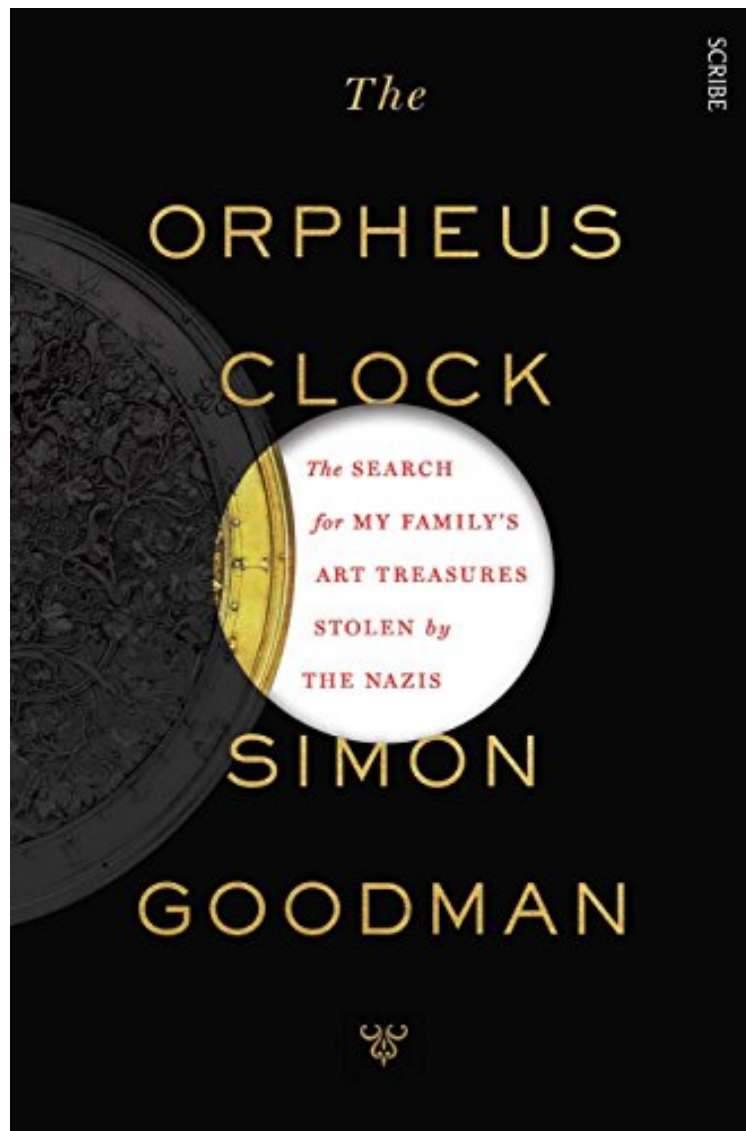


[Mobile library] The Orpheus Clock: the search for my familys art treasures stolen by the Nazis

## The Orpheus Clock: the search for my familys art treasures stolen by the Nazis

Von Simon Goodman

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**Von Simon Goodman : The Orpheus Clock: the search for my familys art treasures stolen by the Nazis** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Orpheus Clock: the search for my familys art treasures stolen by the Nazis:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Searching for a lost legacy...Von Jill MeyerI realise I'm a bit late reading and reviewing Simon Goodman's book, "The

Orpheus Clock: The Search for My Family's Art Treasures Stolen by the Nazis". There's not much I can add to the other favorable reviews. Seventy or so years ago, Simon's grandparents - both converted Jews to Lutheranism - had their privately-art treasures stolen "legally" from their house in the Netherlands by the Nazis. Fritz and Louise Gutmann - their son changed the name to Goodman - had been collecting art for years and building on the collection inherited from Fritz's father, Eugen. Eugen Gutmann had founded a bank in Dresden that later merged with others to form the Dresdner Bank. The huge bank was "Aryanised" during the Nazi era, but by then Eugen had died. His son Fritz was the family keeper and continued his father's art collecting. Their collection was fairly varied - everything from Rembrandt to a Franz Stuck portrait of a woman and a snake in a VERY compromising position! Fritz and Louise had fled from Germany to Holland with their paintings, sculptures, and silver collection. That silver collection - the Eugen Gutmann Silversammlung - and their refusal to give it up after having lost so much else to the Nazis - was the cause of Fritz and Louise's deaths in Nazi concentration camps. Their son - Bernard - had been able to emigrate to England before the war began. He had been born in England during his parents' stay during the First World War. His sister - Lili - had found relative safety in Italy through her marriages to Italian men. After the war, Bernard began the agonising search for his parents' stolen art pieces. But he was thwarted in his search through governmental stonewalling and for the next 50 years - until his death in the mid-1990's - he found very few pieces. After his death, he "bequeathed" the search to his two sons, Simon and Nick. They took up where he left off and the book is the story of their search for the pieces of art that had been scattered through the world, both during and after the war. Pieces were bought and sold and in most cases, the buyers didn't look too hard at the provenance of the pieces. Eventually, through great use of the internet data bases, Simon and Nick were able to track down many pieces of the Gutmann collection. The book also details their use of the law in getting these pieces returned to their rightful owners. (Simon and Nick Goodman were not the only people searching for their family's treasures. He mentions the Maria Altmann/Randol Schoenberg fight for the Gustav Klimt paintings of Maria's aunt, as detailed in the movie, "Woman in Gold") Simon Goodman is a very good writer and his account of both his family's history and the fight to regain their lost legacy is wonderful reading. Included in the book are some family pictures, but also pictures of some of the pieces he and his brother fought to save. He credits others in helping them in their search and battles. Very good book.

