

Vincent van Gogh

Blossoming Chestnut Branches, 1890

Oil on canvas, 73 x 92 cm

De la Faille no. 820



Provenance

The artist's family (1) • Dr. Paul Gachet, Auvers-sur-Oise (1890 until [d.]1909) (2) • Paul Gachet, Jr., Auvers-sur-Oise (1909–1912) (3) • Galerie Bernheim-Jeune, Paris (1912) (4) • Franz von Mendelssohn, Berlin (by 1914 until [d.] 1935) (5) • Dr. Peter Nikolaus Witt, Berne (by 1951) (6) • Emil Bührle, Zurich, 11 February 1951 until [d.] 28 November 1956) (7) • Given by the heirs of Emil Bührle to the Foundation E.G. Bührle Collection, Zurich, no. 53 (1960).

- (1) For the succession upon the death of the artist, see Chris Stolwijk, Han Veenenbos, *The Account Book of Theo van Gogh and Jo van Gogh-Bonger*, Amsterdam & Leiden 2002, pp. 21–22.
- (2) Received as a gift from the artist's family, *Cézanne to Van Gogh, The Collection of Doctor Gachet*, (exh. cat.) Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York etc. 1999, p. 256, no. PG III-13.
- (3) Son of the above, exh. cat. as above, n. (2).
- (4) Acquired from the above on 9 March 1909, exh. cat. as above, n. (2).
- (5) *Vincent van Gogh*, Galerie Paul Cassirer, Berlin 1914, no. 135.
- (6) Grandson of Franz von Mendelssohn (and son of Edith Witt-Mendelssohn), AStEGB, Letter from Dr. Peter N. Witt, Berne, to Emil Bührle, 31 January 1951, confirming conversation of the same day regarding the sale of two paintings by Vincent van Gogh, "Le champ de blé jaune" [F.717] and "Branches de marronniers en fleurs" [F.820] from the collection of his grandfather for CHF 550.000.
- (7) Acquired from the above, AStEGB, Letter from Emil Bührle to Dr. Peter N. Witt, Berne, 3 February 1951, acknowledging receipt of the above letter, and announcing the transfer of CHF 550.000 for the two paintings; Letter from Dr. Peter N. Witt, Berne, to Emil Bührle, 11 February 1951, acknowledging receipt of CHF 550.000; Entry Book I, 15 January 1951, identifies Dr. F. Nathan as the consignor and indicates a price of CHF 280.000. The price for [F.717], consigned by Nathan on 5 January 1951, is indicated in the Entry Book as being CHF 350.000; however, when the painting was lent for a reproduction to a printing firm in Zurich shortly thereafter, it was insured for a sum of CHF 300.000, AStEGB, Insurance Policy from Helvetia Feuer St. Gall made out to J. E. Wolfensberger, Zurich, 19 July 1951; hence it seems fair to assume that the prices given in the Entry Book I were asking prices, and the prices individually paid for the two paintings were CHF 300.000 for F.717 and CHF 250.000 for F.820 respectively.

Exhibitions

Exposition rétrospective Vincent van Gogh (1853–1890), 21^e Exposition de la Société des Artistes Indépendants (Grandes Serres de la Ville de Paris), Paris 1905, no. 23. • *Vincent van Gogh*, Galerie Paul Cassirer, Berlin 1914, no. 135. • *Das Stilleben in der deutschen und französischen Malerei*, Galerie Matthiesen, Berlin 1927, no. 122. • *Vincent van Gogh, Gemälde*, Galerie Paul Cassirer, Berlin 1928, no. 92. • *Europäische Meister 1790–1910*, Kunstmuseum Winterthur 1955, no. 104. • *De Géricault à Matisse, Chefs-d'œuvre français des collections suisses*, Petit Palais, Paris 1959, no. 69. • *Blumenmythos, Von Vincent van Gogh bis Jeff Koons; Flower Myth, Vincent van Gogh to Jeff Koons*, Fondation Beyeler, Riehen 2005, no. 51. • *Van Gogh in Budapest (Van Gogh Budapest)*, Szépművészeti Múzeum, Budapest 2006–07, no. 71. • *In the Presence of Things, Four Centuries of European Still-Life Painting, Part 2, 19th–20th Centuries (1840–1955) (A Perspectiva das Coisas, A Natureza-Morta na Europa, 2ta parte, Séculos XIX–XX [1840–1955])*, Calouste Gulbenkian Museum, Lisbon 2011–12, no. 17.

References

Julius Meier-Graefe, *Entwicklungsgeschichte der modernen Kunst*, Stuttgart 1904, p. 120, n. 1. • Georg Biermann, "Das Stilleben in der deutschen und französischen Malerei", in *Cicerone* (19) 1927, p. 151 (ill. bottom). • Jacob-Baart de la Faille, *L'œuvre de Vincent van Gogh, Catalogue raisonné*, Paris & Brussels 1928, vol. 1, *Tableaux, texte*, no. 820, vol. 2, *Tableaux, planches*, fig. 229. • Paul Gachet (jr.), *Souvenirs de Cézanne et de Van Gogh*, Paris 1928, no. III/13. • Willem Scherjon, *Catalogue des tableaux par Vincent van Gogh décrits dans ses lettres, Périodes: St-Rémy et Auvers-*

