

Drenthe couple the dozen false Altink

SCHILLDERIJEN SCANDAL-cons HUNDREDS ART BUYERS

by Joost de Haas and CHARLES SANDERS

GRONINGEN, Wednesday

The track in the big Altink-forgery affair last Saturday revealed in this newspaper, leading to the north of the country. A notorious couple in art circles in the Drenthe Beilen shows everywhere to offer in the country counterfeit paintings of the Groningen Ploeg Painter at auctions and art dealers.

These are the former teacher Luc L. and his wife. In their efforts, the false works of the deceased in 1971 Altink sell they are invariably use the same trick. Jef Hagen master paintings from the Amsterdam auction The Sun: "The story is that they cloths inherited from grandmother, who at that time paintings again purchased directly from Altink itself. They give a false address and require cash payment after the auction. "

On March 13 of this year, Hagen victim of Beilense couple when the two paintings brought in last week by The Sun was sold at auction Loth Gijs Elman in the Singer Museum in Laren. Totaling nine thousand guilders a buyer was the ship. The victim will be the end of this week.

So do more and more stories of art buyers duped round. It abounds in pseudoAltinks, experts circulate certainly hundreds. That hell painting scandal is so widespread, embarked as a bomb in the Dutch art world.

Thus, the auctioneer told _____ the Hague Glerum - presenter _____ from the Bunch TV Show 'Once Again' and formerly worked at Sotheby Jan Pieter Glerum - just before the start of his big spring auction last Saturday: "Ladies and gentlemen, you are all obviously read the newspaper, you understand that our two Altink be withdrawn. They are as false as a crow ... "

Typical of the buyers Altink is that it is these people scrape together their savings to make up the first piece of art.

So it was with the Groningen Mrs. HR Smith. She bought on April 23 at the Venduehuis of Notaries in The Hague for a total of two lakh Altink and thus went home happy.

Mrs Smith this week: "When I came home, I was still doubts about one of the paintings, I then pressed into the paint with a safety pin and 't thing went through cross. As false as that. That painting I could bring back the deadline. But the other, "a showpiece in the meadow," I have kept. I was convinced of its authenticity. "

Until Groningen wife last Saturday in The Telegraph false Altink weld. Mrs Smith: "I panicked when all art dealers sounded nearby and discovered that my Altink looked exactly like one of the works on display. I do not close an eye, because the cloth hangs over my bed ... is seven grand for me a capital, but my husband is a bus driver and have saved for years for this. "

Director C. Vellinga of Venduehuis of Notaries in The Hague: "This whole affair is an embarrassment for the art trade. We will indemnify the buyers of fake Altink. Mrs Smith gets her money back. As means for us a huge financial burden. "

Vellinga confirms that Altink of Mrs Smith are also provided by the Van couple

L. of Beilen. "Whether they are real or counterfeiters that they have someone else there, we do not know. Certainly they probably just continue with their work. "

red-handed

It also expects Jan Peter Glerum of the same Hague auction: "In this country you now

Once is not punishable if you offer to buy a nepschilderij. Justice can only intervene if the

forger when he or she puts the false signature, is caught in the act. " " I do

not close an eye, because the cloth hangs over my bed ... "