

French Paintings and Pastels, 1600–1945

The Collections of The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

Aimee Marcereau DeGalan, Editor



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Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, 1853 or earlier

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|----------------------------------|--|
| Artist | Eugène Delacroix, French, 1798–1863 |
| Title | <i>Christ on the Sea of Galilee</i> |
| Object Date | 1853 or earlier |
| Medium | Oil on canvas |
| Dimensions (Unframed) | 18 x 21 1/2 in. (45.7 x 54.6 cm) |
| Credit Line | The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. Purchase: William Rockhill Nelson Trust through exchange of the gifts of the Friends of Art, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Parker, and the Durand-Ruel Galleries; and the bequest of John K. Havemeyer, 89-16 |

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Catalogue Entry

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Fig. 1. Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Lake of Genesareth*, ca. 1853, oil on canvas, 17 3/4 x 21 5/8 in. (45.1 x 54.9 cm), Portland Art Museum, Oregon, Gift of Mrs. William Mead Ladd and her children: William Sargent Ladd, Charles Thornton Ladd, and Henry Andrews Ladd in memory of William Mead Ladd (31.4)

This large, dynamic sketch was the initial exploration in oil of one of Eugène Delacroix's most concentrated treatments of a single theme. Delacroix referred to the work in 1853 as an "old [or 'earlier'] sketch" (*ancienne*

esquisse), but it cannot be dated with further precision based on current information.¹ The artist first executed a finished version for his friend, the Polish count Albert (Wojciech) Grzymala (1793–1870), in 1853 (Fig. 1). Now at the Portland Art Museum in Oregon, the Grzymala picture was followed by a veritable campaign on the theme of Christ on the Sea of Galilee, within the brief span of a year or slightly more. There are two close variants of the composition, which Delacroix also worked on in 1853, one now at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and the other in a private collection. In two other paintings of 1853–1854, Delacroix altered the composition considerably, largely by replacing the rowboat with a sailboat, a different one in each; these are in the collections of the E. G. Bührle Foundation, Zürich, and the Walters Art Museum, Baltimore. The late Delacroix specialist Lee Johnson established, in many instances tentatively, the complicated early histories of these six pictures in his seven-volume catalogue raisonné of Delacroix's paintings published between 1981 and 2006, in which he also attempted to account for four further, closely related, oils.² Despite questions left open by Johnson, the histories of the individual works as he outlined them have been accepted, with minor deviations, by subsequent scholars.³ Recent findings by Michèle Hannoosh, however, contribute important new information, overturning long-held assumptions about the origins of the group; selected results of her research, which is ongoing, are presented below.⁴

The subject of the Nelson-Atkins sketch is a New Testament lesson of faith. It depicts Christ sleeping in the moments before he is awakened by his terrified disciples during a storm on the Sea of Galilee (sometimes called the Lake of Genesareth and other names). Shortly afterward, Christ will reproach them for their lack of trust in providence. The story is recounted in three of the Gospels: Matthew 8:23–27, Luke 8:22–25, and Mark 4:36–41. Luke's description is the most animated:

Now it came to pass, on a certain day, that he went into a boat with his disciples; and he said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched forth. But as they sailed he fell asleep; and there came down a storm of wind on the lake, and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy. And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water; and they ceased, and there was a calm. And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And

*they, being afraid, marveled, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! For he commandeth even the winds and the water, and they obey him.*⁵



Fig. 2. Peter Paul Rubens (Flemish, 1577–1640), *Christ Calming the Sea*, ca. 1608–1609, oil on canvas, 39 3/16 x 55 1/2 in. (99.5 x 141 cm), © Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister, Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden (inv. 1001). Photo by Elke Estel/Hans-Peter Klut

Delacroix was a religious sceptic. Although he indicated his interest in the subject of Christ on the Sea of Galilee as early as 1824, biblical themes figured only occasionally in the early years of his career.⁶ Nevertheless, from the mid-1830s on, they became a mainstay of his output, along with the themes on which his reputation was founded—subjects drawn from literature, history, and his 1832 journey to North Africa. One motivation for taking up religious subjects was to challenge himself to produce paintings worthy of past masterpieces he admired in the Louvre and elsewhere. *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* was inspired by seventeenth-century precedents, especially Peter Paul Rubens's *Christ Calming the Sea* (Fig. 2), formerly attributed to Jacob Jordaens (Flemish, 1593–1678), and Rembrandt van Rijn's (Dutch, 1606–1669) rendition of the same subject, which Delacroix knew through reproductions.⁷ Additionally, Delacroix's journals reveal that he was deeply engaged with questions of faith, morality, and justice. The artist treated innumerable Christian subjects in a range of canvas sizes, but with few exceptions he seems to have envisioned these paintings in secular contexts—museums and other civic spaces, as well as homes—to be seen alongside narrative subjects drawn from history, literature, and mythology. It was perhaps in reaction to the placement in a church of his large *Saint Sebastian Tended by the Holy Women*, acquired by the French state

at the Salon of 1836, that Delacroix channeled his interests in religious subjects largely into easel pictures suited to domestic settings.⁸ Apart from the Nelson-Atkins sketch, which was in Delacroix's possession when he died, all the versions of *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* were made for friends and collectors. Even so, the moral gravity of the theme and the tilted-up position of the boat and its occupants, especially in the rowboat series, evoke the vast mural decorations commissioned from the artist by the French state, including *Peace Descends to Earth* for a ceiling in the Hôtel de Ville, Paris, unveiled on February 21, 1854 (destroyed in 1871).

In the Nelson-Atkins sketch, the boat holding Christ and nine other figures is oriented diagonally, from the top left to the bottom right, nearly filling the composition. The stern is near the crest of a massive wave, and the bow is at its trough, effectively cupping the boat in the curve and pushing it outward to afford an unimpeded view of the figures within. The pictorial field is dominated by the dark sea, brushed broadly in thin washes of paint, with only a sliver of sky at the top, the line between them punctuated by sea spray and foam.

Delacroix reveled in enlivening tight, multfigured groupings by interlocking and overlapping bodies and draperies to create surprising juxtapositions. He frequently worked out such arrangements in drawings. Although it is possible that he made preparatory drawings for the rowboat series of *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, none are known. Based on the physical evidence available, one may conjecture that the Nelson-Atkins sketch was the artist's first pictorial iteration of the theme. The sketch's painterliness is its dominant quality, such that the work may appear crude at first glance; whatever fine details there are, such as the rendering of Christ's face, are isolated and few in number. Nevertheless, the sketch is not unfinished in the sense that the artist intended to carry it further. It is, rather, an autonomous work that preserves its aspect of spontaneity. Indeed, Delacroix left it in a state that reveals the working process that brought it into being. The artist pondered the question of finish often, as two journal entries from the period leading up to the Christ on the Sea of Galilee campaign show. On October 16, 1850, under the heading "On pictorial license," Delacroix noted, "Every master owes to this what are often his most sublime effects. Rembrandt's unfinished quality, Rubens's extravagance. Mediocre artists cannot be daring in this way. They are never outside themselves."⁹ On April 13, 1853, he wrote, "One always has to spoil a picture a little in order to finish it. The last touches,

which are given to bring the different parts into harmony, take away from the freshness. It has to appear in public shorn of all those happy negligences which an artist delights in."¹⁰

The artist's words are perfectly in accord with the spiritedness of the Nelson-Atkins sketch. They also help to show that insofar as his creative process was concerned, Delacroix could, if it suited him, place a premium on intuition over method. In the case of *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, the complicated arrangement of figures is all the more impressive given the way in which Delacroix built the composition from the ground layer up (see Technical Entry). Lively figures alternately encircle and punctuate Christ's imperturbable form, the brightest area in the sketch. At the upper left, the helmsman is almost entirely outside the boat, straining to hold a course. A standing man at the center flings his arms upward to stabilize himself, his right arm delineating Christ's back. A seated figure in red and blue rounds out Christ's lower body with his arms and shoulders, his head seen in *profil perdu* silhouetted against Christ's form. A fourth man, seated deep in the boat, extends his arms along the gunwales.