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

sur-Oise, Utrecht 1932, no. 118, fig. 120. • Willem Scherjon, Willem Josyah de Gruyter, *Vincent van Gogh's Great Period, Arles, St-Rémy, Auvers-sur-Oise (Complete Catalogue)*, Amsterdam 1937, p. 314 (ill.). • Jacob-Baart de la Faille, *Vincent van Gogh*, Paris 1939, no. 747 (ill.). • Marco Valsecchi, *Vincent van Gogh*, Milan 1952, fig. 28. • Willem Josyah de Gruyter, Emmy Andriessse (photography), *Die Welt von Van Gogh; Le monde de van Gogh; The World of Van Gogh*, The Hague etc. 1953, p. 128 (ill., bottom). • André Chamson, François Daulte, *De Géricault à Matisse, Chefs-d'œuvre d'art français des collections suisses*, Paris 1959, (ill.). • Jacob-Baart de la Faille, *The Works of Vincent van Gogh, His Paintings and Drawings*, Amsterdam 1970, no. F 820 (ill.). • Karla Höcker, *Hauskonzerte in Berlin*, Berlin 1970, (ill., Franz v. Mendelssohn in his music room, with the painting on the wall). • Paolo Lecaldano, *L'opera pittorica completa di Van Gogh e i suoi nessi grafici*, vol. 2, *Da Arles a Auvers*, Milan 1971, no. 805 (ill.; ²1977; French edition: *Tout l'œuvre peint de Vincent van Gogh*, vol. 2, Paris 1971; German edition: *Das gemalte Gesamtwerk des Van Gogh*, vol. 2, *Von Arles bis Auvers*, Lucerne etc. 1971; Spanish edition: *La obra pictórica completa de Van Gogh*, vol. 2, Barcelona 1971). • Jacques Lassaingne, *Vincent van Gogh*, Milan 1972, p. 66 (ill.; German edition: Munich 1973). • Jan Hulsker, *Van Gogh en zijn weg, Het complete werk*, Amsterdam 1977, no. 2010 (ill.; ²1979, ³1985, ⁴1985, ⁵1986, ⁶1989; English edition: *The Complete Van Gogh, Paintings, Drawings, Sketches*, Oxford & New York 1980). • Ronald Pickvance, *Van Gogh in Saint-Rémy and Auvers*, (exh. cat.) Metropolitan Museum of Art New York 1986–87, p. 319. • Alain Mothe, *Vincent van Gogh à Auvers-sur-Oise*, Paris 1987, p. 37 (ill., bottom). • Walter Feilchenfeldt, *Vincent van Gogh and Paul Cassirer, Berlin, The Reception of Van Gogh in Germany from 1901 to 1914*, Zwolle 1988, p. 123. • Rainer Metzger, Ingo F. Walther, *Vincent van Gogh, Sämtliche Gemälde*, Cologne 1989, vol. 2, *Arles, Februar 1888–Auvers-sur-Oise, Juli 1890*, p. 640 (ill.; ²1993; ³2001; Hungarian edition: *Van Gogh, A festői életmű*, Budapest 2005). • Paul Gachet, *Les 70 jours de van Gogh à Auvers, Essai d'éphéméride dans le décor de l'époque (20 mai–30 juillet 1890, d'après les lettres, documents, souvenirs et déductions* (Auvers-sur-Oise 1959), Alain Mothe (ed.), Paris 1994, p. 53. • Jan Hulsker, *The New Complete Van Gogh, Enlarged Edition of the Catalogue Raisonné of the Works of Vincent van Gogh*, Amsterdam & Philadelphia 1996, no. 2010 (ill.). • *Cézanne to Van Gogh, The Collection of Doctor Gachet*, (exh. cat.) Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York etc. 1999, p. 256, no. PG III-13 (ill.; French edition: *Un ami de Cézanne et Van Gogh, Le docteur Gachet*, Grand Palais, Paris). • Bogomila Welsh-Ovcharov, *Van Gogh in Provence and Auvers*, Southport (Connecticut) 1999, p. 255 (ill.). • Thomas Lackmann, *Das Glück der Mendelssohns*, Berlin 2005, p. 434. • Stefan Koldehoff, "Van Gogh in Germany until 1918, Catalogue of Collections and Exhibitions", in *Van Gogh and Expressionism*, (exh. cat.) Neue Galerie, New York 2007, p. 171. • Walter Feilchenfeldt, *Vincent van Gogh, Die Gemälde 1886–1890, Händler, Sammler, Ausstellungen, Die frühen Provenienzen*, Wädenswil 2009, p. 246 (ill.). • Peter Knapp, Wouter van der Veen, *Vincent van Gogh à Auvers*, Paris 2009, p. 84 (ill.)–85 (English edition: *Van Gogh in Auvers, His Last Days*, New York 2010).

Catalogues of the Bührle Collection: 1966 & 1971, no. 53; 1973/86, no. 89; 1994/95, pp. 7 (ill.), 13–14; 2004/05: no. 132. • Exhibitions of the Bührle Collection: Zürich 1958, no. 246; Berlin 1958, no. 48; Munich 1958–59, no. 77; Edinburgh 1961, no. 61; London 1961, no. 61; Washington D.C. etc. 1990–91, no. 63; Zurich 2010, no. 53. • Articles on the Bührle Collection: Wehrli 1963, p. 221.

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

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