

PETER PAUL RUBENS

(Siegen, Westphalia 1577-1640 Antwerp)

“Bear hunt”

(1639-1640)

Oil on panel

55,5x104 cm.



Description

The painting is a “modello” for a cycle of hunting scenes, commissioned in 1639 by King Philip IV of Spain to decorate the Pieza Ochevada and Boveda de Palacio in the Alcázar. In a level landscape two hunters on horseback and a couple of figures on foot are attacking two large bears. A group of hounds, two of them lying lifeless on the foreground, assault a bear. The hunter on horseback, bitten on a shoulder by a wild horse, resembles Peter Paul Rubens. The North Carolina Museum of art houses a larger version of this painting, fragmentary because damaged by a fire.

Provenance

King Philip IV of Spain.

Handed over to Archduke Karl of Austria.

Count Ambrozy Migazzi, Budapest, 1937.

E.A. Silbermann, Budapest - New York.

Robert W. Neugebauer, Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, 1939-1958, from whom the painting was purchased by the present owner (private sale before the auction) even if it was published in the Christie's catalogue *Important Old Paintings* (London, 26th November 1965, lot no. 71).

Private collection, Germany, since 1965.

References

W.R. Valentiner, *Catalogue of paintings*, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1956, pp. 65-66, under no. 130.

E. Duverger, *Tapijten naar Rubens en Jordaens in het bezit van het Antwerps. Handelsvennootschap Fourment-van Hecke*, in *Artes Textiles*, VII (1971), p. 144, fig. 16.

M. Díaz Padrón, *Pedro Pablo Rubens (1577-1640): a tribute exhibition*, Madrid, Ministry of Culture, 1977, p. 110, under no. 94.

J. Held, *The Oil Sketches of P.P. Rubens. A critical catalogue*, Princeton University Press, 1980, p. 310, under no. 225.

A. Balis, *Rubens Hunting Scenes* (Corpus Rubenianum Ludwig Burchard XIII 2, London 1986. p. 261

Drawn by the Brush: Oil Sketches by Peter Paul Rubens, text by P. Sutton, M. Wieseman, N, van Hout, Yale University Press, 2004, p. 259, under no. 41.

Expertises:

Expertise (1937) Professor G. Glück

Expertise (1937) Professor W.E. Suida

Expertise (1937) Professor W.R. Valentiner

Expertise (1966) Professor J. Müller Hofstede

Expertise (1988) Professor J. Müller Hofstede

Expertise (1990) Professor F.J. Knubben

Expertise (1994) Professor J.S. Held

Expertise (1995) Professor M. Jaffè

Expertise (2003) A. Bernard

Expertise (2009) Professor Ost

Expertise (2010) A. Balis

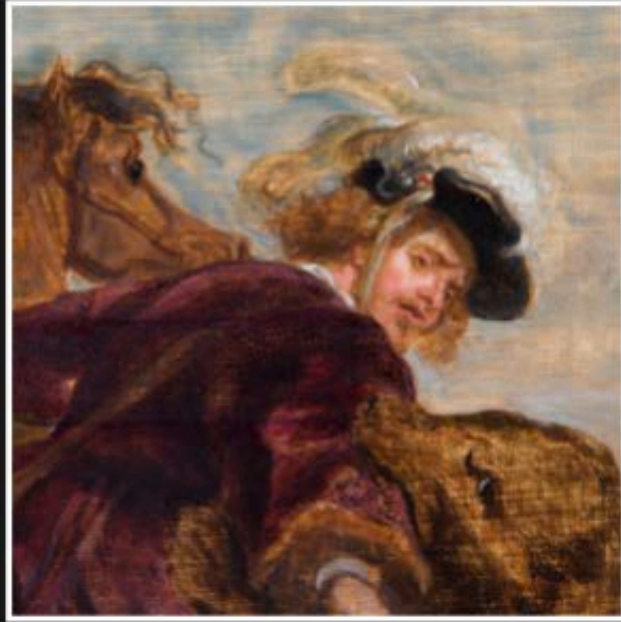
Scientific Analysis:

C.E.D.A.R.T, Lionel König, 2013

IFARC Sagl, Anna Rosa Nicola, 2014

Exhibition:

Villa Principe Leopoldo Hotel & SPA, Lugano Giovedì 25 Ottobre 2012.



Pierre-Paul Rubens
et les Habsbourg d'Espagne

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