

Collections Committee Meeting

April 8, 2019

Elisabeth Louise Vigée-LeBrun (1755-1842) (OL2015.10)

Galleries Nationales, Grand Palais Champs-Élysées

Paris, France

September 21, 2015 to January 11, 2016

Metropolitan Museum of Art

New York, New York

February 09, 2016 to May 15, 2016

National Gallery of Canada

Ottawa, Ontario Canada

June 10, 2016 to September 12, 2016

Artist: Elisabeth L. Vigée-LeBrun

Title: *The Prince of Nassau*

Accession No.: 64.740

Date: 1776

Medium and Support: oil on canvas

Dimensions: 25-3/8 x 21-1/16 in. (canvas) 31 x 26-3/4 x 3-1/4 in. (framed)

Metric: 78.74 x 67.9450 x 8.2550 (framed) Metric: 64.4525 x 53.4988 (canvas)

Credit Line: Gift of Mrs. Ralph W. Showalter

Collection Ranking: A

Appraised Value: \$600000.00

Provenance: Charles-Henri-Othon, Prince of Nassau [1745-1809].{1} George Henry Alexander Clowes [1877-1958], Indianapolis, Indiana, by 1941;{2} (Ivan N. Podgoursky [1901-1962], New York);{3} purchased by Grace (Mrs. Ralph) Showalter [d. 1972], Indianapolis, Indiana, in about 1951;{4} given to the John Herron Art Institute, now the Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields, in 1964. {1} *Souvenirs de Madame Louise-Elisabeth Vigée Le Brun*, Paris, France 1835, vol. I, p. 252. See Joseph Baillio, "Identification de quelques Portraits d'Anonymes de Vigée Le Brun aux États-Unis," *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*, November 1980, pp. 157-168, and Joseph Baillio, *Elisabeth Louise Vigée Le Brun, 1755-1842*, Fort Worth, 1982, cat. no. 4, for the correct identification of the sitter. Previously the portrait was thought to be of the Marquis de La Fayette. {2} See letter from Podgoursky to GHA Clowes, 26 July 1941, in Clowes Archive, IMA. {3} Count Ivan Podgoursky met Clowes in 1937, occasionally selling him pictures. He was affiliated with Demotte Gallery, New York, at the time he sold the painting to Showalter. {4} See letter from Podgoursky to Mrs. R.W. Showalter offering her the painting, 7 May 1951, in IMA Historical File.