Moving toward the bow, two men rooted to the same seat hurl themselves in opposite directions, away from one another. The one above, portrayed frontally, reaches back with his right arm to clutch a fluttering white drapery. The one below, seen from behind, reaches forward with an open hand. It is unclear from the sketch what he reaches for, but this question is resolved in subsequent versions, in which an irretrievable oar is visible at and just beneath the surface of the water. (The forcefulness of that figure's extended left arm is balanced by the movement and costume of the one in red and blue described above.) In contrast to these two figures are two oarsmen who lean into one another. Occupying the bow is a youth wrapped in a white cowl, whose form is articulated with impressive economy: a few strokes of white paint and more bodied highlights for the drapery, and details of the face and hand quickly drawn in brown pigment with the point of the brush. This figure's androgyny seems keyed to heighten the overall effect of vulnerability.

Delacroix's approach to composition varied widely. Preparatory drawings of a fluid, open-ended nature exist in great numbers for some works but not others. Despite their absence in the present case, there is a gestural, graphic quality to the manner in which Delacroix rendered the figures, a number of whose forms—the pair of oarsmen, for instance—are rendered by means of

ovoid shapes that relate to the artist's manner of "drawing by rounds" or *boules*.¹¹ He very likely first worked out the composition directly on the canvas, initially by means of a drawing: traces of underdrawing are visible to the naked eye through the paint layer around the head and shoulders of the figure at the vessel's prow. It is entirely plausible that the function of this sketch was to fix an idea that would be resolved, eventually, in a finished picture.

That was undoubtedly the case with the lost oar, which appears in the Portland picture (see Fig. 1). In this subsequent work, Delacroix introduced innumerable details and refined the color relationships. For example, the man who has lost his oar now wears a yellow cap; there is a braided red rope across the back of the rower on the left; his counterpart wears a flowing red cloth on his head; and water drips from his oar. The youth in the bow now hugs the prow, his forearm and hand visible, and the cowering countenance in the Nelson-Atkins sketch has been replaced by a more active expression of fear. The horizon is no longer defined by the crest of a single wave, as in the sketch. Instead, the sea meets the sky at an inestimable distance from the foreground.

Delacroix's progress on the Portland painting can be gauged from entries in his journal. On April 30, 1853, he noted that he had sketched out "Christ in the storm" for his friend Grzymala, and on June 28, he "finishes" this painting (the Portland version).¹² On October 9, 1853, he was working on another version, a "Christ in the boat" after an *ancienne esquisse*; this is a reference to the Nelson-Atkins sketch and its role as the source for, most likely, the version now at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.¹³ Delacroix did not mention the use of drawings in executing the Met version, but it is likely that he did employ them to transfer the Grzymala/Portland painting's composition, including the majority of its component details.¹⁴

Given the concern that Delacroix expressed on April 15, 1853, about having to "spoil" a painting in order to finish it, it is reasonable to ask how he judged the canvases on the theme of Christ on the Sea of Galilee that he went on to produce after the Nelson-Atkins sketch. He did not comment on any of them specifically. However, a remark written as if to qualify his earlier statement casts light on the matter. On April 20, he wrote, "An artist does not spoil a picture by finishing it; but, in closing the door to [open] interpretation [by] renouncing the vagueness of the sketch, he reveals his personality more fully, thereby displaying the full scope of his talent, but also its limitations."¹⁵ This reflection sheds light on the stakes

for each decision Delacroix made as he executed the various versions of *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, decisions about color, details, background, and so on.



Fig. 3. Théodore Géricault (1791–1814), *The Raft of the Medusa*, 1819, oil on canvas, 193 5/16 x 281 7/8 in. (491 x 716 cm), Musée du Louvre, Département des Peintures, Paris (INV. 4884)

Delacroix's most direct historical sources for this subject are those by Rembrandt and Rubens, but he first used the boat motif—and the roiling sea—in his inaugural Salon picture, *The Barque of Dante* (1822; Musée du Louvre). His participation in the theme goes back even further, to his time in Théodore Géricault's atelier during the painting of *The Raft of the Medusa* in 1818–1819 (Fig. 3); Delacroix posed for one of the shipwreck's victims. The fluttering white drapery in the hand of the apostle in Delacroix's *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* sketch echoes the white and red cloths that two survivors wave over their heads at the apex of Géricault's picture, as they attempt to signal the ship *Argus* passing in the distance.

In the mid-1820s, Delacroix began to contemplate an ambitious marine subject that he eventually painted in 1840 and exhibited at the Salon of 1841, *The Shipwreck of Don Juan* (Fig. 4). Drawn from Lord Byron's epic poem, initially published in parts between 1819 and 1824, it is a scene of castaways in a lifeboat, some of whom draw lots to determine the order in which they will cannibalize each other. Though not life-size, it is considerably larger than a standard easel picture. Both its size and its uncommonly extended rectangular shape amplify the coffin-like quality of the boat; the men and women are effectively doomed between the sea and the sky. The anxiety exuded by *Don Juan*—a combination of shock and resignation in the face of circumstances almost too repugnant to contemplate—is of a very different character from the fear that Christ's disciples experience

as the result of their lapse of faith in the face of nature's blind rage. Lee Johnson detected a connection between *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* and another painting dating to the period of *Don Juan*'s conception in 1820s. The rowboat versions of *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, culminating, in his view, in the canvas at the Met, "mark a resolution of the spatial disunity of the *Death of Sardanapalus*" (Fig. 5), another painting inspired by an epic poem by Byron.

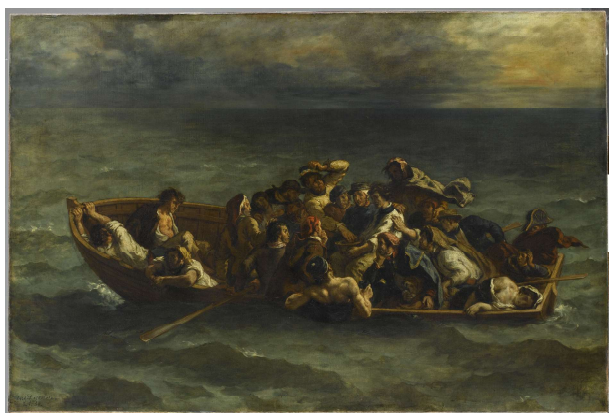


Fig. 4. Eugène Delacroix, *The Shipwreck of Don Juan*, 1840, oil on canvas, 53 1/8 x 77 3/16 in. (135 x 196 cm), Musée du Louvre, Département des Peintures, Paris (RF 359). Photo (C) RMN-Grand Palais (musée du Louvre) / Gérard Blot

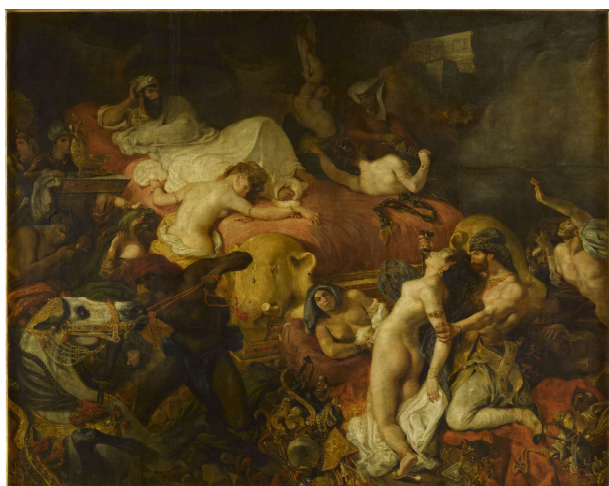


Fig. 5. Eugène Delacroix, *The Death of Sardanapalus*, 1826–1827, oil on canvas, 155 1/2 x 194 7/8 in. (3.9 x 4.9 cm), Musée du Louvre, Département des Peintures, Paris (RF 2346)

Delacroix was an active reader and a fundamentally literary artist. He was drawn to motifs that recurred in unrelated narrative contexts but were linked in his own mind, which were then fodder for protracted artistic engagement. Such is the case with various compositions that feature a figure of profound calm—serene, asleep,

or calculating—isolated in the midst of a maelstrom. Early examples are the figures of Sardanapalus and Don Juan (usually identified as the man wearing a bicorn); in 1846 he would add another, the unconscious heroine of *The Abduction of Rebecca* (Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York), who is the only note of calm in a scene of dramatic violence. These antiheroes bear an unlikely kinship with Christ on the Sea of Galilee.

