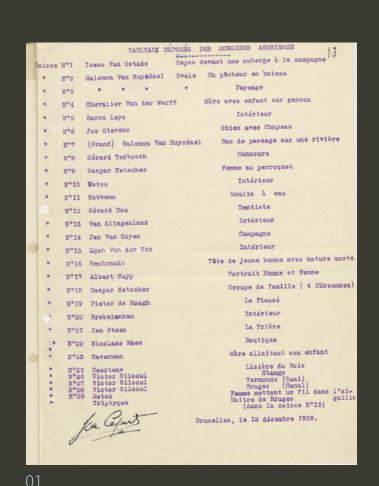
## The Ruysdael Painting



Salomon van Ruysdael (ca. 1600-1670)

Landscape with Figures

Alternating titles: Flusslandsch

Alternating titles: Flusslandschaft mit Bäumen und Anglern; Landschaft mit tanzenden Bauern; erroneously: Der Maibaum.

Signed and dated: S.v.R. 1633

Oil on oakwood. 39 x 51/57 cm, oval.

Signatures/marks:

HA3RM-Nr. 1205Linz Nummer: 391

RM-Nr. 1205Linz Nummer: 3919KG 994F 1304

Hugo Daniel and Elisabeth Andriesse acquired the Landscape with Figures by Old Master painter Salomon van Ruysdael (ca.1600-1670) for their collection in 1938/1939. As in the case of the Netscher painting, the Andriesses purchased the Ruysdael painting from their art dealer D. Katz in Dieren.

Before their flight from Belgium, Hugo Daniel and Elisabeth Andriesse stored the painting for safekeeping, together with others in their collection, with the Musées royaux d'Art et d'Histoire on December 12, 1939. The confirmation document lists the Ruysdael painting being in sealed box nr. 3.

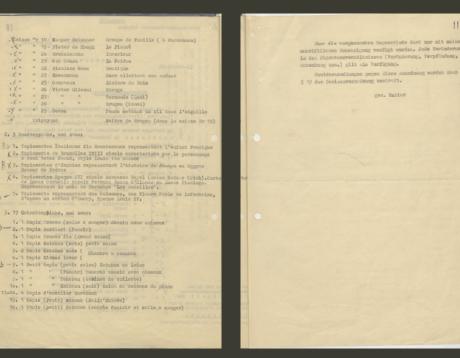
The Devisenschutzkommando Belgien seized the entire Andriesse collection on November 28, 1941. The Ruysdael painting is nr. 3 on the respective list.

The collection was handed over to the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg (ERR) in Paris on March 10, 1942. Four days later, on March 14, 1942, Commander-in-Chief of the Luftwaffe Hermann Goering requisitioned it at the Jeu de Paume for his private residence Carinhall, near Berlin, where it was kept, according to archival evidence from April 14, 1942. We know the appearance of the Ruysdael painting today due to information both from the ERR and from the collection of Hermann Goering. In both cases the painting was photographed and entered in inventory lists.

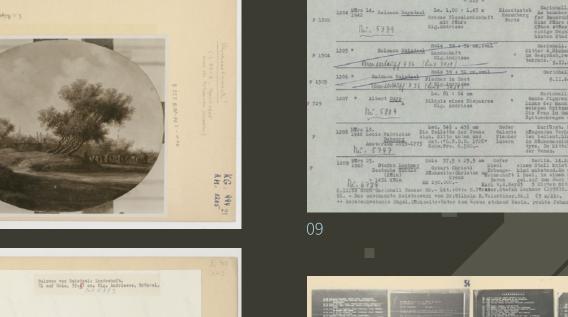
In February 1944, Goering exchanged the Ruysdael and over 120 other paintings for one painting he believed was by Vermeer, *Christ and the Woman Taken in Adultery*. It was sold by art dealer Alois Miedl, who took over management of the highly regarded Goudstikker Gallery in Amsterdam following the flight of its Jewish owner, Jacques Goudstikker. In 1947, the Goering Vermeer purchase proved to be a fake, a forgery produced by the Dutch painter Han van Megeren (1889-1947). Jan Dik Jr., coworker of the Goudstikker Gallery, brokered the sale of the Ruysdael painting to the Dorotheum in Vienna. The auction house acted as an agent to broker sales for Adolf Hitler's planned museum in Linz, Austria. This Ruysdael painting was sold by the Dorotheum on March 27, 1944, to the Sonderauftrag Linz, a special task force in charge of buying masterpieces for the planned Führermuseum of European masterpieces in Linz, Austria.

Objects chosen for Hitler's Linz Museum project were usually deposited in Munich, in the so-called Führerbau, the representational headquarters of Adolphe Hitler at Königsplatz. The Ruysdael was brought to the Führerbau and was stored in cell 7 in February 1945. During the last days of World War II, remaining Nazis officials in Munich fled shortly before the arrival of U.S. occupation forces. During this brief gap in governing authority, hundreds of Munich residents, some presumably professional thieves, ransacked the Führerbau and looted everything they found, including furniture, champagne, but also many of the stored artworks for the Linz Museum. In the course of the pillaging of the Führerbau, the Ruysdael painting disappeared. It has been missing ever since.



