Sadeler, Jan 1
Brussels 1550 – 1600 Venice


[Munich, Joris Hoefnagel?], 1589

FOLIO (522 × 350 mm), the set of nine engravings, comprising (1) title, dated 1589 (platemark 450 × 288 mm; Hollstein 233, Illustrated Bartsch 0.195); (2) Christ before Caiaphas or The False Witness, dated 1589 (448 × 292 mm; H. 234, IB 0.196); (3) The Mocking (or Binding) of Christ (445 × 295 mm; H. 236, IB 0.198); (4) Christ falls before Pilate breaking the Reed (445 × 290 mm; H. 237, IB 0.199); (5) Flagellation (295 × 447 mm; H. 235, IB 0.197); (6) Christ Falling under the Cross (446 × 295 mm; H. 238, IB 0.200); (7) Christ stripped of his Garments (447 × 292 mm; H. 239, IB 0.201); (8) Raising of the Cross (448 × 290 mm; H. 240, IB 0.202); (9) Christ on the Cross (448 × 292 mm; H. 241, IB 0.203). All the prints in only state, except ‘Flagellation’ in second state with artist and engraver’s signatures (a single impression of the earlier state is known). Included is an extraneous print of the ‘Flagellation’, engraved by Aegidius II Sadeler in 1593 (see below).

PAPER title and six prints struck on a French laid paper with large chaplet watermark (height 165 mm), probably from the Dupuy mill ‘La Grandrive’ in the Auvergne; the other two prints (IB. 0.196, IB 0.197) with countermark of the maker T. Dupuy (initials T D separated by a well-head; 80 mm), who worked between 1685 and 1720. ¹ Binder’s endleaves: maker A[ntoine?] Delotz (Riom, ‘Moulin de Chanel’, Thiers), his armorial mark and countermark (bunch of grapes).²


Good impressions with broad margins; occasional dust-soiling.

BOUND in contemporary vellum drawn over paper boards.

¹ Comparable to Raymond Gaudriault, Filigranes et autres caractéristiques des papiers fabriqués en France aux XVIIe et XVIIIe siècles (Paris 1995), pl. 150.
² Watermark comparable to Gaudriault (op. cit.), pl. 129 and pp.197–198. The countermark in our sheet is a bunch of grapes.
This series of engravings reproduces the lost altarpiece installed in 1589 in the private chapel in the Munich Neuveste of Herzogin Renata, wife of Herzog Wilhelm V (‘the Pious’) von Bayern. Designed by Friedrich Sustris (1526–1599), Court Superintendent of the arts, and painted by Christoph Schwarz (1548–1592), the altarpiece consisted of nine copper panels: an image of the Crucifixion in the centre, framed by depictions of Christ’s seven falls during his Passion, and a devotional text (Isaiah 53). This type of composition, resembling an iconstasis and probably invented in Italy, was new to countries north of the Alps.

The altarpiece was dismantled in the 18th century and only the Crucifixion panel has survived. A comparison of it, a drawing of the altarpiece by Sustris, and Sadeler’s prints, indicates that the engravings were made in the same size as the original panels and preserve their essential elements; only one (‘Christ Falling under the Cross’) was reversed by the engraver. It is possible that the title-print (Fig. 1), featuring two angels, the insignia of the Duke and Duchess, and of the Jesuit order, depicts an object once displayed on the altar.

Sadeler’s prints were intended to make the devotional images available to a wide public. They circulated widely, in Germany and also in Italy, and many drawn, painted, and

5 Oil on copper (66 × 29 cm), Munich, Bayerische Staatsgemäldesammlungen, Inv. Nr. 1511; for reproductions, see Rom in Bayern: Kunst und Spiritualität der ersten Jesuiten, catalogue of an exhibition in the Bayerischen Nationalmuseums, Munich, edited by Reinhold Baumstark (Munich 1997), pp.444–445 no. 130; and In Europa zu Hause: Niederländer in München um 1600, catalogue of an exhibition in the Staatlichen Graphischen Sammlung München (Munich 2005), pp.204–205 no. D4. The other panels, documented in the Schleißheim gallery in 1748, were lost about 1757 (Volk-Knüttel, op. cit., p.159 note 40).
6 Pen and ink with wash (341 × 269 mm), formerly Stuttgart, Staatsgalerie, Graphische Sammlung, Inv. Nr. C 175 (destroyed in 1945); for reproductions, see Heinrich Geissler, ‘Unbekannte Entwürfe von Friedrich Sustris’ in Kunstgeschichtliche Studien für Kurt Bauch zum 70. Geburtstag von seinen Schülern, edited by Margrit Lisner und Rüdiger Becksmann (Munich 1967), pp.157–158 (figs. 4–6: the drawing, surviving ‘Crucifixion’ panel, and title to our series of prints); and In Europa zu Hause (op. cit.), pp.202–203 no. D3 (a photo-reproduction of the drawing was exhibited).
7 Geissler (op. cit.), p.157.
8 See, for example, In Europa zu Hause (op. cit.), p.217 nos. D13–14 (anonymous pen and wash copies by a 17th-century German artist, in Staatliche Graphische Sammlung, München).
9 See In Europa zu Hause (op. cit.), pp.204–205 nos. D5–D6, D7–D8 (painted copies from two series, both now incomplete, in Bayerische Staatsgemäldemuseum, München); Vera Icon: 1200 Jahre Christusbilder zwischen Alpen und Donau, catalogue of an exhibition, Diözesanmuseum, Freising (Munich 1987), pp.125–126 no. IX.28 (painted copies of the prints, assembled as an altarpiece around a different image of ‘Christ on the Cross’).
The prints are identified as sources for a wide variety of artists, notably, Peter Paul Rubens, whose lost altarpiece of 1602 for the Capella di Santa Elena of Santa Croce in Gerusalemme, Rome, was derived from Sadeler’s print of “Raising of the Cross” (see Fig. 2).\(^\text{11}\)

