



Gerhard, (Friedrich Wilhelm) Eduard

1795 – 1867

Vases grecs, relatifs aux mystères.

Stuttgart & Tübingen, J.G. Cotta, 1839

LARGE FOLIO (715 × 610 mm), (1)f. (*Préface | Tables des Planches*), and twelve plates (numbered I–XII) signed *Weng* or *Meijer* (or variations thereof).

In excellent state of preservation.

Printed wrappers (with German title and imprint *Griechische Mysterienbilder. Zum erstenmale bekannt gemacht von Eduard Gerhard. Stuttgart & Tübingen in der J.G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung. 1839.*)

ONLY EDITION of a work presenting nine vases and a bronze cista, examined by Gerhard in 1825–1826 in various Neapolitan private collections. According to the author's *Préface*, the plates were produced from his own drawings in 1827–1828, as a supplement to his series *Antike Bildwerke* (1827–1844), where eventually descriptive text was published.¹ All the vases were unrecorded, except for the first, which Raoul-Rochette had seen in 1826–1827, and published in 1830.²

At the time of Gerhard's visit, three of the nine vases were in the possession of the Neapolitan dealer Onofrio Pacileo; two belonged to Marchese Niccola Santangelo (1786–1851), Intendente della provincia di Capitanata (1823) and later Ministro degli affari Interni

¹ From the *Préface*: ‘Les peintures de vases grecs, que renferme ce cahier, ont été recueillies pendant mon séjour à Naples en 1825, pour faire partie des six cent dessins de monumens inédits d'art ancien, jadis destinés pour l'ouvrage intitulé *Antike Bildwerke*. Séparées de cet ouvrage, à cause de la grandeur des planches, ces peintures forment la série actuelle, contenant dans tous ses dessins des rapports irrécusables avec les Mystères de la Grande Grèce.’ The descriptions appeared in *Text zu Eduard Gerhard's Antiken Bildwerken. In drei Lieferungen. Zweite und dritte Lieferung* (Munich 1844), pp.375–388: ‘Nachtrag auserlesener Mysterienbilder. (Enthalten in der besonders erschienenen Sammlung größten Formats: “Griechische Mysterienbilder”’).

² Désiré Raoul-Rochette, *Monumens inédits d'antiquité figurée, Grecque, Étrusque et Romaine. Première partie. Cycle héroïque* (Paris [1828–1833]), pp.179–180 and pl. XLV: ‘Ce vase, un des plus grands et des plus curieux que l'on connaisse, trouvé, avec plusieurs autres de la même dimension, dans un tombeau de Ruvo, existe chez Don Pacileo, à Naples...’

(1831–1847);³ two had belonged until recently to Pietro Luigi Moschini of Voghera, a captain in the army of the King of Sardinia, resident in Naples from 1802, whose collection was sold in 1824 to the royal House of Savoy; and two were owned by ‘Chevalier Lamberti’ of Naples (perhaps the dealer Carlo Lamberti, or else a ‘Major’ or ‘Colonel’ Lamberti). The bronze ‘cista mystica’ (pl. XII) had belonged until recently to Franz Freiherr von Koller (1767–1826), General Intendant of the Austrian army in Naples, whose collections were transferred after his death to Berlin.

The ten objects are described in the *Tables des Planches* as follows

- ‘Divinités, sacrifices et punitions de l’enfer; grand vase de la Pouille, possédé par Mr. Pacileo à Naples’ (reproduced on plates I–II; details on plate III/1–2)⁴
- ‘Pluton et Orphée; vase apulien possédé par Mr. Pacileo à Naples’ (pl. IV; reverse shown pl. III/3)⁵
- ‘Scènes de mariage sur deux vases de forme et grandeur égale, cédés par Mr. Moschini au Musée Royal de Turin’ (pls. V–VI)⁶
- ‘Bain de femmes; vase du Cabinet Santangelo à Naples’ (pl. VII)⁷
- ‘Initiée élevée au trône mystique; vase de Mr. Pacileo à Naples’ (pl. VIII; reverse shown on pl. III/4)
- ‘Le même sujet réuni au Bain des femmes initiées; vase du Cabinet Santangelo à Naples’ (pl. IX)⁸
- ‘Jeune fiancée jouant de la harpe; vase de Mr. le Chev. Lamberti à Naples’ (pl. X)
- ‘Jeu du Ballon; vase de Mr. le Chev. Lamberti à Naples’ (pl. XI)
- ‘Procession et initiation bacchique; dessin gravé d’une Ciste mystique en bronze, appartenant jadis à Mr. le Baron de Koller’ (pl. XII)⁹

As usual, the title-page in this copy is in French (‘Vases grecs, relatifs aux mystères’) and the wrapper-title in German (‘Griechische Mysterienbilder’). No copies with the title-page

³ The publication was announced in *Allgemeine Bibliographie für Deutschland*, 26 June 1840, p.342 no. 2764; cf. *Repertorium der gesammten deutschen Literatur* 24 (1840), ‘Bibliographischer Anzeiger’, no. 36, p.148 (publisher’s advertisement, dated ‘August 1840’).

⁴ State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, B1717 (via the Campana collection, Rome). Ludolf Stephani, *Die Vasen-Sammlung der Kaiserlichen Ermitage* (St. Petersburg 1869), pp.223–231 no. 424. A.D. Trendall and Alexander Cambitoglou, *The red-figured vases of Apulia* (Oxford 1982), p.930 no. 117.

⁵ State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, 1701. Stephani, *op. cit.*, pp.256–260 no. 498; Trendall and Cambitoglou, *op. cit.*, p.733 no. 46.

⁶ Museo di Antichità, Turin, 4149. For the acquisition of Moschini’s collection, see Luigina Tomay, ‘Il carro di Afrodite: tre vasi italioti a figure rosse del Museo di antichità di Torino’ in *Quaderni della Soprintendenza archeologica del Piemonte* 117 (2000), pp.11–33.

⁷ Museo Archeologico Nazionale, Naples. Heinrich Heydemann, *Die Vasensammlungen des Museo Nazionale zu Neapel* (Berlin 1872), p.779 no. 647. Niccola Santangelo’s collection was inherited by his brother Michele and in 1865 incorporated in the Museo Nazionale, Naples.

⁸ Museo Archeologico Nazionale, Naples. Heydemann, *op. cit.*, pp.643–644 no. 34.

⁹ Gerhard later published this object in his *Etruskische Spiegel* [Band 1]: *Allgemeines und Götterbilder* (Berlin 1843), pp.58–62 pls. 17–18.

in German are recorded and citations of ‘two’ editions of the work most probably are erroneous.¹⁰

REFERENCES Ernest Vinet, *Bibliographie méthodique et raisonnée des Beaux-Arts* (Paris 1874), p.191 no. 1556; Fabia Borroni, ‘Il Cicognara’. *Bibliografia dell’ archeologia classica e dell’ arte italiana* (Florence 1965), no. 11853 (3 plates only)