

#2B - GREEN TAG

THIS PISTOL IS WELL DOCUMENTED
IN THE DECEMBER-2002 "CHRISTIE'S"
OF LONDON AUCTION CATALOG. IT IS
ONE OF A PAIR WITH THE OTHER
BEING IN A MUSEUM IN ~~ROME~~ ITALY.
ROME



163
AN EXTREMELY RARE 28-BORE GERMAN FLINTLOCK HOLSTER PISTOL STOCKED BY JOHANN MICHAEL MAUCHER
 Schwäbisch-Gmünd, circa 1680

With two-stage barrel with a baluster ring at the muzzle, the breech section octagonal with longitudinal ribs, plain tang, rounded lock engraved with interlaced scrolls of foliage, stained walnut full stock carved in relief on the underside with a triton and a mermaid, and on the butt with foliage, fruit, berries, and a mounted horseman in 17th-century costume blowing a trumpet, the fore-stock and the area opposite the lock inset with ivory plaques (one later?) finely carved in relief with scrollwork and scenes of the chase after engraved designs by Jost Amman, the ivory pommel carved in the round as a warrior's head *all'antica* above a band of oval medallions carved with grotesque masks, the helmet charged on each side of the bowl with a crowned double-headed eagle, fluted iron trigger-guard, iron baluster ramrod-pipe, and original iron-tipped ramrod

18 1/4 in. (46.4 cm.)

Estimate: £25,000-35,000

US\$39,000-54,000
 €40,000-55,000

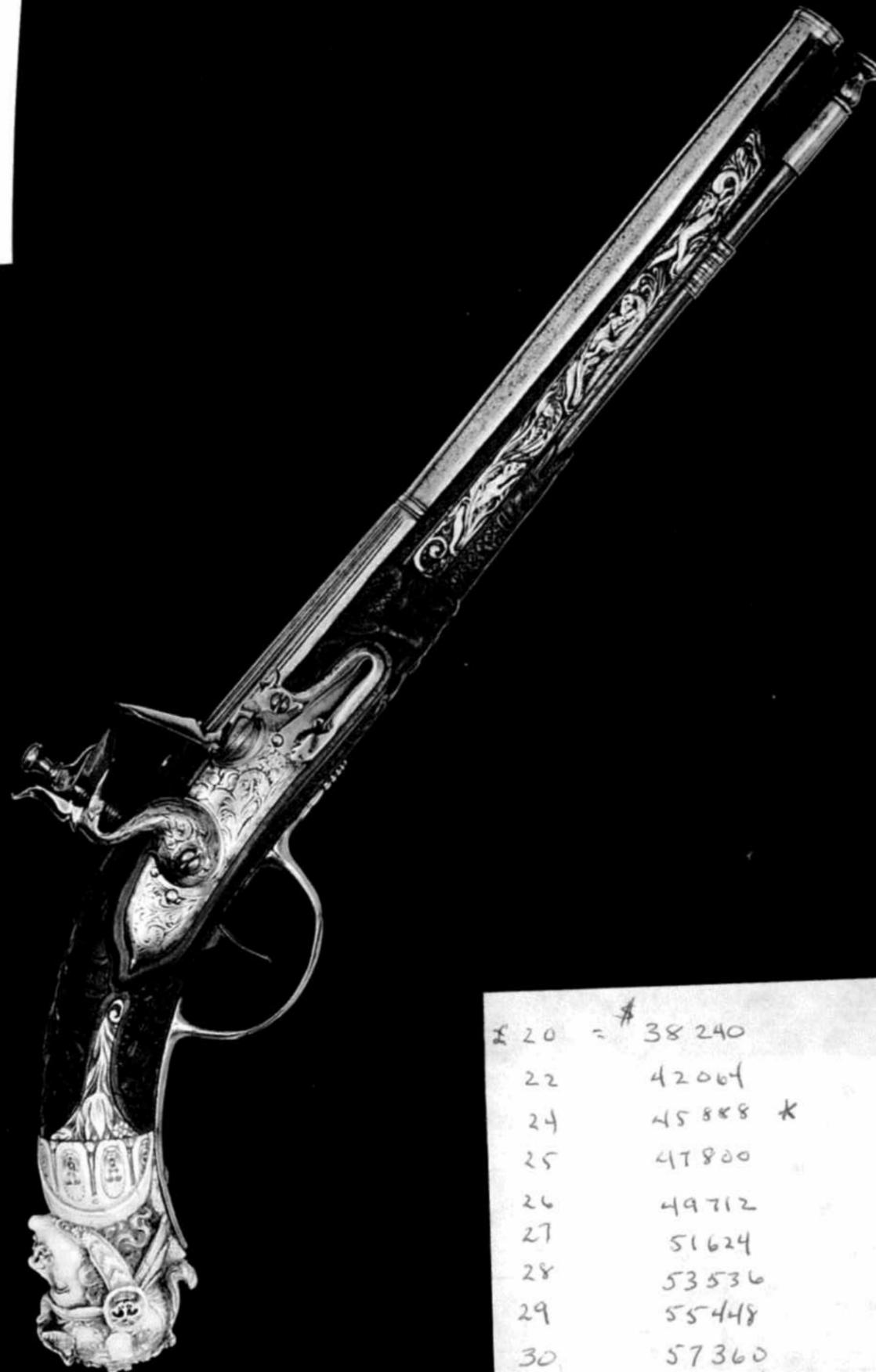
Johann Michael Maucher (1645-1701) was one of the most famous South German carvers and gunstockers of the seventeenth century. He was born into a family of wood, ivory and amber carvers in Schwäbisch-Gmünd and worked there until 1688. He moved to Augsburg, then to Würzburg in about 1693, where he remained until his death

