

THE DRAWING CATALOGUE F. KOENIGS

The drawing catalogue F. Koenigs

ON LOAN 1935

The drawing catalogue was made around 1930. At the time the drawings were held at the family home of Franz and Anna Koenigs at Florapark 8 in Haarlem. Franz Koenigs' collection had already grown to museum proportion. The director, Dirk Hannema, of Museum Boijmans, organized in 1933 a drawing collection from his 'rich' collection. In the summer of 1934 to promote Rotterdam, Hannema asked to borrow Dutch drawings from the 15th, 16th, and 17th century. The exhibition was opened on June 27, 1934, by the mayor of Rotterdam. Again, Hannema wanted to borrow for his Christmas exhibition December 1934 - January 1935 a hundred Old French Drawings from the Collection F. Koenigs. It was the last exhibition in the Old Schielandhuis, the museum was moving to the newly constructed museum at the Mathenesserlaan. The Collection Koenigs was an enormous prestigious addition to the Collection of the Boijmans, and created a wide international attention. Hannema ran short on the budget of the newly built museum, and urged Franz Koenigs to loan his collection Old Master Paintings and Old Master Drawings to the new Museum Boijmans. On April 2, 1935 Hannema announced the loan at the city and Mayor of Rotterdam. The loan was for at least 10 years and in that time period Hannema was committed to exhibit the entire drawing collection. At the opening on July 6, in the presence of Queen Wilhelmina the long term loan was a fact. The loan existed of:

The Collection Old Master Paintings (46 paintings)

The Collection Old Master Drawings (2140 drawings)

REGISTRATION LOAN

Franz Koenigs had his collection fully registered delivered to Museum Boijmans. The drawings were all stamped by Franz Koenigs with his collection mark (see Lugt 1023a). They were all registered in a catalogue which listed all the drawings per school. For the collection of 46 paintings a separate catalogue was published. Museum Boijmans, the city of Rotterdam insured the loan for 4, 5 million guilders.

THE DRAWING CATALOGUE

The catalogue concerns one catalogue typed with two carbon copies¹, of which the first and the second carbon copy is known, the first version is placed on the website Koenigs.nl by clicking on 'catalogus tekeningen'. The second copy was given by the RKD to the SNK to recuperate the drawings which Van Beuningen sold to Hitler.

CARBON COPY 1 the working copy of Anna Koenigs and Helmut Lütjens.

The existence and whereabouts of the original document is still unknown.

WORKING COPY

¹ Before typing, carbon paper is placed between the original and the second sheet to be copied on to and again between the second and the third sheet. Carbon paper has one coating side and the coating side has to be down. This amount of paper and carbon is then fed into the typewriter. By hitting the keys of the typewriter, the letter hits the paper and the carbon paper makes an imprint on the next paper. This way simultaneously three copies of the catalogue were made. One original document, and two carbon copies.

CARBON COPY 1 is the first copy of the drawing catalogue. This copy was delivered by Franz Koenigs to Museum Boijmans with the loan in 1935. This copy was the working copy used by Helmut Lütjens² and Anna Koenigs-Countess von Kalckreuth, the wife of Franz Koenigs, before it was brought to the museum. Lütjens in the working copy had added, changed and crossed out and re-attributed drawings by hand in pen.

TITLE PAGE OF THE FIRST CARBON COPY

Lütjens writes the title page of the first carbon copy, he lists the different schools with the amount of drawings in them and confirms at the bottom of the page what should be understood as the collection of drawings of the Collection F. Koenigs.

Mit Ausnahme der wenigen oben sowie im Katalog angegebenen Zeichnungen, die in Haarlem verblieben sind, und mit Ausnahme der jeweils für beschränkte Zeit auf Ausstellungen befindlichen Zeichnungen, über die besondere Listen geführt werden, befindet sich die gesamte Zeichnungssammlung im Boijmans Museum in Rotterdam.

Amsterdam, 15. Juni 1935 H. Lütjens

Except for the few in the catalogue marked drawings which stayed in Haarlem and with the exception of the drawings which are loaned at exhibitions for a short time, of which special lists are kept, the complete Drawing Collection is in Museum Boijmans in Rotterdam.

Amsterdam, 15. June 1935 H. Lütjens

INDEX CARD BOX

To have a workable system and to keep up with the short term loans Lütjens and Anna Koenigs had created an index card box. Each of the 2140 drawings were listed on separate cards. The text on the cards, is exactly the same as the description of the drawings in the catalogue. This index card box was also sent to the museum in June 1935.

After Franz Koenigs in April 1935 had made the agreement with the Museum Boijmans for his loan, it was up to his wife Anna, to ready the collection for the physical transfer of the collection. A number of drawings mostly by Francois Boucher were framed decorating the staircase and had to be taken from their frames. A few drawings stayed in Haarlem and a number were on loan to the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.

Paul Cassirer, who in 1923 saw his best client (Koenigs) leave from Berlin to Amsterdam, sent his partner Helmut Lütjens after him, who opened a branch of the Paul Cassirer firm on the Keizersgracht 109 in Amsterdam, covering the distance between him and the bank Rhodius Koenigs of the collector Franz Koenigs by five houses, Keizersgracht 119-121.

