



**Paul Signac**

**Pont Royal, Inondations (The Pont Royal, Inundations), in the 1920s**

Charcoal and watercolour on paper, mounted on cardboard, 305 x 445 mm

on recto, lower right, signed and dated: "P. Signac 16 Nov 2[...]"; centre right, inscribed in pencil: "59 x 45"

on verso, inscribed in pencil, upper left: "10/8/2" [?], "Land unter [?] [...]" [illegible] "7/6"; lower left, inscribed in pencil: "204\_107"

on matting, centre, inscribed in pencil: "(Gare d'Orsay) Pont Royal"

**Provenance:**

(...)

By latest 11 November 1989: Cornelius Gurlitt, Munich/Salzburg (per Gurlitt Papers)

From 6 May 2014: Estate of Cornelius Gurlitt

**Bibliographical references:**

*Paul Signac (1863–1935): Watercolours and Drawings.* Exh. cat., Marlborough Fine Art, London, November–December 1986. [related to cat. nos. 44–45]

Cachin, Françoise. *Signac: Catalogue raisonné de l'œuvre peint.* In collaboration with Marina Ferretti-Bocquillon. Paris: Gallimard, 2000. [related to nos. 572, 591]

**Primary sources:**

Hildebrand Gurlitt and Cornelius Gurlitt Papers:  
Register of Salzburg works, 2014, no. Wien 204\_107

Hildebrand Gurlitt and Cornelius Gurlitt Papers – possible references:

The extant ledgers list many Signac works without giving specific details

Miscellaneous: BArch, N 1826/37, fol. 37. Cornelius Gurlitt packing list, 11 November 1989

**Further sources consulted:**

*Annuaire de la Curiosité et des Beaux-Arts*. Vols. 1911–1940.

Paris. Exh. cat., Galerie Charpentier, Paris, 1944–1945. [possibly cat. no. 195?]

*Verschiedener deutscher Kunstbesitz. Gemälde alter und neuerer Meister [...]*. Auct. cat., Hans W. Lange, Berlin, 16–17 April 1943. [possibly lot 310 ?]

Besson, George. *Paul Signac 1836–1935*. Paris: Braun & Cie, 1950.

*P. Signac*. Exh. cat., Musée National d'Art Moderne, Paris, 25 October–2 December 1951.

*Paul Signac*. Exh. cat., Fine Arts Associates, New York, 5 November–24 November 1951.

*Paul Signac 1863–1935*. Exh. cat., Marlborough Fine Art, London, 11 March–15 April 1954.

*La Création de l'Oeuvre: chez Paul Signac*. Exh. cat., Marlborough Fine Art, London, April–May 1958.

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*Paul Signac: A Collection of Watercolors and Drawings*. Exh. cat., Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, 19 February–9 April 2000.

Ferretti-Bocquillon, Marina. *Signac: Aquarelliste*. Paris: Adam Biro, 2001.

*Gute Geschäfte. Kunsthandel in Berlin 1933-1945*. Exh. cat., Centrum Judaicum, Berlin, 10 April–31 June 2011; Landesarchiv, Berlin, 20 October 2011–27 January 2012.

Ferretti-Bocquillon, Marina, ed. *Signac: Les Couleurs de l'Eau*. Exh. cat., Musée des Impressionnismes, Giverny, 29 March–2 July 2013; Musée Fabre, Montpellier, 13 July–27 October 2013.

Archives Paul Signac, Paris

Centre Pompidou, Bibliothèque Kandinsky, Paris

Cultural Plunder by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg: Database of Art Objects at the Jeu de Paume

Database "Central Collecting Point München"

Database "Kunstsammlung Hermann Göring"

Getty Provenance Index, German Sales Catalogs

Institut national d'histoire de l'art, Paris (French sale catalogues)

Landesarchiv Berlin

Lootedart.com

Lost Art

Musée d'Orsay, Paris (Documentation de la conservation)

Niedersächsisches Landesmuseum für Kunst und Kulturgeschichte, Oldenburg

Répertoire des Biens Spoliés

Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie, The Hague

Staatliche Graphische Sammlung, Munich

Staatlichen Museen zu Berlin – Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Kupferstichkabinett

Stadtarchiv Gladbeck

Witt Library, London

Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, Munich (Photothek)

**Note:**

Signac executed numerous variants of this motif, which depicts severe flooding in the centre of Paris as seen looking towards the Gare d'Orsay from across the Seine, with the Pont Royal in the foreground. In 1926, Signac also rendered this scene in oil, as evidenced by the paintings *Le Pont Royal*, *Inondations* and *Pont Royal, Automne*.

Two of the known versions on paper, executed on consecutive days, are dated 14 and 15 November 1924. This work may have been executed on the following day, 16 November 1924.

Another variant, dated 16 November 1929, was offered by the auction house Hans W. Lange in Berlin in 1943. Lot 310 of said sale closely matches the Gurlitt work in subject, medium and measurements, but is dated 16 November 1929. Owing to the fact that the lot was not reproduced in the sale catalogue, it has not thus far been possible to verify a match.

The Lange sale catalogue refers to the consignor as an anonymous collector in Gladbeck. According to an annotated copy of said catalogue which has been preserved at the Landesmuseum Oldenburg, the buyer of lot 310 is noted as one "Kommerzialrat," or commercial councillor.

Another example, dated 1934, was shown at the Galerie Charpentier in 1944.

This work features on a list titled *Großer Koffer* which was drawn up by Cornelius Gurlitt on 11 November 1989.

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