Maucher is known to have made objects of all kinds in ivory, wood and stone, including powder-flasks, figures and several large ewers and basins. Like his firearms such objects were intended for the *Kunstkammer*, as objects for display rather than for use. His opinion about his status is indicated by the inclusion in his usual signature of 'Sculptor (Bildhauer) and Gunstocker (Büchenschäfter)' in that order. He is reported to have presented a richly decorated gun to the Emperor Leopold I in 1688. A still life of 1698-9 by the Dutch artist Dirk Valkenburg in the collections of the Princes of Liechtenstein at Vaduz includes a Maucher rifle which belonged to Prince Adam Andreas von Liechtenstein (1657-1712): the rifle is still in the Princely collections today (inv. no. 859)

About thirty firearms stocked by Maucher have survived, nearly all in public collections, and mostly rifles, the largest group being in the Bayerisches Nationalmuseum, Munich. Two Maucher rifles have been sold in these Rooms in recent years - the first, from the armoury of the Princes zu Salm-Reifferscheidt-Dyck, Schloß Dyck, on 15 April 1992, lot 169 (£137,500, at the time the world auction record for a European antique firearm); the second, from the collection of the Barons Nathaniel and Albert von Rothschild, on 8 July 1999, lot 84 (£106,000)

Maucher pistols, of which this is a hitherto unrecorded example, are much rarer than the rifles. Other Maucher pistols appear to be restricted to the following: a pair of wheel-locks in the Badisches Landesmuseum, Karlsruhe (inv. nos. G 643/4); two pairs of flintlocks in the United States; three flintlocks in the Bayerisches Nationalmuseum, Munich (inv. nos. W 2832/39 and 51/124); and a single flintlock in the Odescalchi Collection, Rome (inv. no. 53). Judging from photographs, it seems likely that the present pistol is the pair to the one in Rome