Asher Ethan Miller
November 2020

Notes

1. Eugène Delacroix, entry dated October 9, 1853, *Journal*, ed. Michèle Hannoosh (Paris: José Corti, 2009), 1:684.
2. See Lee Johnson, *The Paintings of Eugène Delacroix: A Critical Catalogue*, vols. 3 (text) and 4 (plates) (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1986), pp. 232–38, no. 451, pl. 262 (Nelson-Atkins); no. 452, pl. 262 (Portland Art Museum, Oregon); no. 453, pl. 263 (private collection; formerly in the collection of Peter Nathan, Zürich); no. 454, pl. 263 (Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York); no. 455, pl. 264 (Emil Bührle Foundation, Zürich); and no. 456, pl. 265 (Walters Art Museum, Baltimore). Johnson also described four further works whose authorship he questioned or which he had not seen: no. S6 on pp. 304–05, pl. 321 (Philadelphia Museum of Art); no. S7 on p. 305, pl. 321 (Museum of Fine Arts, Boston); copy of no. 456, described on p. 238, not illustrated (Nationalmuseum, Oslo); and no. L185 on p. 286, not illustrated (lost, possibly another subject). Johnson published illustrations of a number of the works as well as additions and corrections in subsequent volumes. There is also a version in a private collection (provenance: Fernand Antonin Mercié, Paris [in 1918]; Walter Pach, New York [until d. 1958]; anonymous sale, Parke-Bernet, New York, January 6, 1949, no. 31, unsold; by descent to private collection [until 2011]; *19th Century European Art Including Orientalist Art*, sale, Christie's, London, June 15, 2011, no. 203; Galerie Heim, Basel [from 2011]; to current owner).
3. See especially Vincent Pomarède, "Christ on the Sea of Galilee," in Arlette Sérullaz et al., *Delacroix: The Late Work*, exh. cat. (Philadelphia: Philadelphia Museum of Art, 1998), cat. nos. 113–18, pp. 279–87, 375–76. The dating was accepted by the curators

of the retrospective held at the Musée du Louvre, Paris, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, in 2018–2019.

4. Michèle Hannoosh to Glynnis Stevenson, NAMA, and Asher Ethan Miller, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, July 28, 2020, NAMA curatorial files. She notes: “The Haro stamp on the central strut of the Portland stretcher gives the address of Haro’s establishment between 1850 and 1852: rue des Petits Augustins 18.”
5. Luke 8:22–25 (King James Version).
6. Delacroix, manuscript notes dated 1824–1826, *Journal*, 2:1453, 1455.
7. Rembrandt van Rijn, *Christ in the Storm of Galilee*, 1633, oil on canvas, 63 x 50 3/8 in. (160 x 128 cm), Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, stolen in 1990.
8. Eugène Delacroix, *Saint Sebastian Tended by the Holy Women*, 1836, oil on canvas, 84 5/8 x 110 1/4 in. (215 x 280 cm), Church of Saint-Michel, Nantua, Ain, France.
9. Delacroix, entry dated October 16, 1850, *Journal*, 1:550.
10. Delacroix, entry dated April 13, 1853, *Journal*, 1:631.
11. On this technique, see Ashley E. Dunn, “Delacroix as a Draftsman: Through the Lens of the Karen B. Cohen Collection,” in Ashley E. Dunn, Colta Feller Ives, and Marjorie Shelley, *Delacroix Drawings: The Karen B. Cohen Collection*, exh. cat. (New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2018), 33, 152n96. In contrast to the rowboat series, for which there are no known drawings of this type representing the early stages of formulating the composition, there are at least three known sheets representing exploration of the sailboat compositions of the Bührle and Walters pictures. Two are in the Musée du Louvre, Paris (RF 9493, RF 42660). For another, whose present whereabouts are unknown, see Maurice Sérullaz, *Mémorial de l’exposition Eugène Delacroix*, exh. cat. (Paris: Musée du Louvre, 1963), cat. no. 451, pp. 343–44, as in the collection of Claude Roger-Marx, Paris.
12. Delacroix, entries dated April 30, 1853, and June 28, 1853, *Journal*, 1:645 and 1:673.
13. Delacroix, entry dated October 9, 1853, *Journal*, 1:684. The canvas underway on that date is presumably the same one Delacroix had previously mentioned on September 26, 1853, as “Christ dans le bateau” (p. 680) and would subsequently describe, on October 10, as “Christ dans la barque” (p. 684); he would refer to it again, on October 13, as “Christ dormant dans la tempête” (p. 689). This painting, produced for the dealer Francis Petit, is generally agreed to be the version at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
14. There are at least two drawings, both quite large, which seem to correspond most closely to the composition of the Grzymala/Portland picture. The first, in the Harvard University Art Museums (1943.813), was executed in graphite on tracing paper (laid down) measuring 14 1/8 x 20 5/8 in. (35.7 x 52.5 cm); see Agnes Mongan, *David to Corot: French Drawings in the Fogg Art Museum*, ed. Miriam Stewart (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1996), no. 148, pp. 156–57, as attributed to “Follower of Delacroix.” The Harvard sheet bears the stamp of the Delacroix atelier sale (see “838a,” in Frits Lugt, *Les Marques de Collections de Dessins et d’Estampes*, editions of 1921 and 1956, published online by Fondation Custodia, accessed January 5, 2021, <http://marquesdecollections.fr>). For the second drawing, whose present whereabouts are unknown, see *Floralies 1986: Importants Tableaux Modernes* (Versailles: Maître Georges Blache, June 11, 1986), no. 1, p. 6, described as “dessin à la mine de plomb sur papier teinté, 36 x 53 cm” (14 3/16 x 20 7/8 in.) and stamped with the artist’s monogram at the lower left, with a citation to Lugt 838. The stamp is not legible in the illustration, however, making it impossible to verify whether it is in fact Lugt 838 (indicating the collection of Delacroix’s assistant Pierre Andrieu, found on drawings both by Delacroix and Andrieu) or Lugt 838a (Delacroix’s estate stamp). The third drawing, also in pencil, whose present whereabouts are also unknown, measures 13 3/8 x 18 1/2 in. (34 x 47 cm); see *XIX and XX Century French Paintings and Drawings*, exh. cat. (London: Lefevre Gallery, November–December 1964), no. 29, pp. 26–27; based on the reproduction, it is the least nuanced of the three. Close examination of these sheets, together with improved infrared imaging of the Nelson-Atkins sketch—if it were to reveal extensive underdrawing—would

undoubtedly shed additional light on the unfolding of the series.

15. Delacroix, entry dated April 20, 1853, *Journal*, 1:637.

Technical Entry

Citation

Chicago:

Mary Schafer, "Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, 1853 or earlier," technical entry in ed. Aimee Marcereau DeGalan *French Paintings, 1600–1945: The Collections of the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art* (Kansas City: The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, 2021), <https://doi.org/10.37764/78973.5.402.2088>.

MLA:

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Christ on the Sea of Galilee was executed on a fairly open, plain-weave canvas that is attached to a six-member stretcher of nonstandard size that may be original to the painting.¹ Although Eugène Delacroix (1798–1863) worked closely with the Parisian color merchant Haro to acquire his painting materials and supports, there is no stamp or other indication on the stretcher reverse to confirm its origin.² The canvas has been primed with a white, lead-based ground of moderate thickness. This priming layer does not continue onto the preserved tacking margins, indicating that not only was the canvas stretched prior to the ground application, but the overall dimensions of the painting have not been extensively altered.



Fig. 6. Photomicrograph of the figure on the lower right, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier), showing the finely painted lines of the underdrawing

Using a fine brush and thin fluid paint, Delacroix initially sketched out the composition with loose, calligraphic strokes, many of which remain visible beneath the sparsely painted figure at the lower right of the boat (Fig. 6). Although infrared reflectography confirms that additional sketch lines exist beneath many of the figures, a complete view of the underdrawing could not be attained.³ On top of the white ground and painted sketch, thin wash applications produce a greenish-brown tonality overall, and above this the water was broadly blocked in with a fluid layer of opaque gray, applied with vigorous brushwork.

