted as a Jew. Between 1939 and her deportation in August 1942 to the concentration camp Theresienstadt, the trace of the art collection is lost. Ida Baer was murdered in Theresienstadt in 1942. In 2012, with the help of Hannelore Müller's donation, the work was legally acquired on the basis of an agreement with the heirs.

The second work, 'Madame la Suire,' was once owned by the Jewish art collector Alfred Sommerguth. The work turned out to have been compulsorily auctioned by the Nazi authorities in Berlin a few months before the outbreak of the Second World War. However, the heirs of Alfred Sommerguth generously decided to donate the oil painting to the Kunsthaus, merely requesting that a notice to this effect be placed by the work when it is exhibited. (State of research 21.12.2021)

Literature

- Albert von Keller. Salon, Séancen, Secession, hrsg. von Gian Casper Bott, Ausst.-Kat. Kunsthaus Zürich, München: Hirmer, 2009, No. 23, S. 35.