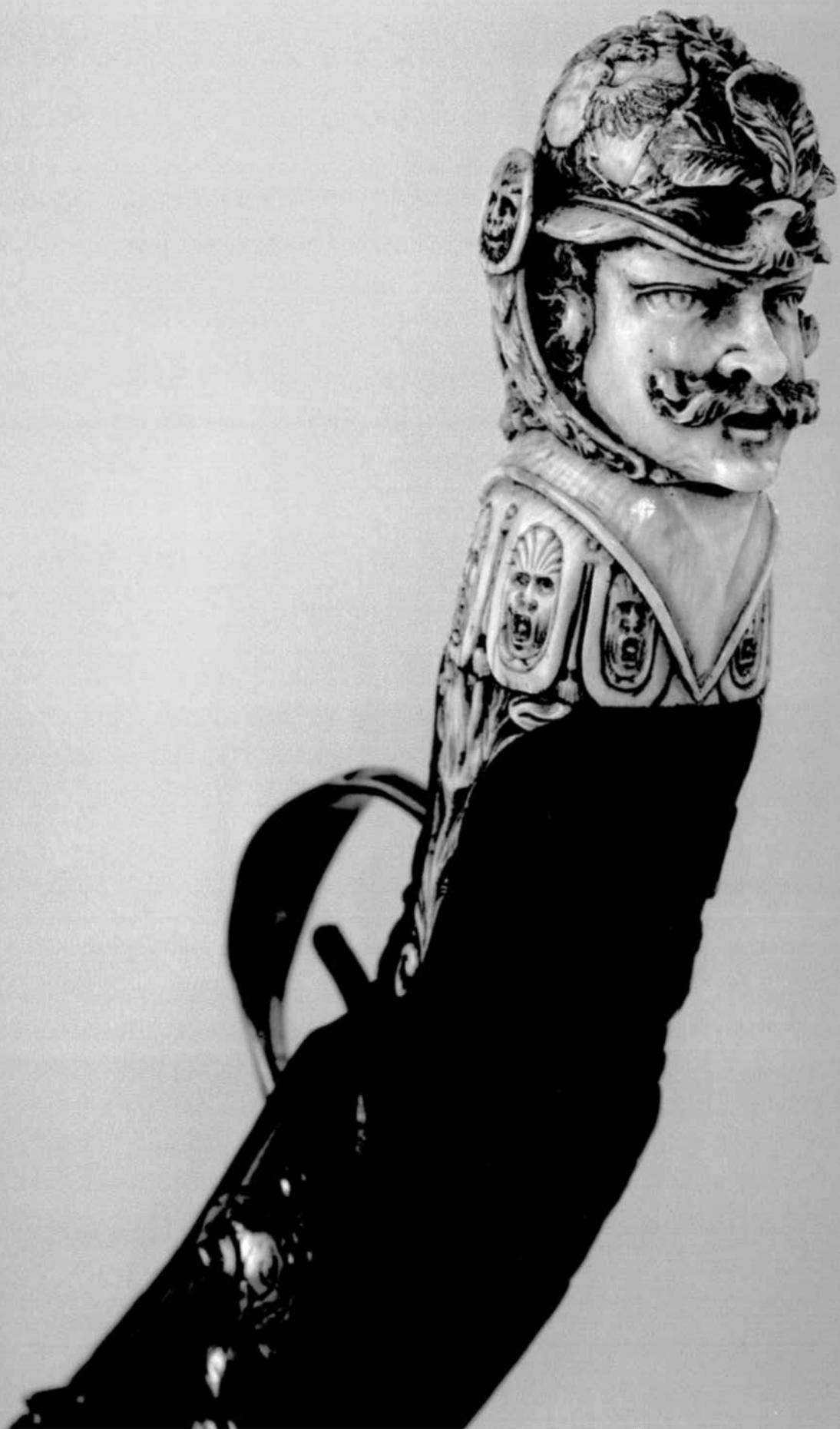
For further information on Maucher, see W. Klein, *Johann Michael und Christoph Maucher*, Schwäbisch-Gmünd, 1920; *idem*, 'Die Elfenbeinschnitzer-Familie Maucher von Schwäb. Gmünd', *Gmünder Heimatblätter*, Schwäbisch-Gmünd, no. 10, October 1933, pp. 137-167, and no. 12, December 1933, pp. 185-195; E. Petrasch, 'Über einige Jagdwaffen mit Elfenbeinschnitzerei im Badischen Landesmuseum. Marginalien zum Werk des Büchenschäfers Johann Michael Maucher', *Zeitschrift für Historische Waffen- und Kostümkunde*, Munich/Berlin, 1960, pp. 11-26; A. Ehmer, *Die Maucher*, Schwäbisch-Gmünd, 1992



£ 20	= \$ 38 240
22	42 064
24	45 888 *
25	47 800
26	49 712
27	51 624
28	53 536
29	55 448
30	57 360

Hugh Kelley





Here is all of the material I can find on Michael Maucher. I can only find two sales in the last 10 years. The first was Christie's 15 April 1992 when a great rifle brought 137,500 pounds or \$240,625. It was bought by the Schwabisch-Gmund Museum. The other you underbid in the Rothschild Sale at Christie's in July 1999 selling for 106,000 pounds or \$177,200. It had some serious damage in worms, missing wire and the patch-box lid broken in five pieces and glued to the stock. It was a very high quality rifle.

