

KUNSTHAUS ZÜRICH

Meindert Hobbema, artist (*Oktober 1638 Amsterdam, +7.12.1709 Amsterdam)



Title	Bauernhäuser unter Bäumen
Also known as	Farmhouses under Trees Landschaft [historisch] Landschaft mit Bäumen und Häusern [historisch]
Date	1665
Medium	Oil on oak panel
Dimensions	image: 60.5 x 84.5 cm
Signature	inscr. b. r.: m. Hobbema . / fec 1665
Inscription	-
Catalogue raisonné	-
Edition / number	-
Edition	-
Inv. No.	R 14
Credit line	Kunsthau Zürich, The Ruzicka Foundation, 1948
Accession year	1948
Object type	painting
Classification	B 1[2] painting 16th to 18th century BEL and NLD
Description	-
Provenance	Meindert Hobbema (*1638 Amsterdam, +1709 Amsterdam) (Künstler/-in) Verbleib unbekannt o.D. – 1.6.1833, George Vivian (*1798, +1873) (Sammler/-in), London 1.6.1833, Christie's London (Auktion), London, Lot 97 Verbleib unbekannt spätestens ab 1835 – 1848, Charles Heusch (*1775, +1848) (Sammler/-in), London 1848 – mindestens bis 1854, Frederick Heusch (*1809, +1870) (Sammler/-in), Nachlass 1855 – 1911, Lionel von Rothschild (*1808 London, +1879 London) (Sammler/-in), London, Kauf spätestens ab 1911 – 31.1.1918, Alfred Charles de Rothschild (*1842 London, +1918) (Sammler/-in), London, Nachlass frühestens ab 31.1.1918 – 28.1.1942, Lionel Nathan von Rothschild (*1882 London, +1942 London) (Sammler/-in), London, Nachlass frühestens ab 28.1.1942 – 4.1942, Edmund Leopold de Rothschild (*1916 London,

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+2009) (Sammler/-in), London, Nachlass
4.1942 – o.D., Claude Partridge (*1905, +1958) (Sammler/-in), London, Kauf
[Verbleib unbekannt?]
o.D. – 11.9.1947, Nathan Katz (*1893 Dieren, +1949) (Kunsthändler/-in), Basel
11.9.1947 – 27.12.1948, Leopold Ruzicka (*1887 Vukovar, +1976 Mammern) (Sammler/-in), Zürich, Kauf
27.12.1948 – 2005, Ruzicka-Stiftung (Sammlung), Zürich, Übertragung
1949 – 2005, Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft | Kunsthaus Zürich (Museum), Zürich, Leihgabe
ab 2005, Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft | Kunsthaus Zürich (Museum), Zürich, Geschenk

Provenance category C – The provenance from 1933 to 1945 has not been conclusively clarified; gaps in the ownership history remain. According to current research, there is no evidence of Nazi-looted art. There are, however, implications of Nazi-looted art and / or conspicuous circumstances.

About the provenance This painting by Meindert Hobbema comes from the collection of the Nobel Prize winner and art collector Leopold Ruzicka, from which it was donated to the Kunsthaus Zürich in 2005. From 1855 to 1942, it was owned by the branch of the Jewish Rothschild banking family that was resident in England. Following the death of the British banker and politician Lionel Rothschild in 1942, the prestigious art collection passed to his son Edmund de Rothschild, who sold some of the works in order to pay inheritance tax. An inventory of the collection notes that the Hobbema painting was sold in 1942 to the London-based collector Claude Partridge. It is then documented in 1947 as being with the art dealer Nathan Katz in Basel. Research has revealed that Katz and Partridge worked together. It can therefore be assumed that there was a direct transfer of ownership between them. However, there is no unambiguous evidence for this. The possibility that it constitutes cultural property confiscated as a result of Nazi persecution cannot therefore currently be ruled out. (State of research 30.06.2023)

Literature

- Kunsthaus Zürich. Gesamtkatalog der Gemälde und Skulpturen, hrsg. von Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft et al., Sammlungskatalog, Ostfildern: Hatje Cantz, 2007, S. 110.
- Gemälde der Ruzicka-Stiftung (Text: L. Ruzicka), Ausst.-Kat. Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich: Kunsthaus Zürich, 1949, No. 14.
- Horst Gerson: «En Hobbema van 1665», in: Kunsthistorische Mededelingen van het Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie 2, 1947, S. 43-47, No. 3-4.
- Landschaften. Orte der Malerei, hrsg. von Philippe Büttner, Ausst.-Kat. Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich, 2020, No. 21.
- Meisterwerke holländischer Landschaftsmalerei des 17. Jahrhunderts, Ausst.-Kat. Wallraf-Richartz-Museum Köln, Köln, 1954, No. 12, ill. No. 7.