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Sold to Baron Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza

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- 3 -

PAINTING BY FRANCESCO GUARDI

1712 - 1793

"Harem Scene"

25-1/2 x 18-1/4

20 000

Canvas.

Executed 1735 - 1750.

The following expertise dated Milan, March 3, 1956, was written by Dr. Antonio Morassi (translation from the Italian):

"I have examined with the greatest of interest the Harem Scene you showed me at Zurich the other day, and I am glad to inform you that it is without any doubt a work of Francesco Guardi, of the very highest quality.

"The painting (canvas, 43 x 60 cm.) is part of a series of scenes of Oriental life and customs that Guardi painted at a relatively early period, which can be dated as about 1735-50; his inspiration was probably drawings or prints of the time. --In this series there are known two "harem interiors" in the collection of Count Cini at Venice, one in Paris, another at Milan, still another in Germany, all in private collections. I published the Paris picture in Emporium, November 1951.¹

"The canvas I have just examined is one of the most admirable of all these, both for the delicacy of the transparent blue tonality and for the exquisite brilliant spirited touch."

COLLECTION: From a private collection in Milan, Italy.

1. Antonio Morassi, "Conclusioni su Antonio e Francesco Guardi," EMPORIUM, November 1951, page 194, Figure 1.