

Painting Lost Due to Nazi Persecution to be Auctioned at Dorotheum

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Domenico Pennacchini, *In the Wine Cellar*

London. A painting by the heirs of Czech textile factory owners was recovered and will be auctioned at the Dorotheum auction house in Vienna on 7 December. *In the Wine Cellar* by Italian artist Domenico Pennacchini (1860 – 1910) was spotted by Sage Recovery for sale at the Dorotheum in May 2009. Researchers sent the Dorotheum a copy of the photograph from a family album and experts at the Dorotheum agreed that the photograph matched the Pennacchini watercolour that was up for sale.

The painting belonged to Max and Irma Sborowitz, who owned a large textile factory in Czechoslovakia which made the coats for the Czech Army during World War I. The Sborowitz's acquired a glorious collection of 19th and 20th century paintings and drawings from artists throughout Europe. They fled Czechoslovakia in 1939 after being warned by neighbours that the Gestapo were looking for them. One of the possessions that the Sborowitz's escaped with included a photo album of their collection of over 150 works of art.

The watercolour will go on sale on 7 December and is valued at 2000 – 2500 Euros. Shauna Isaac, Managing Director of Sage Recovery said, "I'm delighted that we were able to come to an agreement with the Dorotheum and the vendor in such a quick and amicable manner. The Sborowitz family has been looking for their missing art collection for several years and are happy that some of the works are beginning to resurface."

About Sage Recovery

Sage Recovery helps to recover objects that were looted during the Nazi regime and increase public awareness about this subject.

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For a high-resolution version of this image, go to www.sagerecovery.com/looted-art/press/pennacchini-highres.jpg

