

STEPHEN ONGPIN FINE ART



17th Century BOLOGNESE SCHOOL

Studies of a Reclining Male Nude, Seen from Behind with One Arm Raised, and a Man Grimacing in Pain

Red chalk, with stumping.
Numbered 79 in red chalk on the verso.
326 x 218 mm. (12 7/8 x 8 1/2 in.)

Formerly attributed to Annibale Carracci, this drawing would certainly appear to be Bolognese in origin. The small sketch of a struggling man at the upper left may be a study for the figure of Antaeus in a painting or fresco of Hercules and Antaeus.

The drawing bears the distinctive collector's mark of the classical archaeologist, scholar and collector Ludwig Pollak (1868-c.1943). Born in Prague, Pollak earned a doctorate in Vienna in 1893 and later that year settled in Rome, where he was to live and work for the remainder of his career as an art dealer and consultant in ancient art. Pollak was deported from Rome by the Gestapo in October 1943 and is presumed to have died in a concentration camp. His collection of drawings, now widely dispersed, numbered around 3,000 sheets in total.

Provenance:

Dr. Ludwig Pollak, Rome (Lugt 788b)
Anonymous sale, London, Christie's, 2 July 1991, lot 277.