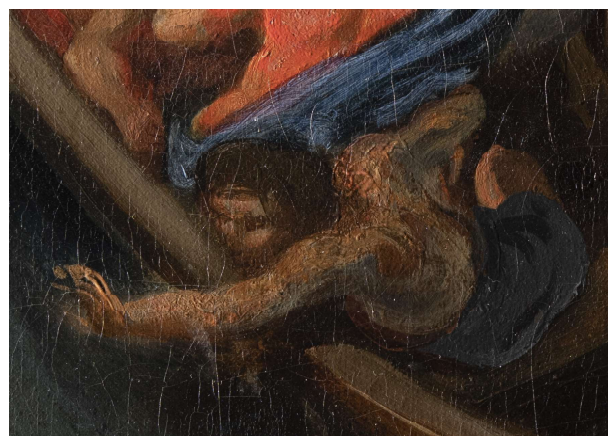


Fig. 7. Detail in raking illumination, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier)

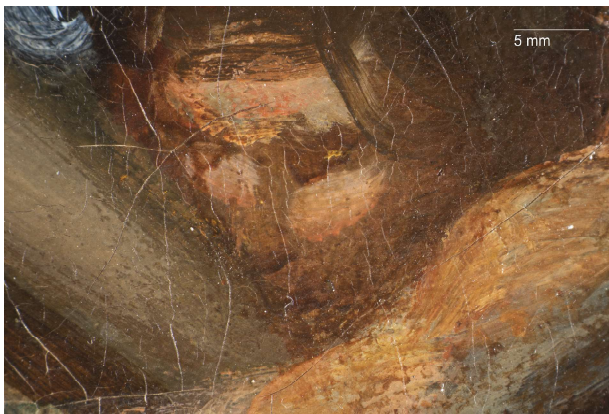


Fig. 8. Photomicrograph of a disciple's face, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier)

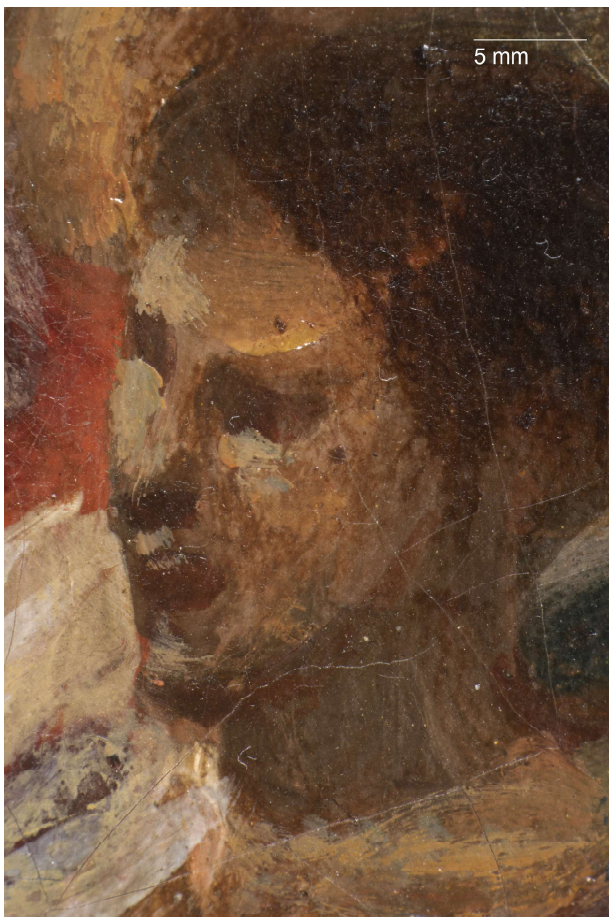


Fig. 9. Photomicrograph of another disciple's face, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier)

Above these preparatory layers, Delacroix rendered the figures and boat with a tonally modulated underpainting consisting of browns and grays to define the mid-tones and shadows and thicker, opaque paint to work up the highlights. The thicker impasto of the highlights creates a relief-like, sculptural effect that is readily apparent in

the central disciple's hand, outstretched arm, and upper back (Fig. 7). The photomicrograph in Figure 8 demonstrates how Delacroix constructed the figure's face quickly and concisely, with minimal detail, in accordance with the artist's written description of the process: "One of the great advantages of the lay-in by tone and effect without bothering with the details, is that one is compelled to put in only those which are absolutely necessary."⁴ With the immediacy and energetic brushwork so indicative of his technique, Delacroix conveys movement, facial expression, and gestures with only a few quick strokes of the brush (Figs. 9 and 10).



Fig. 10. Photomicrograph of the dry brushwork of the standing figure's arm, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier)

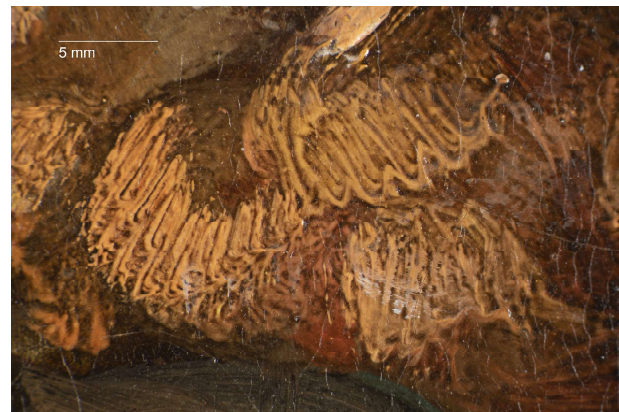


Fig. 11. Photomicrograph of the lower right figure's exposed back, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier), revealing textures in the paint produced by the rapid up and down motion of the artist's brush

There is considerable variation in the transparency and thickness of the uppermost paint layers, which range from thicker dabs of paint to thin fluid strokes, transparent glazes, and veil-like scumbles. The figures were developed with additions of opaque highlights of

pink, peach, and beige, applied once the underpainting was fully dry. In some cases, dashes of semi-transparent red-brown paint were added to delineate the eyes (Fig. 8). For the highlights of the disciple's exposed upper back, Delacroix used a 1/8-inch brush and a swift up-and-down motion of the wrist to form a rippling texture in the impasto (Fig. 11), an action that recalls his advice on wielding the paintbrush: "You have to attack with clarity, boldness and precision and all of a sudden, the force coming from the wrist, the wrist acting alone in giving movement to the brush and not the fingers."⁵ An overlying brown glaze further accentuates this texture while unifying the peach, pink, and yellow highlights. Whereas most of the disciples' garments are opaquely painted, in his rendering of the central orange and blue drapery (Figs. 12 and 13), Delacroix exploited the bright white highlights of the underpainting and allowed these strokes to show through the upper glazes.

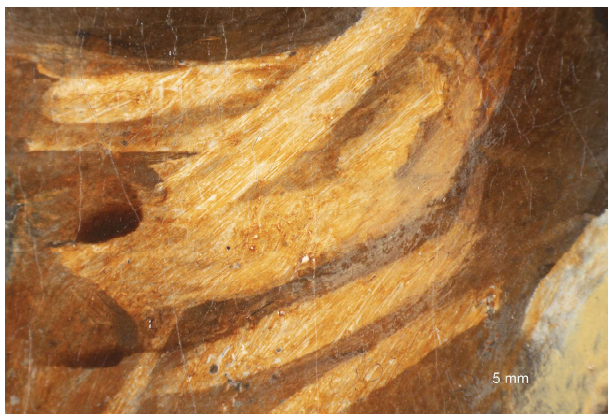


Fig. 12. Photomicrograph of the orange drapery, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier)

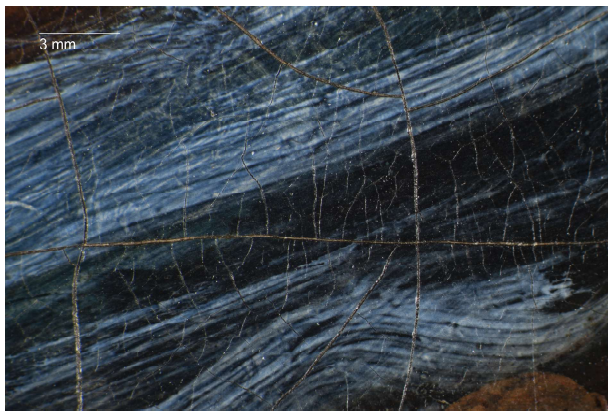


Fig. 13. Photomicrograph of the blue drapery, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier)

Dynamic brushwork heightens the movement of the water and intensifies the dramatic scene (Fig. 14). Blue-green paint dryly overlaps the lower left edge of the boat, and these broad diagonal strokes extend toward the lower right corner, reinforcing the strong diagonals of the composition. To the right of the windswept fabric, a scumble of yellow creates a reflection in the dark cresting water. Loose, horizontal strokes of pale yellow establish the narrow band of sky on the horizon, and where the individual hairs of a stiff-bristle brush dragged through this fluid paint, a dark green, underlying layer is visible (Fig. 15).