In the catalogue by her hand Anna Koenigs noted in pencil 'bleibt in Haarlem', 'stays in Haarlem.'

See the following:

F. II 16-19 drawings from the Toulouse Lautrec sketchbook stays in Haarlem and

F. II. 75-81 drawings from the Toulouse Lautrec sketchbook stays in Haarlem.

F. II. 197 the two lawyers by Honoré Daumier

F. II. 28, 29, 34 are noted as 'Leihgabe Reichsmuseum', these drawings were loaned to the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.

In June 1935, after the first carbon copy of the catalogue entered the Boijmans, with the passing of time the successive curators made notes at various drawings in their respective handwriting. Especially the Rembrandt drawings were studied this way.

Since 15 June 1935 the first carbon copy is kept at Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen. May 20, 2014, a digital copy of this catalogue was given to the heirs of Franz Koenigs. On the site [Koenigs.nl](http://www.koenigs.nl/franz/de_collectie/tekeningen_1935_85_129.html) this catalogue can be studied under 'collectie', catalogus tekeningen doorslag 1', http://www.koenigs.nl/franz/de_collectie/tekeningen_1935_85_129.html

ADDED TO THE COLLECTION

28 October 1935 museum Boijmans received a number of drawings and books via Nicolaas Beets for Franz Koenigs. This loan is noted by museum Boijmans as follows:

COLLECTION KOENIGS - LOAN MUSEUM BOIJMANS

See: [Pages of the actual loan \[Click to open pdf\]](#)

1. LUCAS VAN LEYDEN: The marriage of Josef and Maria (round).
2. Circle of FR. COSSA: Mercurius.
3. BRUNSWIJKER MONGRAMMIST?: Study of a woman with a pleated headscarf.
4. CORNELISZ ANTHONISZ: Builders at work
5. LUCAS CORNELISZ of CORNELIS CORNELISZ toegeschreven:
Christ before Annas of Cajaphas.
6. TOBIAS STIMMER attributed: Allegory: Mary and the child before Eve and the snake.
7. Unknown ITALIAN: Movement study of a naked man.
8. Rembrandt, after Titian: the High priest
9. HENDRIK AVERKAMP: Portrait of a man and
10. a woman.
11. WATTEAU: after a figure by Frans Hals' rommelpot player.

Books:

Two books The GABBURRI Books containing 500 FRA BARTOLOMEO Drawings
An early Italian sketchbook
Sixteen PIRKHEIMER Books

The additional loan was confirmed by museum Boijmans.

This is important because Franz Koenigs on June 1, 1935 signed an agreement with the bank Lisser & Rosenkranz which stipulated that the Collection F. Koenigs was the security for a credit arrangement. Attached to this agreement was a list of art objects signed by both parties. This list listed the collateral's art objects.

THE COLLATERAL

The certified list was signed on June 1, 1935 by both parties. There is no evidence what so ever, that later art was added to the certified list. On 28 October 1935, N. Beets delivered a number (11) of drawings and a number of books to the Boijmans on behalf of Koenigs. The fact that the list of the collateral was signed on June 1, 1935, and these art pieces were handed over after the fact explains why they cannot have been part of the collateral.

The works Beets added to the collection F. Koenigs are in some cases later by hand added by the various curators to the first carbon copy. Though the title page of the first carbon copy stays the same. By hand on the last page of the Italian drawings the following books are added:

I no. 562 Gozzoli -Skizzenbuch- and
I no. 563 (M) Fra Bartolomeo
Skizzenbuch I
(N) Skizzenbuch II Seite 147

The Rembrandt drawing which is given by Beets as no.8, is in the first copy added by hand as no. 136, while the title page in the first and in the second copy just notes 135 Rembrandt drawings. At the Rembrandt drawings at the first copy one of the curators of museum Boijmans writes:

Outside catalogue. Standing priest, with the left hand holding a staff
(R. 136) Pen, brown wash, 215 x 140 mm.

The drawing delivered by Beets as no. 5. LUCAS CORNELISZ or CORNELIS CORNELISZ attributed: Christ standing before Annas of Cajaphas', is written by hand as part of the German School till 1800 D I 282, 16 Jahrh. as Christus von Cajaphas.

THE LOAN OF FRANZ KOENIGS CONTINUES

Implicating that the loan of Franz Koenigs I. 563 of the Italian early sketchbook by Gozzoli, the two books by Fra Bartolomeo, (M) and (N), and the 16 Pirckheimer books and the 11 drawings is continuing.

THE INVENTORY BOOK OF THE FOUNDATION STICHTING MUSEUM BOIJMANS

December 1940, after Van Beuningen's sale to Hitler, the director Hannema lists the Collection F. Koenigs as a gift from D.G. Van Beuningen in the inventory book of the foundation Stichting van Museum Boijmans. Valuating the collection at fl. 5.850.000,-

The two books (M) and (N) containing 500 drawings by Fra Bartolomeo are not listed in the inventory book, neither are the 11 drawings, nor is the Gozzoli sketchbook and the 16 Pirckheimer books are reduced to 8 books listed as by A. Dürer; 'Eight books with some miniatures by A. Dürer' and noted as owned by Collection F. Koenigs and valued at fl. 80.000,-