

Settlement with Berolzheimer Heirs for *Saint Augustine on Clouds Surrounded by Angels*

Dr. Michael Berolzheimer was a Jewish lawyer from Untergrainau near Garmische, Bavaria, Germany. He amassed a large collection of art including many drawings, among them a drawing of *Saint Augustine on Clouds Surrounded by Angels*, by Johann Jacob Eybelwieser (Austrian, Vienna (?), ca. 1667–1744 Breslau). Dr. Berolzheimer left Germany in 1938 for Switzerland, eventually arriving in New York. Dr. Berolzheimer left much of his collection behind in the care of Robert Schweisheimer, his son-in-law. In the fall of 1938, the son-in-law fled Germany and a government-appointed trustee was put in charge of the sale. The Berolzheimer collection was sold in two auctions, one in December 1938 and one in March 1939. This work was offered by the Munich Art Auction House of Adolf Weinmuller at the March 9-10, 1939, sale, but failed to sell and remained in the possession of the Weinmuller Auction House. The whereabouts of this drawing is not known between the 1939 sale in Munich and its purchase by the Met in 2010. In 2012, the New York State Holocaust Claims Processing Office (HCPO) notified the Museum of this history on behalf of the Berolzheimer heirs. The Museum conducted independent research that confirmed the Nazi-era history of the Berolzheimer collection and compensated the Berolzheimer heirs for the drawing in 2016.