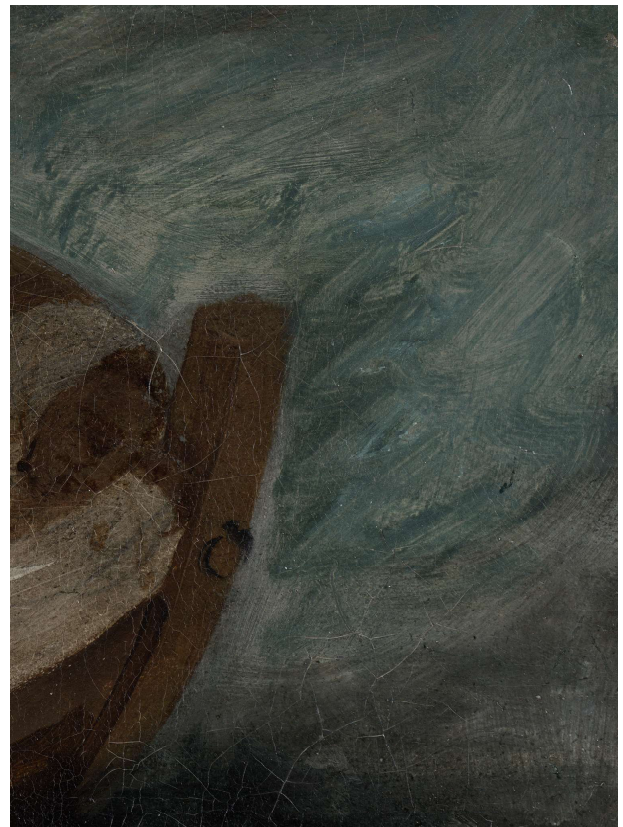


Fig. 14. Detail of the zigzagging brushwork of the water, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier)

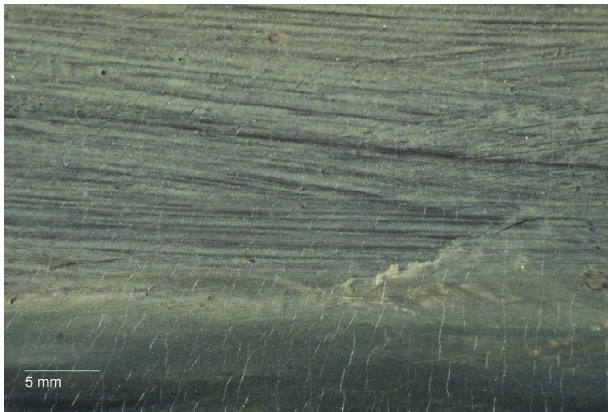


Fig. 15. Photomicrograph of the sky, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier)



Fig. 16. Reflected infrared digital detail of *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier), revealing shifts in the position of the raised hand (central arrow) and the opposite arm (left arrow)

While there are many instances of wet-over-wet painting, the amount of wet-over-dry brushwork indicates that *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* was completed over the course of multiple painting sessions. Although no preparatory drawings for the painting are known,⁶ the limited number of artist changes suggests that the composition was carefully considered in advance of painting. The reflected infrared digital photograph of Figure 16 reveals that the proper left arm of the standing disciple was shifted slightly to the left, and a pentimento of underlying gray paint, partially covered by retouching, reveals that his opposite arm was once lower. Other minor adjustments include the cropping of the proper right and proper left sleeves of the upper helmsman and standing disciple, respectively. The underpainting of the central apostle, clad in orange and blue, remains exposed, indicating that the proper left elbow was lowered slightly from its original placement. Thick, bright white paint strokes once highlighted the folds of the blue drapery near Christ's proper left arm, before Delacroix simplified this area with dark gray paint that forms a triangular shadow that is repeated in the subsequent variants (for example, see Fig. 1).



Fig. 17. Ultraviolet-induced visible fluorescence photograph, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier)

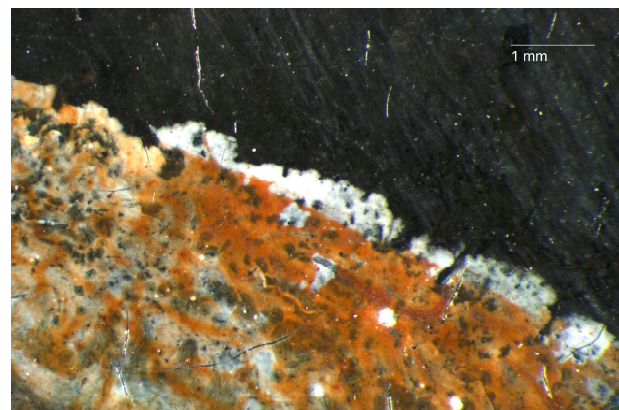


Fig. 18. Photomicrograph of the standing figure's orange garment, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier), showing a bright white stroke with reticulated edges and an overlying orange glaze

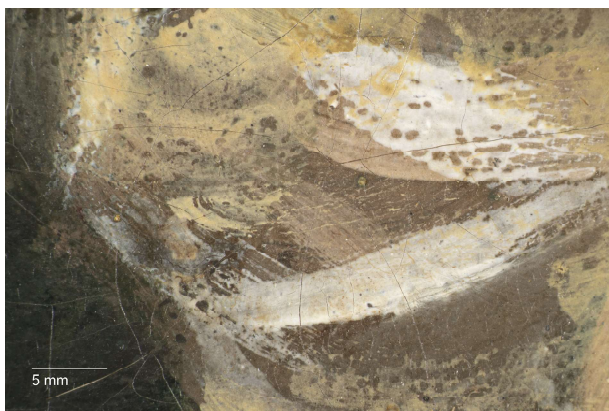


Fig. 19. Photomicrograph of the billowing fabric, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier), showing several paint strokes with a reticulated appearance

When the painting is examined with ultraviolet (UV) radiation, individual paint strokes respond in a myriad of ways, ranging from bright white UV-induced fluorescence to dark non-fluorescence (Fig. 17). A thin gray scumble along the left edge and bottom left corner produces a bright white fluorescence that causes the loose brushwork of its application to become pronounced.⁷ A curving white highlight on the standing disciple's garment also exhibits a bright fluorescence that is partially subdued by an overlying glaze with a muted orange-brown fluorescence. When the Nelson-Atkins painting is examined under the stereomicroscope, various paint strokes have a reticulated appearance, as if the paint had been thinned with a diluent or the upper and lower paint layers were immiscible (Figs. 18 and 19). A similar reticulation of paint is evident in the sprays of water alongside the boat, signaling that the artist's use of this technique for visual effect was quite intentional (Fig. 20). Small losses of paint in the upper layers also suggest some incompatibility among the materials (Fig. 21). Collectively, the UV-induced fluorescence, reticulation, and paint delamination are significant considering Delacroix's experimentation with mixed media (oil on tempera, wax on oil, and wax mixed with oil)⁸ and application of intermediate varnish layers.⁹ The artist's use of materials, as described in his journal and correspondence, was concisely summarized by conservator Ewa Smithwick:

His paints were rich in oil medium (he always asked his colourman for extra oil when ordering them), he used cheap paints in his early works (remark by Piot), he employed unstable pigments, he used mixtures of pigments (on average of three to five in one color), he

painted on top of the varnish, he used wax on his palette, and he endlessly retouched and overpainted his own work as part of the painting process. As a result, colors lost their luster and gradually darkened in tone. Frequent use of distemper as underpaint for oil increased darkening (sinking) of color.¹⁰

To date, no analysis has been undertaken to determine whether distemper, wax-oil mixtures, or intermediate varnish layers are present among the materials of the Nelson-Atkins painting.

