

## Edgar Degas

*Avant le départ*, ca. 1878/80

Oil on canvas, 39.5 x 89 cm

Signed lower left

Lemoisne no. 503



### Provenance

Durand-Ruel, Paris (1) • Earl F. Milliken, London (before 1902) (2) • Mme Alexandre Rosenberg, Paris (3) • Paul Rosenberg, Paris (by 1924) (4) • Confiscated by the "Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg", Paris (ERR no. PR 142), and turned over to Hermann Göring (14 September 1941) (5) • Traded to Galerie Fischer, Lucerne, in exchange for works of art (April 1942) (6) • Purchased by Emil Bührle, Zurich (18 April 1942) (7) • Restituted to Paul Rosenberg, New York (23 June 1948) (8) • Repurchased from Paul Rosenberg by Emil Bührle, Zurich (21 June 1949; with Bührle until [d.] 28 November 1956) (9) • Given by the heirs of Emil Bührle to the Foundation E.G. Bührle Collection, Zurich, no. 34 (1960).

- (1) Lemoisne no. 503.
- (2) *Catalogue of Mr. E. F. Milliken's Private Collection of Valuable Paintings*, (sale cat.) American Art Association, New York (7 February 1902), no. 12; *Catalogue of Important Pictures Chiefly of the Dutch and Barbizon Schools*, (sale cat.) Christie's, London (16 May 1903), no. 137.
- (3) Archive Paul Rosenberg Gallery, New York, Inventory Card no. 765, Degas, "Chevaux de courses".
- (4) Son of the above, *Exposition Degas, Peintures, pastels et dessins, sculptures, eaux-fortes, lithographies et monotypes*, Galerie Georges Petit, Paris 1924, no. 44.
- (5) Nancy H. Yeide, *Beyond the Dreams of Avarice, The Hermann Goering Collection*, Dallas 2009, no. D28.
- (6) Yeide, as above, n. (5); Esther Tisa Francini etc., *Fluchtgut, Raubgut, Der Transfer von Kulturgütern in und über die Schweiz 1933–1945 und die Frage der Restitution*, Unabhängige Expertenkommission Schweiz–Zweiter Weltkrieg (ed.), Zurich 2001, pp. 106 (n. 267), 286 (n. \*3), 347 (n. 87), 509.
- (7) Tisa Francini, as above, n. (6).
- (8) ASTEGB, Swiss Federal Court, Kammer zur Beurteilung von Raubgutklagen, Verdict of 23 June 1948 (Typoscript), regarding request for restitution of artworks by Paul Rosenberg vs. various defendants (including Bührle), ordering the restitution of the claimed works, including Degas, *Jockeys [Avant le départ]*.
- (9) AStEGB, Letter (handwritten) from Paul Rosenberg, Paris, to Emil Bührle, 21 June 1949, confirming the retrocession of the painting for \$ 30.000; Invoice from Paul Rosenberg, New York, made out to Emil Bührle, 6 July 1949, with detailed information regarding provenance, references and exhibition history; Letter from Florence Walters, Paul Rosenberg & Co., New York, to Emil Bührle, 8 May 1950, announcing shipment of 4 paintings, including Degas, "Chevaux de courses".

### Exhibitions

*First Annual Exhibition*, Carnegie Art Galleries [Institute], Pittsburgh 1896–97, no. 87. • *Peintres français du XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle*, Galerie Knoedler, London 1923, no. 16. • *Exposition Degas, Peintures, pastels et dessins, sculptures, eaux-fortes, lithographies et monotypes*, Galerie Georges Petit, Paris 1924, no. 44. • *Exhibition of Important Paintings by Great French Masters of the Nineteenth Century*, Paul Rosenberg & Durand-Ruel (Durand-Ruel Galleries), New York 1934, no. 14. • *Degas 1834–1917*, Philadelphia Museum of Art 1936, no. 29. • *Degas*, Rosenberg & Helft, London 1937, no. 4. • *La peinture française au XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle*, Musée du Prince Paul, Belgrade 1939, no. 42. • *Europäische Kunst 13.–20. Jahrhundert aus Zürcher Sammlungen*, Kunsthaus Zurich 1950, p. 26. • *Degas*, Kunstmuseum Bern 1951–52, no. 26. • *Edgar Degas*, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam 1952, no. 17. • *Europäische Meister 1790–1910*, Kunstmuseum Winterthur 1955, no. 65. • *1896–1955, Retrospective Exhibition of Paintings from Previous Internationals*, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh 1958–59, no. 2. • *Degas*, Fondation Pierre Gianadda, Martigny 1993, no. 19. • *Degas e gli italiani a Parigi*, Palazzo dei Diamanti, Ferrara 2003, no. 59; *Edgar Degas and the Italians in Paris*, National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh 2003–04, fig. 20. • *Degas, Classico e moderno*, Complesso del Vittoriano, Rome 2004–05, no. 39. • *Degas*, Yokohama Museum of Art, Yokohama 2010–11.