→ I have traced this pair back to a Sotheby sale 6 December 1951 probably to Joe Kindig. There is one other pair of flintlock pistols pictured in Dexter's 42 Year Scrapbook page 88 which I believe are now in the collection of Russell Barnet Aiken and I am told will go the Metropolitan Museum at his death. All of the other pistols I have found are in museums. All of the pistols are surprisingly similar in form and carving.

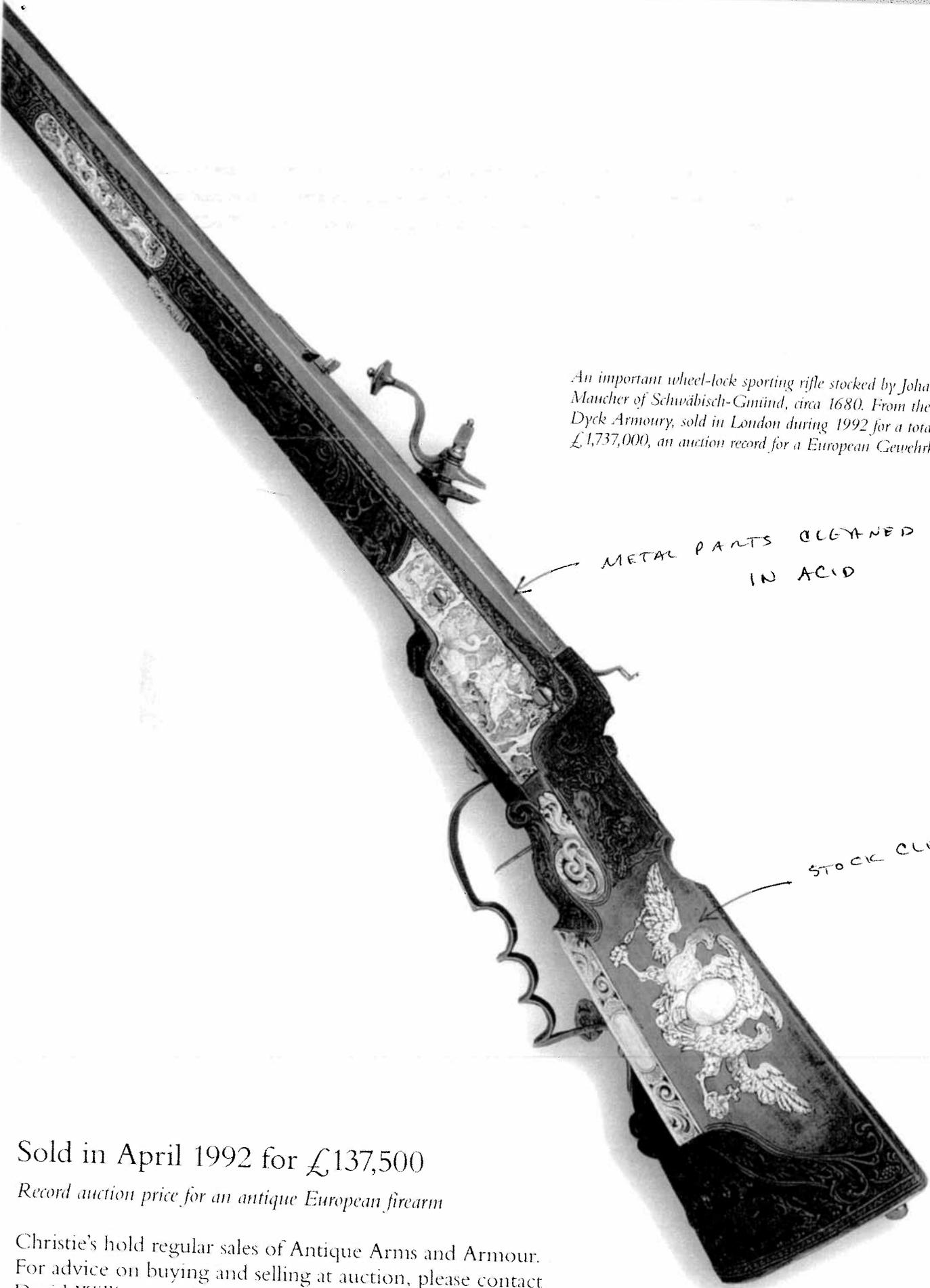
I am enclosing other Maucher guns illustrated in museum catalogs. I frankly prefer the rifles but both are very rare in private hands. The price is \$240,000. and seems in line with the only two sales of Maucher ivory decorated rifles that I know of. The largest group is in the *Bayerischen Nationalmuseums* in Munich. I have copied 5 rifles, a pair and single pistol shown in the catalog.