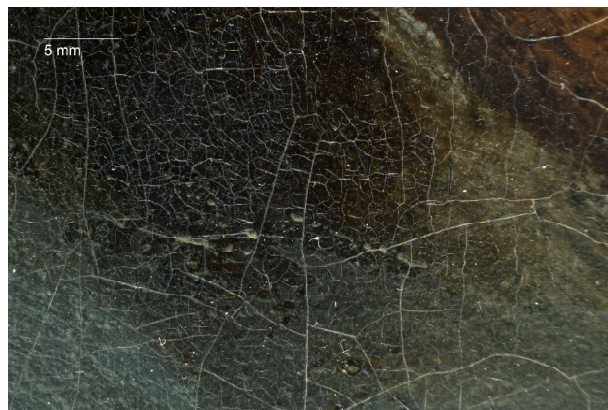


Fig. 20. Photomicrograph of the reticulated paint depicting a spray of water near the edge of the boat, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier)

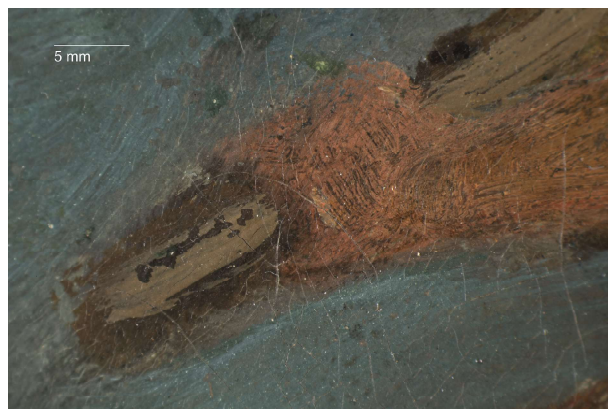


Fig. 21. Photomicrograph of paint loss on the boat's tiller, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier)

In his 1986 catalogue raisonné, Lee Johnson suggested that crude applications of overpaint may be present on *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, referring to the gunwale of the boat specifically.¹¹ The variation in UV-induced fluorescence among the paint strokes may have been the source of Johnson's concern; however, when the paint surface is studied under the stereomicroscope,

there are no obvious signs of overpaint (for example, paint strokes that cover age cracks).

Of greater concern is the possibility that thin, fluid glazes may have been removed from the lower left corner during a past cleaning; fragmented paint edges, disruptions to the strong horizontal strokes at the bottom edge, and an absence of yellow-brown washes are evident in this area (Figs. 22 and 23).¹² Delacroix's thin layers were undoubtedly susceptible to past solvent cleaning, as a small amount of paint abrasion has occurred in the orange glaze of the standing figure's garment and the green wash of water on the right (Figs. 12 and 13). A photograph of the painting, captured following treatment in 1983 and reproduced in Johnson's catalogue raisonné, shows a fairly even tonality on the lower left corner, but the high contrast of this image is misleading.¹³ The condition of the lower left corner in relation to a central figure, who focuses intently out across the water with an outstretched hand, raises the important question of whether the Nelson-Atkins painting may have once contained a drifting oar, like those featured in the later variants. Although there is a small touch of transparent brown paint in this area (Fig. 23), there is no clear indication that this was in fact the case.



Fig. 22. Photomicrograph of the left edge of the left oar, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier). Fragmented paint edges and disruptions to the horizontal brushwork are marked with arrows.

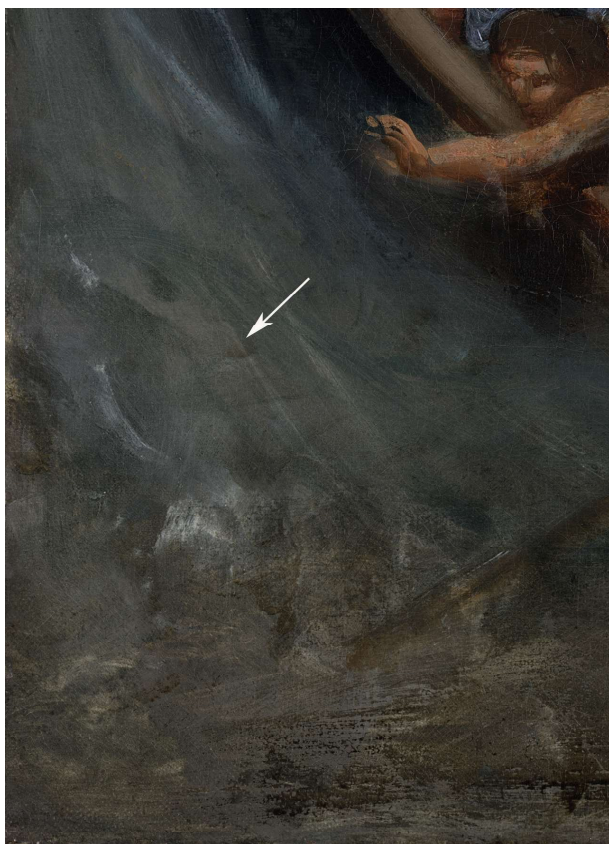


Fig. 23. Detail of the lower left water, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee* (1853 or earlier). A small spot of transparent brown is marked with an arrow.

No treatment has been undertaken since the painting entered the museum's collection in 1989. While the canvas is glue-lined and the paint film is stable at this time, numerous small paint losses have occurred in the upper layers, causing lower colors to become visible (Fig. 21). Age cracks and several small impact cracks have formed across the paint surface. The synthetic varnish saturates the paint film but is most likely discolored. Finely painted, discolored retouching is present on all of the outer edges as well as small areas scattered throughout the painting.

Mary Schafer
April 2021

Notes

1. The dimensions of the stretcher do not coincide with the standard-format canvases listed in Jacques-Nicolas Paillot de Montabert, *Traité complet de la peinture* (Paris: Bossange Père, 1829), 9:147.

2. Stéphanie Constantin, "The Barbizon Painters: A Guide to Their Suppliers," *Studies in Conservation* 46, no. 1 (2001): 49, 55.
3. The painting was examined using a Hamamatsu vidicon camera with a wavelength response up to 2200 nanometers. A more complete view of the underdrawing may be possible using an infrared camera with enhanced capabilities (i.e., improved sensitivity, an expanded portion of the infrared spectrum, higher resolution, etc.).
4. Eugène Delacroix, *The Journal of Eugène Delacroix*, trans. Walter Pach (New York: Covici-Friede, 1937), 153.
5. Louis de Planet, *Souvenirs de Louis de Planet*, ed. André Joubin, vol. 2, *Société de l'histoire de l'art français* (Paris: Armand Colin, 1928), quoted in René Piot, *Les Palettes de Delacroix* (Paris: Librairie de France, 1931), 65. Translation provided by the author.
6. See the accompanying catalogue essay by Asher Ethan Miller.
7. A bright yellow fluorescence that partially follows compositional elements was observed on *The Lion and the Snake* (1847/1853; King's College, Cambridge). Adele Wright, "'Method cannot govern everything.' Delacroix: mid-century modern master," in *A Changing Picture: Nineteenth-Century Painting Practice and Conservation*, ed. Nicola Costaras, Kate Lowry, Helen Glanville, Pippa Balch, Victoria Sutcliffe, and Polly Saltmarsh (London: Archetype, 2019), 98.
8. Louis de Planet, *Souvenirs de travaux de peinture avec M. Eugène Delacroix*, ed. André Joubin (Paris: Armand Colin, 1929), 21–23, cited in Michael Swicklik, "French Painting and the Use of Varnish, 1750–1900," *Studies in the History of Art* 41 (Washington, DC: National Gallery of Art, 1993): 161n18.
9. "While I have been working on my picture, *The Woman of Algiers*, I have discovered how pleasant, how necessary even it is to paint on top of the varnish. The only thing needed is to find some means of preventing the varnish underneath from being attacked when the top coat of varnish is removed at some later date." See journal entry, 7 February 1849 in Eugène Delacroix, *Journal, 1822–1863*, ed. André Joubin (Paris: Librairie Plon, 1981),

175. Translated by Michael Swicklik. For an overview of Delacroix's use of varnish, see Swicklik, "French Painting and the Use of Varnish, 1750–1900," 162.