The information presented on this website reflects ongoing research and may be revised and updated at any time.

## References

Georges Grappe, in *L'Art et le Beau* (3/1) 1909, p. 6 (ill.). • Paul Lafond, *Degas*, vol. 1, Paris 1918, p. 16 (ill.). • Henri Hertz, *Degas*, Paris 1920, p. 26. • Julius Meier-Graefe, *Degas, Ein Beitrag zur Entwicklungsgeschichte der modernen Malerei*, Munich 1920, fig. 54 top (<sup>2</sup>1924, fig. 35 top). • Paul-André Lemoisne, "Artistes contemporains, Edgar Degas, A propos d'une exposition récente", in *Revue de l'art* (46) 1924, p. 95 (ill.). • Georges Grappe, *Degas*, Paris 1936, p. 27 (ill.). • *Degas*, (exh. cat.) Orangerie des Tuileries, Paris 1937, p. 37. • Paul-André Lemoisne, *Degas et son œuvre*, vol. 2, *Peintures et pastels 1853–1882, Notices et reproductions du no. 1 au no. 716bis*, Paris 1946, no. 503 (ill.; <sup>2</sup>New York 1984). • Y. Shinoda, *Der Einzug des Japanischen in die französische Malerei*, [Diss.] Cologne 1957, p. 46, fig. 36. • Fiorella Minervino, Franco Russoli, *L'opera completa di Degas*, Milan 1970, no. 688 (ill.; <sup>2</sup>1978; German edition: *Das Gesamtwerk von Degas*, Lucerne etc. 1970; Spanish edition: *La obra pictórica completa de Degas*, Barcelona 1972; French edition: Jacques Lassaingne, Fiorella Minervino, *Tout l'œuvre peint de Degas*, Paris 1974; <sup>2</sup>1988). • Ann Dumas etc., *The Private Collection of Edgar Degas*, (exh. cat.) Metropolitan Museum of Art New York 1997–98, p. 187, fig. 261. • Anne Dumas, "Degas in America", in *Degas and America, The Early Collectors*, (exh. cat.) High Museum of Art, Atlanta; Minneapolis Institute of Art 2001, p. 23, fig. 9. • Esther Tisa Francini etc., *Fluchtgut, Raubgut, Der Transfer von Kulturgütern in und über die Schweiz 1933–1945 und die Frage der Restitution*, Unabhängige Expertenkommission Schweiz–Zweiter Weltkrieg (ed.), Zurich 2001, pp. 106 (n. 267), 286 (n. \*3), 347 (n. 87), 509. • *Kunstmuseum Winterthur, Katalog der Gemälde und Skulpturen*, vol. 2, Düsseldorf 2008, entry for cat. no. 77, p. 232 (ill.). • Nancy H. Yeide, *Beyond the Dreams of Avarice, The Hermann Goering Collection*, Dallas 2009, no. D28 (ill.).

Catalogues of the Bührle collection: 1966 & 1971, no. 34; 1973/86, no. 47; 1994/95, pp. 46–47; 2004/05, no. 49. • Exhibitions of the Bührle collection: Zurich 1958, no. 159; Edinburgh 1961, no. 23; London 1961, no. 23; Zurich 2010, no. 34.

Catalogues, exhibitions and articles cited in full see <http://www.buehrle.ch/pdf/egbcat.pdf>.

AStEGB = Archive of the Foundation E.G. Bührle Collection, Zurich