

*Coostermans*

S i n c e 1 8 3 9



PIETER BRUEGHEL THE YOUNGER

(1564 - 1638)

*Adoration of the Magi in the snow*

Bears on the back the trefoil's mark of the panel maker Michiel Claessens and the Antwerp guild mark

B e a r s   o n   t h e   b a c k   t h e   t r e f o i l ' s   m a r k

A n t w e r p   g u i l d   m a r k

3 6   x   5 1/8   x 1 1/2   i n   (   t   4   e s   )

O l i e   o p   p a n e e l

T h e   p a i n t i n g   w e   p r e s e n t   w a s   a c q u i r e d  
s a v v y   c o n n o i s s e u r   o f   O l d   M a s t e r   p a i n  
f a m o u s   A d o r a t i o n   o f   t h e   M a g i   b y   P i e t  
c a t a l o g u e   r a i s o n n é e   s i n c e   t h e   f i r s t  
r e s u m e d   l a t e r   b y   K l a u s   E r t z   ( c o n s u l t  
d r a w i n g ,   a s   w e l l   a s   t h e   b e a u t i f u l   p i c t  
a   v i b r a n t ,   e n g a g i n g   w o r k   d e a r   t o   u s .

T h e   p r o t o t y p e   o f   t h i s   c o m p o s i t i o n ,   c r  
n o w   h o u s e d   a t   t h e   O s k a r   R e i n h a r t   F o u  
p a n e l ,   s i g n e d   a n d   d a t e d   1 5 6 7   i s   a   w o r  
v e r y   f i r s t   d e p i c t i o n s   w i t h   " u n d e r   f a l  
c e r t a i n   i f   P i e t e r   B r u e g h e l   t h e   Y o u n g e r  
t h e r e   a r e   t h i r t y - s i x   v e r s i o n s   o f   t h i s

justifying the popularity of this in the  
Brueghel Enterprise, Maastricht, Brus  
by the son continue the falling snow

Son of Pieter Brueghel the Elder, a g  
the Younger quickly realized that the  
throughout Europe. He used his talent  
poetic repetition of his compositions  
associating tradition and modernity in  
the time. For they were so eager to o  
we present, Adoration of the Magi, is

## ANALYSE OF SOME IMPORTANT DETAILS

### 1. The religious pretext

Transplanted geographically and 'clima  
from the aridity of Bethlehem to a  
Relegated to the left-hand inside cor  
part of the work, seeking to show tha

### 2. The political context

The horses covered in blankets bear in  
centre of the work, and evoke the pc  
Spanish Netherlands, states of the Ho  
under Habsburg rule from 1556 until 1

### 3. Daily life in paint

Brueghel's composition invites the vie  
activities of everyday life: water-ca  
with distracting scenes.

### 4. The drawing beneath

Drawing remained at the heart of Brue  
of compositions. Here clearly visible,  
is then generously applied.

### 5. The clover-leaf mark

The mark appears on the back of the

stamp of the maker of the panels, Mico  
between the different trades in 17th -  
is also the emblem of the guild of An  
city's association of artists.

## **PROVENANCE**

Anonymous sale Sotheby's London, 26  
Acquired by William Sabin and Sons, L  
Collection Huxley, Surrey, 1963 ;  
Collection Roger Taverner ;  
Collection H. S. de Slowak, Montevideo  
Anonymous sale, Christie's New York,  
Anonymous sale, Tajan, Paris, 9 Decem  
Private collection, France.

## **LITERATURE:**

G. Marlier, Pierre Brueghel le jeune,  
K. Ertz, Pieter Brueghel der Jungere  
Œuvrekatalog, Linggen, 2000, t. 1, p. 3