



PROANTIC
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Dutch 17th-c Old Master Drawing By Jan Van Huchtenburg (1647-1733) Horse Studies



2 500 EUR

Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Description

Jan van Huchtenburg (Haarlem 1647 - 1733 Amsterdam) Sheet with Studies of a Horse Red chalk, brown ink framing lines, 158 x 176 mm (6.2 x 6.9 inch) Numbered '280' (pen and brown ink, verso) Provenance ~ Presumably Freiherr (Baron) Karl Eduard von Liphart (1808-1891), Tartu, Bonn and Florence, and by descent to his grandson: ~ Freiherr (Baron) Reinhold von Liphart (1864-1940), Rathshof, near Tartu (Lugt 1758) ~ Private collection, Augsburg (collector's mark 'S', not in Lugt, verso) *** Born in Haarlem in 1647, Jan van Huchtenburg was taught (according to Weyerman) by the battle painter Jan Wyck (1644-1702), only three years his senior. Around 1667 Huchtenburg set out for Rome, to join his elder brother Jacob, who had studied with Nicolaes Berchem. Jan seems not to have reached

Dealer

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the Eternal City, but ended up in Paris, where he worked for several years at the Manufacture des Gobelins under Adam Frans van der Meulen, Louis XIV's celebrated battle painter. Around 1669 Huchtenburg returned to Haarlem, where he joined the guild of St Luke. In 1676 the artist relocated his studio to Amsterdam, where he became highly successful as a painter of battle pieces. Huchtenburg was most appreciated for his realistic portrayal of horses in his battle scenes. In preparation for these, he must have made countless sketches of horses, yet very few are known today. The present sheet is of exceptional quality and has long been given to Huchtenburg. It would appear to date from quite early in his career, certainly still in the seventeenth century. The sheet makes a particularly lively impression because of the separate studies of the animal's legs, hooves and head. Both in technique and because of the separate detail studies the sheet is reminiscent of drawings by Adriaen van de Velde (1636-1672). The unusual viewpoint at which the horse is observed is characteristic of the work of a painter of battle scenes, which included horses in a great variety of positions. Although a horse in this exact position has not been identified in any of Huchtenburg's surviving paintings, a similar horse is included in the painting *Attack on a Convoy* of c. 1670-90, preserved in the Mauritshuis, The Hague (fig.).