The date ‘1589’ on the title-print is the date of first issue. Octavianus Secundus Fugger is known to have purchased in that year several sets, all of which were eventually coloured, and the prints framed individually.\(^\text{12}\) The publisher was probably Joris Hoefnagel, who is identified as the publisher at Munich of other prints by Jan Sadeler.\(^\text{13}\)

In 1595 Sadeler departed Munich for Italy, where he died of the plague in 1600. He bequeathed his engraved matrices to his son (or cousin), Justus Sadeler. After the latter’s death, some matrices were sold to the Scolari, and others to the Remondini;\(^\text{14}\) nearly a century later, a huge number of matrices somehow came into the possession of the French printmaker-publisher Laurent Cars (1699–1771). In 1748, Cars re-struck as many five hundred of them, selling the prints as a collection, and possibly in smaller suites.\(^\text{15}\) A review of paper evidence is likely to show that many surviving impressions of Sadeler prints are not contemporary printings, but Italian and French re-strikes.

\(^\text{10}\) Copies of the eight prints by Elias van den Bossche were published by Peter Overadt at Cologne, circa 1600 (impressions in Amsterdam, Rijksmuseum, RP-P–1999–73/81); another set of copies by an anonymous printmaker was published by Pieter Paolo Torri at Padua in 1617 (G.K. Nagler, Neues allgemeines Künstler-Lexicon, XVI, Munich 1846, p.122). Individual prints also were copied; see, for example, ‘The Mocking of Christ’ published by Matteo Florimi at Siena (IB 0.198).


\(^\text{12}\) Fugger paid 1 Gulden 48 Kreuzer for his first copy and 2 Gulden 36 Kreuzer for another two; one of the latter was initially bound in vellum, before being coloured and framed for display (at either Bobingen or Oberkirchberg); see Norbert Lieb, Octavian Secundus Fugger (1549–1600) und die Kunst (Tübingen 1980), p.88 and pp.266, 301, 304–305, 307 (entries in the Nachlaßinventar 1600–1601).

\(^\text{13}\) In Europa zu Hause (op. cit.), p.212.


Fig. 3 Engraving by Jan t Sadeler (reduced from 448 × 292 mm, platemark)
Twelve sets (including re-strikings) are located in Isabelle de Ramaix’s 1999 census.

- Amsterdam, Rijksmuseum
- Berlin, Kupferstichkabinett
- Coburg, Kunstsammlungen der Veste Coburg
- Copenhagen, Statens Museum for Kunst
- Dresden, Staatliche Kunstsammung, Kupferstich-Kabinett
- Munich, Staatliche Graphische Sammlungen
- New York, Metropolitan Museum of Art
- Rotterdam, Museum Boymans-Van Beuningen
- Stuttgart, Staatsgalerie, Graphische Sammlung
- Vienna, Graphische Sammlung Albertina, Hofburgsammlung
- Wolfegg, Fürstlich zu Waldburg-Wolfeggischen Kunstsammlungen
- Zurich, Eidgenössischen Technische Hochschule

and two others are known to the writer.

- Munich, Münchner Stadt museum, Inv. Nr. M I 151/1-9
- Vienna, Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, 257844 – F Fid

Incomplete sets are recorded in these repositories.

- Basel, Öffentliche Kunstsammlungen, Kupferstichkabinett (lacks IB 0.203)
- Brunswick, Herzog Anton Ulrich Museum (lacks IB 0.202)
- Brussels, Bibliothèque Royale Albert Ier (lacks IB 0.203)
- Caen, Musée des Beaux-Arts (lacks IB 0.196)
- Cambridge, Fitzwilliam Museum (lacks IB 0.198)
- Darmstadt, Hessisches Landesmuseum (lacks IB 0.198)
- Innsbruck, Universitätsbibliothek (lacks IB 0.200)
- Melbourne, University, Baillieu Library (lacks IB 0.195)
- Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale (lacks IB 0.196)
- Vienna, Graphische Sammlung Albertina, Sachsen-Teschen Collection

Included in this copy is an impression of Aegidius II Sadeler’s ‘Flagellation’ (442 × 295 mm), dated at Munich 1593, a print purportedly engraved after a drawing or painting by Jacopo Palma il Giovane (1544–1628), but perhaps after Federico Barocci (1526–1612).

REFERENCES


In Europa zu Hause (op. cit.), pp.212–217 nos. D9–12.

Rom in Bayern (op. cit.), pp.437–444 no. 129 (entry by Reinhold Baumnark).


Désiré Guilmard, Les Maîtres ornemanistes: Dessinateurs, peintres, architectes, sculpteurs et graveurs. Écoles française, italienne, allemande et des Pays-Bas (flamande & hollandaise) (Paris 1880), p.488 no. 34.