

Press Release

HIDDEN TREASURES FROM THE COLLECTION THIRD PRESENTATION

Since November last year the Collection Oskar Reinhart 'Am Römerholz' has been showing works of art from its permanent inventory that, despite their unquestionable quality, have not been on show to the public for a considerable time. The reasons for this absence are partly of a conservational nature and partly due to the limited available space. This separate individual presentation allows members of the public to take their time to contemplate these otherwise hidden gems. Accompanied by additional events such as discussions and special guided tours, these artworks will be explained and discussed from all perspectives. Representatives of many different professions will be invited, allowing the discourse to extend far beyond the usual core area of expertise in art history.

In this third presentation the focus is on a work from the Spanish school: the representative painting *Corrida*, executed around 1880–5, and ascribed to **Eugenio Lucas Villamil**.

The observer gets very close to the dramatic action. As a spectator in the first row of the arena he can follow how groups of amateurish bullfighters clash with one another in a disorderly manner. Man and beast can barely be told apart in the disastrous crush. The chaotic scenery triggered by a desire for pleasure, overestimation of the participants' ability and volatile mood continues in a circular movement, spilling over into the stands in the background. The air seems replete with the brown haze of swirling dust.

Ascribed to the scion of a respected Spanish family of artists, the painting stands wholly in the tradition of Francisco de Goya's bullfight portrayals, especially those of his late lithographs. Here, again, the topic is not the strictly regulated professional bullfight, but rather the anarchic, popular amateur version. Given these similarities, the *Corrida* painting in the Oskar Reinhart Collection was also long ascribed to Goya, and acquired by the collector for his significant collection of works by Spanish artists.

Exhibition duration: 4 May – 20 August, 2017

Preview: Wednesday 3 May 2017, 6.30 p.m. with Kerstin Richter, Director of the Collection



Attributed to Eugenio Lucas Villamil, *Corrida*, around 1880–85
Oil on canvas, 74 x 110 cm
Oskar Reinhart Collection 'Am Römerholz', Winterthur



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