As far as a sales pitch, I will offer this. The price seems realistic compared to other known sales. The metal is a bit polished but the stocks and ivory are quite crisp. Damage is minimal. I like the quality of the butts and side plaques a great deal. The form on these and all of his pistols borders on the ugly. I am not sure I can say that there is likely to be another work by Maucher offered in the near future.

I am off to Texas on the 18th, home the 25th and driving to Pueblo the 27th and home the 30th and will be there until I see you in London.

Best regards,





An important wheel-lock sporting rifle stocked by Johann Michael Maucher of Schwäbisch-Gmünd, circa 1680. From the Schloss Dyck Armoury, sold in London during 1992 for a total of £1,737,000, an auction record for a European Gewehrhammer.

METAL PARTS CLEANED
IN ACID

STOCK CLEANED

Sold in April 1992 for £137,500

Record auction price for an antique European firearm

Christie's hold regular sales of Antique Arms and Armour.
For advice on buying and selling at auction, please contact
David Williams or Peter Hawkins on (071) 389 2022/2020

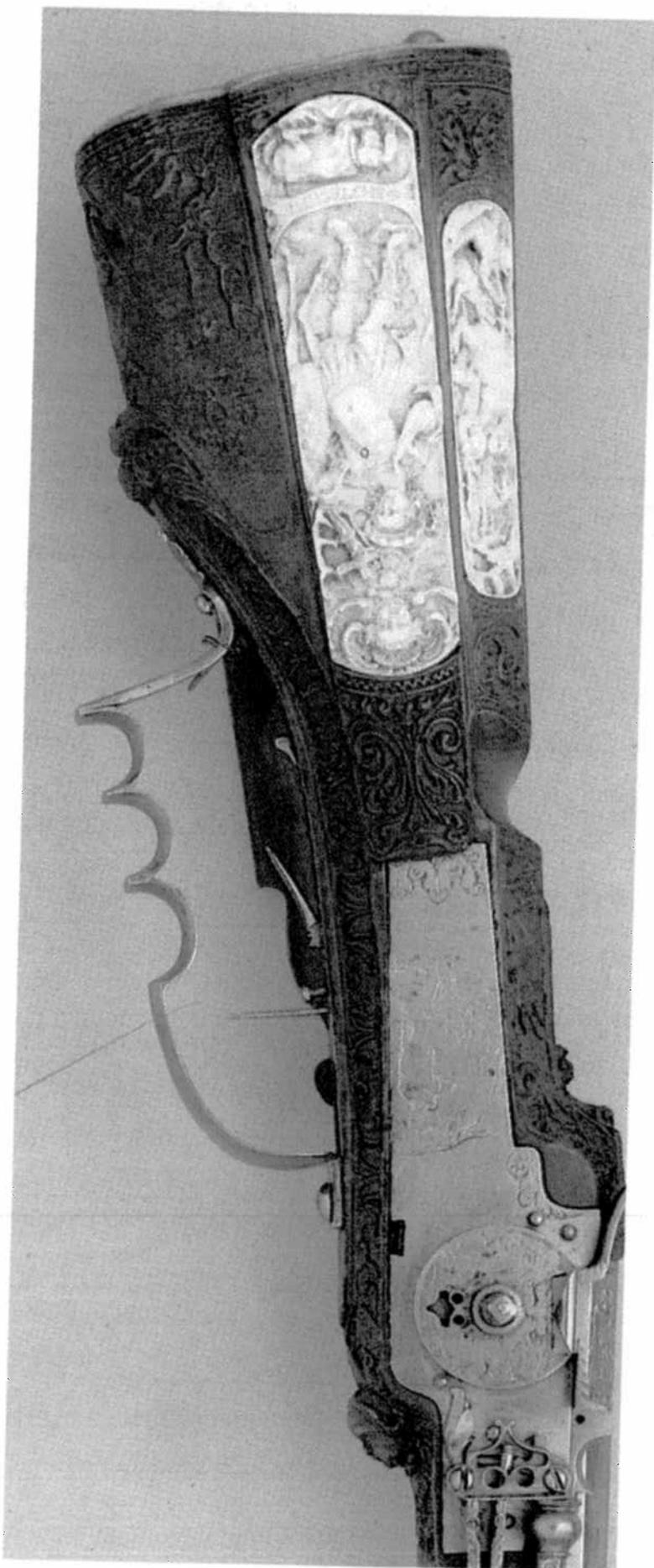




CHRISTIE'S SAHLROSS DYAC SAUC 15 APRIL 1992

