

Iva Pasini Tržec, Strossmayerova galerija starih majstora HAZU, Zagreb

## Istraživanjem oznaka na poledini do izvornog podrijetla slike: primjer slike *Bijeg Lota i njegove obitelji iz Sodome* iz Strossmayerove galerije

Slika *Bijeg Lota i njegove obitelji iz Sodome*, nastala prema Rubensovoj invenciji starozavjetne pripovijesti o Abrahamovu nećaku Lotu i njegovoj obitelji koju je prema Rubensovu nalogu u grafički medij prenio Lucas Vorsterman otkupljena je za Strossmayerovu galeriju 1974. godine od Zlate Mervar iz Zagreba.

Identifikacija oznaka na poledini slike omogućila je praćenje kretanja slike, do vremena njezina nastanka. Prezime pretposljednega vlasnika Mervar rukom je ispisano, a otisnuti broj 573 BJ stara je Christie'sova oznaka, kojom je evidentirana aukcija u Londonu 28. ožujka 1908. godine. Tada su naime prodavane slike starih majstora iz zbirke Claudea Ashleya Charlesa Ponsonbya (1859. – 1935.), predstavnika ugledne britanske obitelji višestoljetne tradicije. Anotirani katalog iz knjižnice RKD u Den Haagu bilježi isplaćeni iznos i ime kupca: 25.4 funte, Parsons. Najvjerojatnije je riječ o aukcijskoj kući i trgovcima umjetninama, grafika i knjiga Edwin Parsons & Sons, koji su na adresi Brompton Road 45 u Londonu poslovali od 1850. do 1950. godine.

Dvije ruke i dvorac antverpenske Gilde utisnuti na poledini slike uz inicijale proizvođača daske (LS, Lambrecht Steen I., umro 1638.) potvrđuju da je slika nastala u Antwerpenu u 17. stoljeću. Osim kao dokaz kvalitete daske, tip branda na poledini naše slike, u upotrebi od 1619. i 1638. godine, omogućuje pblizu dataciju slike u drugo odnosno treće desetljeće 17. stoljeća i predstavlja rijetko svjedočanstvo izvornoga podrijetla slike.

### Izvori:

Arhiv Strossmayerove galerije, 1974; RKD; Đuro Vandura, Nizozemske slikarske škole u Strossmayerovoj galeriji starih majstora Jugoslavenske akademije znanosti i umjetnosti, Zagreb, 1988.; Catalogue of Ancient & Modern Pictures. The Collection of Claude A. C. Ponsonby, Esq. Also Important Pictures by Old Masters and Works of the Early English School, London, Christie Manson And Woods, March 28th 1908, lot. 51. Zahvaljujem se Danielu Järmaiju, Archives Researcher - Christie's Archives, na pomoći pri istraživanju.



Prema: Peter Paul Rubens, *Bijeg Lota i njegove obitelji iz Sodome*, 1620.-30., ulje na dasci, 51 x 65 cm, Strossmayerova galerija starih majstora HAZU, inv. br. SG-633 (foto: Strossmayerova galerija)  
After: Peter Paul Rubens, *The Flight of Lot and his Family from Sodom*, 1619-38, oil on panel, 51 x 65 cm, The Strossmayer Gallery of Old Masters, inv. no. SG-633 (photo: Strossmayer Gallery)



Christie'sova oznaka, detalj poledine slike *Bijeg Lota i njegove obitelji iz Sodome* (foto: Strossmayerova galerija)  
Christie's marking, detail from the back of the painting *The Flight of Lot and his Family from Sodom* (photo: Strossmayer Gallery)

Iva Pasini Tržec, The Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts' Strossmayer Gallery of Old Masters, Zagreb

## Researching back markings to reach a painting's origin: the case of *The Flight of Lot and his Family from Sodom* from the Strossmayer Gallery

