

## **The Provenance Red Flag Checklist:** *By Fine Art Analytics*

Thank you for your interest. In the world of fine art, value is built on verifiable history. Here are 5 critical gaps that can devalue an asset:

1. **The "Handshake" Gap:** An artwork without a legal Bill of Sale or an Invoice for every change of hands is considered to have "broken provenance." Verbal history is not a financial asset.
2. **The Decade of Silence:** Any gap of 10+ years in ownership history—especially between 1933 and 1945, is a major red flag for galleries and auction houses and can make a piece nearly impossible to sell at full value.
3. **The Unverified Label:** Exhibition or gallery labels on the back of a frame add "prestige value," but only if they are cross-referenced with gallery archives. Without verification, they are just stickers.
4. **Appraisal Confusion:** Relying on an old appraisal as "proof" of history. An appraisal is a temporary opinion of value; Provenance is a permanent record of facts. You need the latter to secure the former.
5. **The Digital Ghost:** Lacking a high-resolution visual record and a formal Condition Report. In insurance claims or estate disputes, "memory" is not documentation.

**Next Steps:** Fine Art Analytics specializes in closing these gaps. We are currently finalizing our full-service launch. As a subscriber, you will receive priority notification when our **Inventory Audit** and **Meticulous Research** services become available in your area.