10. Ewa Smithwick, "Frédéric Villot and Eugène Delacroix: A 19th-Century Cleaning Controversy," *Journal of the International Institute for Conservation—Canadian Group* 13 (1988), 30. Smithwick compiles information about Delacroix's materials and technique from a number of sources. His request for paints with extra oil is found in a letter from Delacroix to M. Haro, October 29, 1827, in Eugène Delacroix, *Selected Letters, 1813–1863*, trans. and ed. Jean Stewart (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1971), 141. The low-quality paint employed by Delacroix in his early works was described by Piot, *Les Palettes de Delacroix*, 74. The artist describes applying paint on top of varnish in his journal entry, February 7, 1849, in Eugène Delacroix, *Journal, 1822–1863*, 175. Delacroix's use of wax is discussed in a letter to Paul Huet, October 13, 1858, in Delacroix, *Selected Letters*, 347–48. For his retouching and overpainting, see Delacroix to Frédéric Villot, October 1834, in Delacroix, *Selected Letters*, 207. His use of distemper is described in Piot, *Les Palettes de Delacroix*, 58–61.
11. Lee Johnson, *The Paintings of Eugène Delacroix: A Critical Catalogue 1832–1863* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1986), 3:235.
12. In addition to overcleaning, some of the disruption to the horizontal strokes along the bottom edge relates to paint loss that occurred among the upper paint layers.
13. Johnson, *The Paintings of Eugène Delacroix*, 235, catalogue number 451, plate 262. "This picture was cleaned following the Sotheby's sale in 1983 and is here reproduced by a photograph taken after the cleaning."

Documentation

Citation

Chicago:

Glynnis Stevenson, "Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, 1853 or earlier," documentation in ed. Aimee Marcereau DeGalan *French Paintings, 1600–1945: The Collections of the Nelson-Atkins Museum of*

Art (Kansas City: The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, 2021), <https://doi.org/10.37764/78973.5.402.4033>.

MLA:

Stevenson, Glynnis. "Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, 1853 or earlier," documentation. *French Paintings, 1600–1945: The Collections of the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art*, edited by Aimee Marcereau DeGalan, The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, 2021. doi: 10.37764/78973.5.402.4033

Provenance

With the artist, ca. 1853–August 13, 1863 [1];

Purchased from Delacroix's posthumous sale, *Vente qui aura lieu par suite du décès de Eugène Delacroix*, Hôtel Drouot, Paris, February 17–19, 1864, lot 131, as *Jésus endormi dans la barque pendant la tempête*, by Tilly et Ott, Paris, 1864 [2];

Purchased from "a friend" by Charles Soultzener d'Enschwyl (1818–1883), Lésigny and Paris, France, by March 18, 1873–1883 [3];

Inherited by his wife Frasquita-Joséphine-Madeleine Soultzener d'Enschwyl (née Thomas de Colmar, 1821–1905), Lésigny and Paris, France, by November 17, 1883–at least 1885;

Probably by descent to their daughter, Marie-Frasquita Véneau (née Soultzener d'Enschwyl, 1845–1908), Paris, by October 20, 1905;

To her husband, Marc-Charles-Guy-Ludovic Véneau (1841–1931), Paris, by November 9, 1908–1909;

Purchased from Véneau by Durand-Ruel, Paris, stock no. L: 9095, in half-shares with Bernheim-Jeune [fils?], Paris, stock no. 17872, as *Le Christ sur le Lac de Genezareth*, June 16–December 30, 1909 [4];

Purchased from Bernheim-Jeune fils, Paris, by Bernheim-Jeune, December 30, 1909–1910 [5];

Purchased from Bernheim-Jeune, Paris, by Baron Denys Cochin (1851–1922), Paris, January 4, 1910 [6];

With Bernheim-Jeune, Paris, by September 30, 1913 [7];

Purchased from Bernheim-Jeune by Georg Reinhart (1877–1955), Winterthur, Switzerland, September 30, 1913–1955;

By descent to his daughter, Verena Lilly Hafter-Reinhart (1905–1973), Zürich, Switzerland, by July 27, 1955;

Possibly to her husband Ernst Hafer (1909–1998), Zürich, by October 21, 1973;

Purchased from *Nineteenth Century European Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture*, Sotheby Parke Bernet and Co., London, November 22, 1983, lot 9, by Wheelock Whitney and Co., New York, 1983–1985 [8];

Purchased at *Nineteenth Century European Paintings, Drawings and Watercolours*, Sotheby's, London, November 26, 1985, lot 9, by a private collector, 1985;

Purchased at *Nineteenth Century European Paintings, Drawings, Watercolors and Sculpture*, Christie's, New York, October 26, 1988, lot 103, by Richard L. Feigen and Co., New York, 1988–August 4, 1989 [9];

Purchased from Richard L. Feigen by The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO, 1989.

Notes

[1] See emails between Dr. Michèle Hannoosh, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, and Glynnis Stevenson, NAMA, dating between April 8 and July 28, 2020, NAMA curatorial files, regarding the change of the painting's date from 1841 to ca. 1853.

[2] Delacroix made clear in his will "that there be a public auction of everything that will have belonged to me, apart from the things that I have bequeathed. And I impose on my universal legatee the absolute obligation of holding this auction in the two years following my death." See email from Dr. Michèle Hannoosh, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, to Glynnis Stevenson, NAMA, July 30, 2020. See the transcription of Delacroix's inventory, held in the Minutier central, Archives nationales, Paris, in Henriette Bessis, "L'inventaire apres deces d'Eugene Delacroix. Études et documents," *Bulletin de la Société de l'histoire de l'art français* (1969).

The annotated Delacroix sales catalogue belonging to Adolphe Moreau calls the buyer, "Filhs." Alfred Robaut in his 1885 catalogue raisonné names the buyer, "Filhston." "Filhs'" name appears repeatedly in the catalogue of Delacroix's posthumous 1864 sale; many of the works he purchased reappeared on the art market in the years immediately following the sale. According to Dr. Michèle Hannoosh, "The problem is that neither of these names exists: they are a misreading. According to the auctioneer's record of the sale, the buyer of lot 131 was 'Tilly et Ott,' at '10 P[assa]ge Violet,' which the other lots shorten to 'Tilly.' Tilly et Ott was a firm of 'négociants-commissionnaires' that seems to have dealt in silks. See email from Dr. Michèle Hannoosh, University of

Michigan-Ann Arbor, to Glynnis Stevenson, NAMA, July 28, 2020, NAMA curatorial files.

[3] The earliest mention of this painting being in M. Soultzener's collection is in Adolphe Moreau, *E. Delacroix et son œuvre* (Paris: Librairie des Bibliophiles, 1873). According to Dr. Michèle Hannoosh, "In a letter to Moreau dated 18 March 1873, Soultzener writes that his picture was 'the first sketch of the various *Barques* that [Delacroix] subsequently modified,' that he had acquired it from 'one of his friends' and that he believed it had been part of Delacroix's posthumous sale." Louvre autographs A849 AR25 L53, transcribed and translated by Dr. Hannoosh. See email from Dr. Hannoosh, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, to Glynnis Stevenson, NAMA, July 28, 2020, NAMA curatorial files.

[4] See email from Paul-Louis Durand-Ruel and Flavie Durand-Ruel, Durand-Ruel et Cie., to Nicole Myers, NAMA, January 11, 2016, NAMA curatorial files. Durand-Ruel photo no. 6438; see also photo stock card, Eugene Delacroix [sic], Durand-Ruel NY, Photo Archives, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC Durand-Ruel did not cite Bernheim-Jeune fils, but see footnote 5. Durand-Ruel retained their half-share from June 16, 1909 until January 16, 1914, when they settled their account with Bernheim-Jeune.

[5] According to Guy-Patrice Dauberville, Director, Bernheim-Jeune et Cie, Paris, "cette œuvre figure dans nos livres de stock comme ayant été acheté à Bernheim-Jeune fils le 30 décembre 1909 et vendue le 4 janvier 1910 à Denis Cochin"; see letters from Guy-Patrice Dauberville to NAMA, September 1, 2011 and January 3, 2012, NAMA curatorial files. Bernheim-Jeune Fils was a separate company formed by Gaston and Josse Bernheim-Jeune.