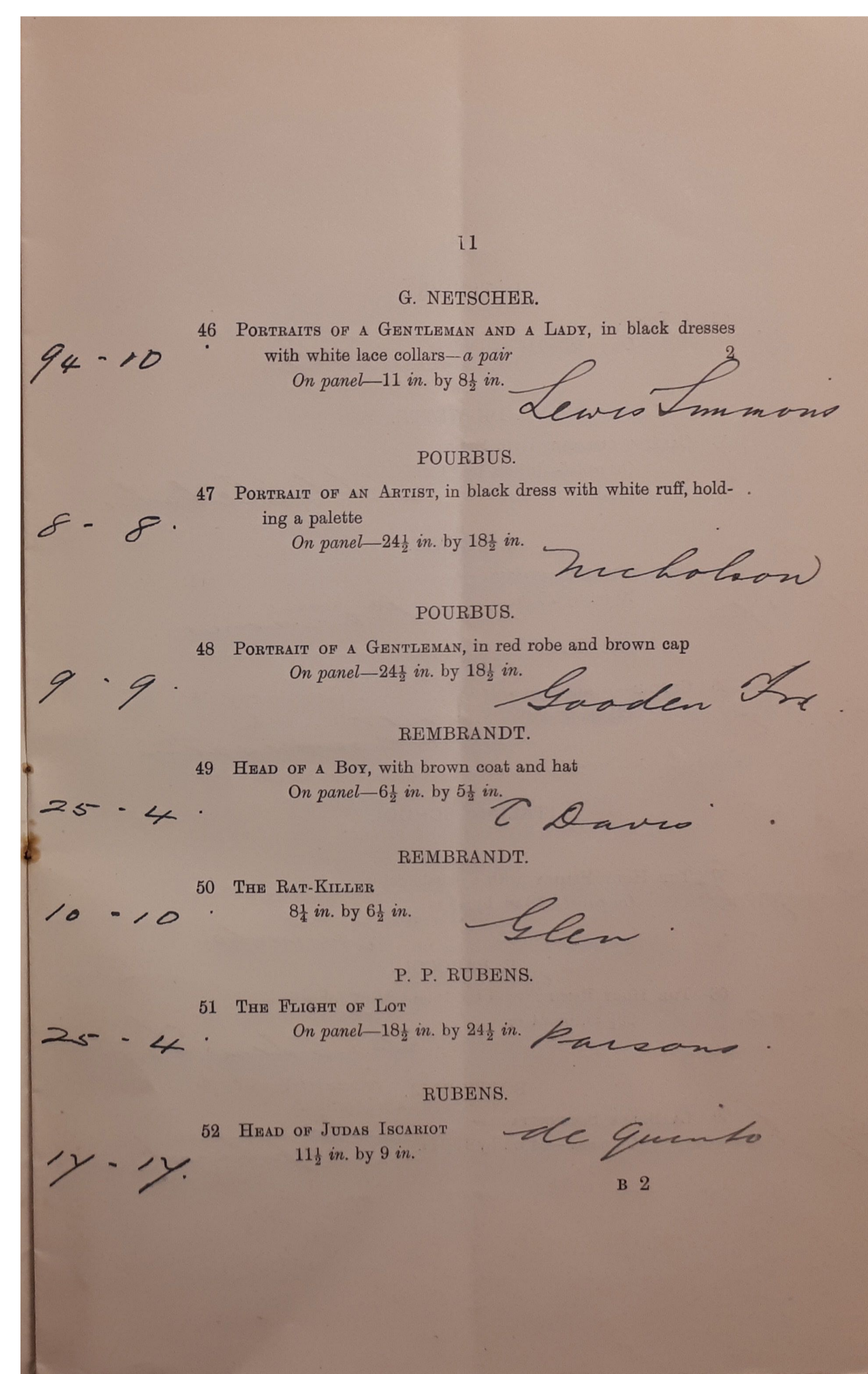
The painting *The Flight of Lot and his Family from Sodom* was created according to Rubens' invention of the Old Testament story about Abraham's nephew Lot and his family, that Lucas Vorsterman, on Rubens' orders, transferred to the graphic medium. The painting was acquired for the Strossmayer Gallery from Zlata Mervar from Zagreb in the year 1974.

The identification of the markings found on the back of the painting enabled the tracing of its movements all the way to the time of its origin. The last name Mervar, indicating its penultimate owner, is handwritten, and is accompanied by the old Christie's stencil number "573 BJ", used to record the London auction of 28th March 1908. Namely, that was the auction that offered paintings by the Old Masters from the Claude Ashley Charles Ponsonby Collection (1859 – 1935), a representative of an eminent British family whose ancestry can be traced over hundreds of years. An annotated catalogue from the RKD Library in Den Haag holds a record of the payed amount and the name of the buyer: 25.4 pounds, Parsons. This probably indicated the auction house and art dealers Edwin Parsons & Sons, who conducted their business on London's Brompton Road 45 from 1850 until 1950.

Two hands and the castle of the Antwerp Guild brand stamped onto the back of the painting, in combination with an individual panel maker's mark (LS, Lambrecht Steen I., died 1638) indicate that the painting was produced in Antwerp in the 17th century. Apart from serving as evidence for the high quality of the panel, the brand type on the back of our painting, in use from 1619 until 1638, enables a close approximation of its origin, placing it in the second or third decade of the 17th century. Therefore, the brand type represents a rare testimony to the painting's origin.

### Sources:

The Strossmayer Gallery Archive, 1974; RKD; Đuro Vandura, Nizozemske slikarske škole u Strossmayerovoj galeriji starih majstora Jugoslavenske akademije znanosti i umjetnosti, Zagreb, 1988.; Catalogue of Ancient & Modern Pictures. The Collection of Claude A. C. Ponsonby, Esq. Also Important Pictures by Old Masters and Works of the Early English School, London, Christie Manson And Woods, March 28th 1908, lot. 51. I would like to thank Daniel Järmai, Archives Researcher - Christie's Archives, for his help in the identification process.



Catalogue of Ancient & Modern Pictures. The collection of Claude A.C. Ponsonby, Esq., katalog aukcije Messrs. Christie, Manson & Woods, London, 28. ožujka 1908., kat. br. 51  
Catalogue of Ancient & Modern Pictures. The Collection of Claude A.C. Ponsonby, Esq., auction catalogue Messrs. Christie, Manson & Woods, London, 28th March 1908, cat. no. 51



Oznaka Antverpenske gilde i inicijal Lambrechta Steena I., detalj poledine slike *Bijeg Lota i njegove obitelji iz Sodome* (foto: Strossmayerova galerija)  
Mark of the Antwerp Guild and the initials of Lambrecht Steen I., detail from the back of the painting *The Flight of Lot and his Family from Sodom* (photo: Strossmayer Gallery)