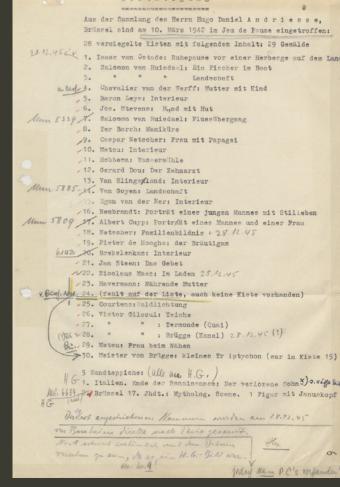


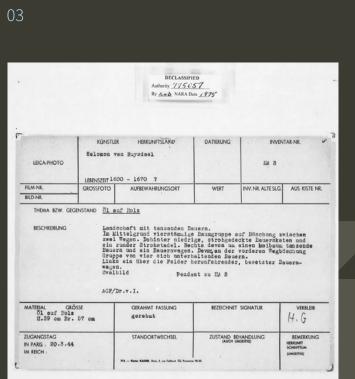


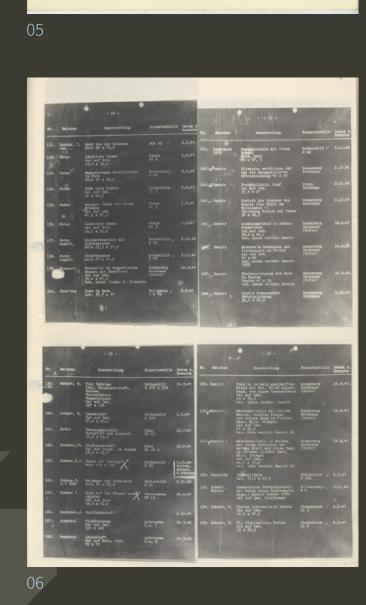


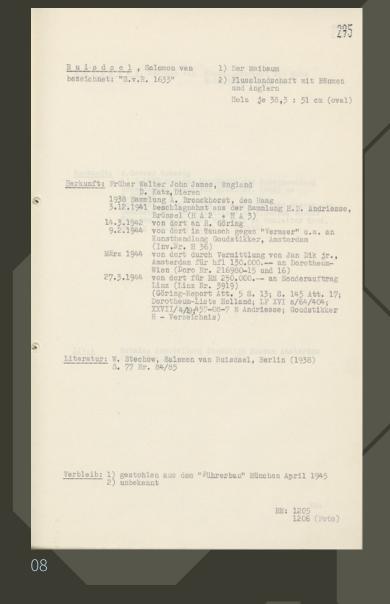


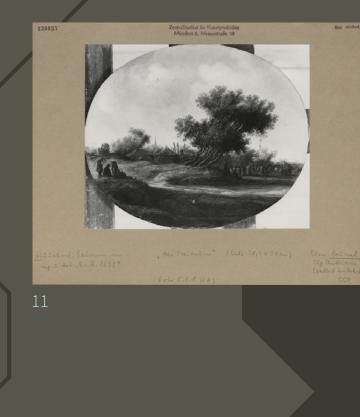


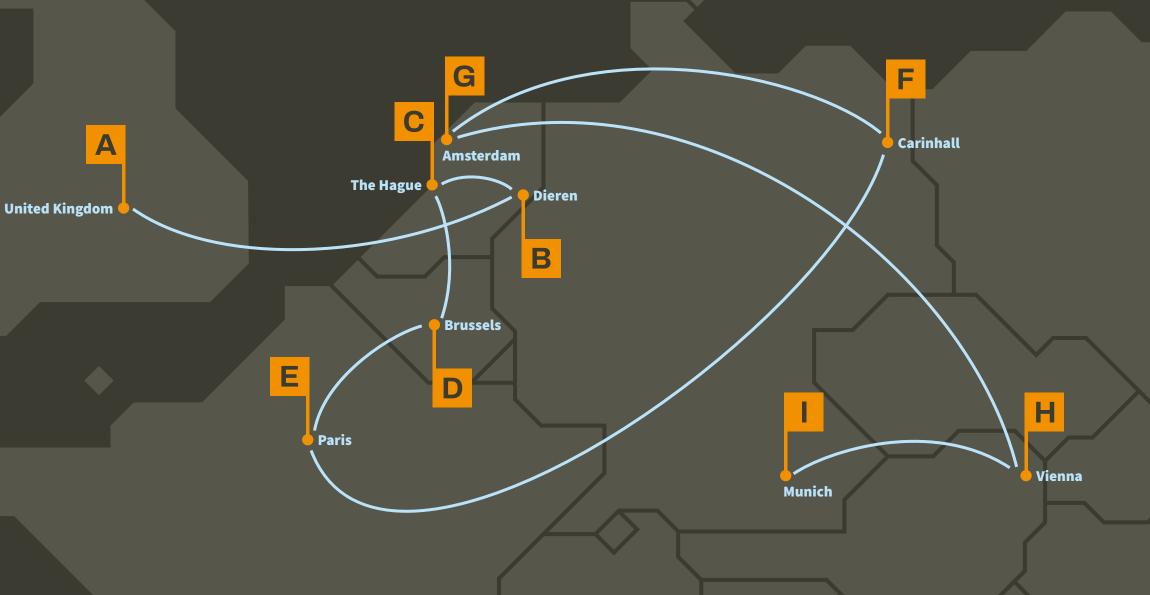














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