Kurzbeschreibung The passionate, gripping true story of one man's single-minded quest to reclaim what the Nazis stole from his family their beloved art collection and to restore their legacy. Simon Goodman's grandparents came from German-Jewish banking dynasties, and perished in concentration camps. That's almost all he knew about them his father rarely spoke of their family history or heritage. But when he passed away, and Simon received his father's old papers, a story began to emerge. The Gutmanns rose from a small Bohemian hamlet to become one of Germany's most powerful banking families. They also amassed a magnificent, world-class art collection that included works by Degas, Renoir, Botticelli, Guardi, and many, many others. But the Nazi regime snatched from them everything they had worked to build: their remarkable art, their immense wealth, their prominent social standing, and their very lives. Simon grew up in London with little knowledge of his father's efforts to recover their family's prized possessions. It was only after his father's death that Simon began to piece together the clues about the Gutmanns' stolen legacy and the Nazi looting machine. Through painstaking detective work across two continents, Simon has been able to prove that many works belonged to his family, and to successfully secure their return. Goodman's dramatic story, told with great heart, reveals a rich family history almost obliterated by the Nazis. It is not only the account of a twenty-year long detective hunt for family treasure, but an unforgettable tale of redemption and restoration. PRAISE FOR SIMON GOODMAN Simon Goodman has forensically pieced together what happened to his grandparents and their art collection after they were forced to sign it away to Hitler and Goering's art poachers The Orpheus Clock is not only a meticulously researched history of the Gutmann family, but a compelling detective story. The Daily Mail An extraordinary tale of the rise and fall of a German Jewish banking family Anyone who has seen the film Woman in Gold, about Maria Altmann's similar struggle to find looted family art, will have a good idea of where this book is heading from chapter one. Still, this story of how a stubborn man took on the cultural bureaucrats and their culture of amnesia has its own twists and deserves to be told. The Independent Pressestimmen "This is a magnificent book, both poignant and chilling. Ultimately it stands as testimony to how family stories can grip across generations, and how fierce is the impulse to right wrongs. It is very moving indeed -- a huge achievement. (Edmund de Waal, author of The Hare with Amber Eyes: A Hidden Inheritance) A remarkable achievement. The Nazis stole the Gutmann family's art and tried to erase them from history; they almost succeeded. Here, now, with the sweep of a pen and the diligence of a crime reporter, author Simon Goodman has restored his family's legacy. Shocking, stunning and totally unputdownable, The Orpheus Clock is an absolute must read. (Annie Jacobsen, New York Times bestselling author of Operation Paperclip) An extraordinary piece of history... Even readers well familiar with World War II and Holocaust history will find this a fresh and lively read. (Christian Science Monitor) "With a novelist's narrative gifts, Goodman movingly portrays his family's victimization by the Nazis and the post-war repercussions of those events.... In

combining a modern-day detective story with nuanced context for its importance, Goodman produces much more than another Holocaust book." (Publishers Weekly, STARRED review)"Goodman's story is alternately wrenching and inspiring...extraordinary...An emotional tale of unspeakable horrors, family devotion, and art as a symbol of hope." (Kirkus)"When [Goodman's] father died at the age of 80...letters, documents, and other correspondences revealed a trove of family secrets that led Goodman and his family on a quest for both justice and discovery of their family history....The search is still ongoing, but this account of the struggle so far is both arresting and poignant, combining elements of a family chronicle and an intricate detective story." (Booklist)KurzbeschreibungThe passionate, gripping true story of one man's single-minded quest to reclaim what the Nazis stole from his family their beloved art collection and to restore their legacy. Simon Goodman's grandparents came from German-Jewish banking dynasties, and perished in concentration camps. That's almost all he knew about them his father rarely spoke of their family history or heritage. But when he passed away, and Simon received his father's old papers, a story began to emerge. The Gutmanns rose from a small Bohemian hamlet to become one of Germany's most powerful banking families. They also amassed a magnificent, world-class art collection that included works by Degas, Renoir, Botticelli, Guardi, and many, many others. But the Nazi regime snatched from them everything they had worked to build: their remarkable art, their immense wealth, their prominent social standing, and their very lives. Simon grew up in London with little knowledge of his father's efforts to recover their family's prized possessions. It was only after his father's death that Simon began to piece together the clues about the Gutmanns' stolen legacy and the Nazi looting machine. Through painstaking detective work across two continents, Simon has been able to prove that many works belonged to his family, and to successfully secure their return. Goodman's dramatic story, told with great heart, reveals a rich family history almost obliterated by the Nazis. It is not only the account of a twenty-year long detective hunt for family treasure, but an unforgettable tale of redemption and restoration. PRAISE FOR SIMON GOODMAN Simon Goodman has forensically pieced together what happened to his grandparents and their art collection after they were forced to sign it away to Hitler and Goerings art poachers The Orpheus Clock is not only a meticulously researched history of the Gutmann family, but a compelling detective story. The Daily Mail An extraordinary tale of the rise and fall of a German Jewish banking family Anyone who has seen the film Woman in Gold, about Maria Altmann's similar struggle to find looted family art, will have a good idea of where this book is heading from chapter one. Still, this story of how a stubborn man took on the cultural bureaucrats and their culture of amnesia has its own twists and deserves to be told. The Independent