

Cornelis Dusart

Haarlem 1660 – 1704 Haarlem

A Corner of a Kitchen with a Pump and a Sink

Pen in brown ink, gray wash, over black chalk, traces of red chalk

18,2 x 18,8 cm

Provenance

Samuel, Graf von Festetics (*verso*, Lugt 926 with his inscription: *AO 1847*); Artemis Fine Art Ltd., London, in 1982; acquired by Jacobus A. Klaver (bears his mark on the mount, not in Lugt), Amsterdam (Sotheby's), 10 May 1994, lot 96; his sale, Amsterdam (Sotheby's) 5 November 2002, lot 69; acquired by Count Festetics de Tolna.

Exhibitions

Amsterdam, *Tekeningen van oude Meesters: De verzameling Jacobus A. Klaver*, Rijksmuseum 1993, cat. no. 92;
London, *Master Prints and Drawings*, Artemis Fine Art Ltd. 1982, cat. 23 (as Jan Baptist Weenix).

This splendid drawing of a kitchen interior, most likely drawn from life, was used by Cornelis Dusart as a source for a background motif of his painting *A Mother and Child at the Window*, signed and dated 1690, in the Rijksmuseum.¹ The subject matter of a humble sink and pump is clearly Dusart's own, although Isaak van Ostade made some drawings of related subjects, and the influence of Adriaen van Ostade is also present.²

The technique in which the appealing drawing was executed clearly shows the work practice of the artist. First, Dusart used black chalk to set up the composition, after which he further elaborated it in pen and brown ink and reworked some areas in red chalk. Finally, he applied a gray wash to add shades, depth and to accentuate the important elements. With these durable techniques Dusart created a strong visual impression and made the drawing suitable to be kept in portfolio for further use.

The motif of our drawing reoccurs in a second work by Dusart, a highly finished drawing presumably executed shortly after the painting, as an artwork in its own right.³ Both times, in the painting and drawing, Dusart slightly rearranged the elements and appearance of the original study in order to fit the final composition.

¹ Rijksmuseum Amsterdam, inv. no. SK-A-688. The present drawing will be included in the forthcoming *catalogue raisonné* of Cornelis Dusart's drawings by Susan Anderson.

² For example, *A Courtyard with a Waterspout* (Teylers Museum, inv. no. P 071), see: Bernard Schnackenburg, *Adriaen van Ostade, Isack van Ostade. Zeichnungen und Aquarelle*, Hamburg 1981, cat. no. 579.

³ *Mother and Child seated in an Interior*, signed and dated 1690, gray ink and wash over graphite on parchment, private collection, The Netherlands (sold in London at Phillips on 5 December 1988, lot 155 with illustration). We're grateful to Susan Anderson for pointing out the relationship between the two drawings.