[6] Ibid.

[7] Georg Reinhart, *Katalog meiner Sammlung* (Winterthur, Switzerland, 1922), 16, states that Reinhart bought it from Bernheim-Jeune on September 30, 1913. A letter from Reinhart to the dealer Carl Montag held at the Schweizerischen Instituts für Kunstwissenschaft (SIKDok), Zürich, dated September 30, 1913, cites the purchase of the Delacroix. Cited in Dieter Schwarz, ed., *Die Sammlung Georg Reinhart*, exh. cat. (Winterthur: Kunstmuseum Winterthur, 1998), 12–13, 255.

However, Bernheim-Jeune does not record the painting in its collection after 1910. See letter from Guy-Patrice Dauberville, Director, Bernheim-Jeune et Cie, Paris, to NAMA, January 3, 2012, NAMA curatorial files. Lastly,

Durand-Ruel sold its half share to Bernheim-Jeune on January 16, 1914. See email from Paul-Louis Durand-Ruel and Flavie Durand-Ruel, Durand-Ruel et Cie. to Nicole Myers, NAMA, January 11, 2016, NAMA curatorial files.

[8] See email from Asher Ethan Miller, Associate Curator, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, to Aimee Marcereau DeGalan and Meghan Gray, NAMA, January 6, 2019, NAMA curatorial files. See also *19th Century European Paintings, Drawings, Watercolors and Sculpture* (New York: Christie's, October 26, 1988), 112–13.

[9] Feigen purchase date confirmed by email from Emelia Scheidt, Gallery Associate, Richard L. Feigen and Co., New York, to Meghan Gray, NAMA, on April 13, 2015, NAMA curatorial files.

Related Works

Variants Depicting a Rowboat

Pierre Andrieu (1821–1892), after Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Lake of Gennesaret*, oil on paper mounted on Masonite, 9 7/8 x 12 3/8 in. (25.1 x 31.4 cm), Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Copy after the painting in the private collection (formerly in the collection of Peter Nathan, Zürich).

Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Lake of Genesareth*, ca. 1853, oil on canvas, 17 3/4 x 21 5/8 in. (45.1 x 54.9 cm), Portland Art Museum, OR.

Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, probably 1853, oil on cardboard, 9 5/8 x 24 in. (50 x 61 cm), private collection (formerly in the collection of Peter Nathan, Zürich).

Eugène Delacroix, *Christ Asleep during the Tempest*, ca. 1853, oil on canvas, 20 x 24 in. (50.8 x 61 cm), The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, ca. 1853, oil on panel, 7 1/4 x 9 3/8 in. (18.4 x 23.2 cm), private collection (formerly with Galerie Jean-François Heim, Basel, Switzerland).

Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Lake of Genesareth*, lead pencil on tinted paper, 14 3/16 x 20 7/8 in. (36 x 53 cm), location unknown, reproduced in *Floralies 1986: Importants tableaux modernes* (Versailles: Maître Georges Blache, June 11, 1986), no. 2, p. 6.

Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Lake of Genesareth*, pencil, 13 3/8 x 18 1/2 in. (34 x 47 cm), location unknown, reproduced in *XIX and XX Century French Paintings and*

Drawings, exh. cat. (London: Lefevre Gallery, November–December 1964), no. 29, pp. 26–27.

Follower of Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Genesareth*, ca. 1853, graphite on tracing paper, laid down, 14 1/16 x 20 11/16 in. (35.7 x 52.5 cm), Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Sketch probably after the painting in the Portland Art Museum, OR.

Variants Depicting a Sailboat

Attributed to Pierre Andrieu (1821–1892), after Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, ca. 1854, oil on canvas, 15 x 18 in. (38 x 46 cm), Nasjonalmuseet, Oslo. Copy after the painting in the Walters Art Museum, Baltimore.

Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, 1853, oil on canvas, 23 3/5 x 28 7/10 in. (60 x 73 cm), Emil Bührle Collection, Zürich, Switzerland.

Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, 1854, oil on canvas, 23 9/16 x 28 7/8 in. (59.8 x 73.3 cm), Walters Art Museum, Baltimore.

Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, 1853, oil on composition board, 18 3/4 x 22 7/8 in. (47.6 x 58.1 cm), Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Copies

Edgar Degas (1834–1917), after Eugène Delacroix, *Le Christ sur le lac de Génésareth (Christ on the Sea of Galilee)*, 1860, graphite, 5 3/4 x 3 3/4 in. (14.6 x 9.4 cm), “Carnet 27, Études et recherches—1870–1913, (carnet de dessins) / Edgar Degas,” Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris. Sketch after Eugène Delacroix, *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*, 1853, oil on canvas, 23 3/5 x 28 7/10 in. (60 x 73 cm), Emil Bührle Collection, Zürich, Switzerland..

Exhibitions

Exposition Eugène Delacroix au profit de la souscription destinée à élever à Paris un monument à sa memoire, École nationale des Beaux-Arts, Paris, March 6–April 15, 1885, no. 204, as *Barque du Christ*.

L'Eau, Bernheim-Jeune, Paris, June 26–July 13, 1911, no. 14, as *Le Barque*.

Ausstellung von Meisterwerken aus Privatsammlungen, Kunstmuseum Winterthur, Switzerland, August 20–October 8, 1922, no. 37, as *Le Christ sur le lac de Génésareth*.

Eugène Delacroix, 1798–1863, Kunsthau Zürich, Switzerland, January 28–April 5, 1939, no. 355, as *Le Christ sur le lac de Génézareth*.

Eugène Delacroix, 1798–1863, Kunsthalle Basel, Switzerland, April 22–May 29, 1939, no. 248, as *Christus auf dem See Genezareth*.

Der Unbekannte Winterthurer Privatbesitz, 1500–1900, Kunstmuseum Winterthur, Switzerland, September–October, 1942, no. 85, as *Le Christ sur le lac de Génézareth*.

Eugène Delacroix, Kunstmuseum Bern, Switzerland, November 16, 1963–January 19, 1964, no. 77, as *Le Christ sur le Lac de Génésareth*.

Eugène Delacroix (1798–1863): *Paintings and Drawings*; Peter Paul Rubens (1577–1640): *Three Oil Sketches*, Salander-O'Reilly Galleries, New York, November 15–December 30, 1989, no. 9, as *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*.

Delacroix: Les dernières années, Galeries nationales du Grand Palais, Paris, April 7, 1998–July 20, 1998; *Delacroix: The Late Work*, Philadelphia Museum of Art, September 10, 1998–January 3, 1999, no. 113, as *Le Christ sur le lac de Génésareth* and *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*.

Delacroix: The Music of Painting, Ordrupgaard, Copenhagen, September 13–December 30, 2000, no. 17, as *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*.

Déjà Vu? Revealing Repetition in French Masterpieces, Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, October 7, 2007–January 1, 2008; *Masterpiece Replayed: Monet, Matisse and More*, Phoenix Art Museum, AZ, February 20–May 4, 2008, as *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*.

Delacroix and the Matter of Finish, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, CA, October 27, 2013–January 26, 2014; Birmingham Museum of Art, AL, February 23–May 18, 2014, no. 7, as *Christ on the Sea of Galilee*.

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Théophile Silvestre, ed., *Delacroix: Fragments du Journal extraits en 1853 par Théophile Silvestre avec l'autorisation du peintre*, vol. 1 (1853), unpaginated, as *Christ pendant la tempête*.

Catalogue de la vente qui aura lieu par suite du décès de Eugène Delacroix (Paris: Hôtel Drouot, February 17–19, 1864), 19, as *Jésus endormi dans la barque pendant la tempête*.

"Vente publique aux enchères des tableaux, esquisses, copies et études d'Eugène Delacroix, faite à l'hôtel des commissaires-priseurs de Paris, le 17 février 1864 et jours

suivants," *Journal des amateurs d'objets d'art et de curiosité* 10 (1864): 100, as *Jésus endormi dans la barque pendant la tempête*.

Ph[ilippe] Burty, "Vente Delacroix," *La Presse* (February 20, 1864): unpaginated, as *Jésus endormi pendant la tempête*.

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