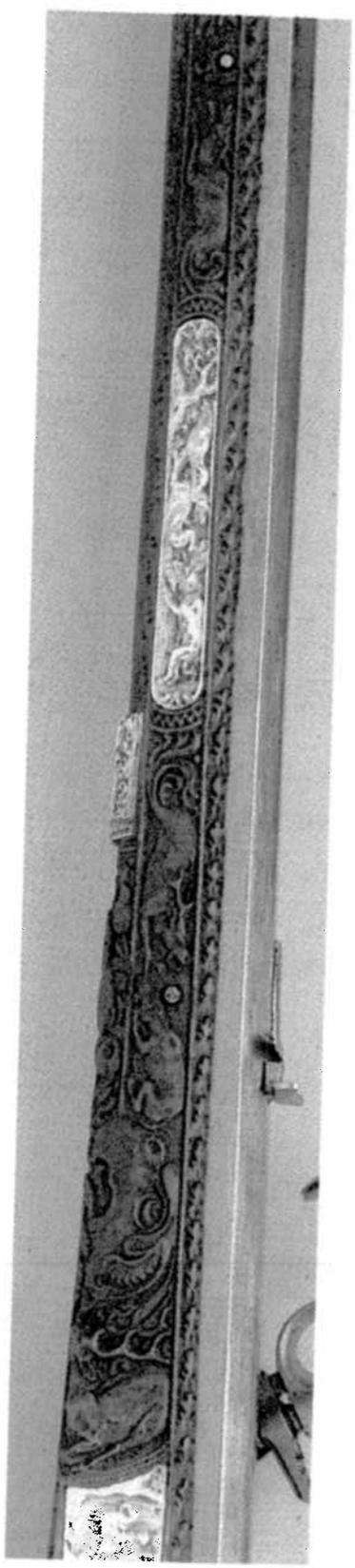
LOT 169 \$125,000 + 10% PREMIUM = \$137,500 X 1.75

From Christie's Auction



CHRISTIE'S 15 APRIL 1992 Lot 169

CHRISTIE'S 15 April 1992 Lot 169



125,000
110
169

AN IMPORTANT WHEEL-LOCK SPORTING RIFLE STOCKED BY JOHANN MICHAEL MAUCHER, with swamped octagonal sighted barrel rifled with eight grooves and engraved behind the back-sight with the letters H.V.G. (for Haas von Gmünd), the breech engraved with flowers and foliage and stamped twice with a mark, a unicorn (Neue Stöckel 4942), for Schwäbisch-Gmünd, flat lock engraved with foliage, two stags, and a hind, pierced flat wheel-cover engraved with two lions, the cock pierced and engraved with a bird and engraved on the top jaw with a monster-head, the flash-guard with pierced finial, fruitwood full stock (slight damage) carved in relief with a stag, a bear and boar hunt, lions, a falconer, fruit and foliage, with a cherub's mask in high relief on the underside in front of the trigger-guard, and inset with thin ivory plaques finely carved and pierced with further scenes of the chase in wooded landscapes, and opposite the lock with Saint George and the Dragon, the patch-box cover with an ivory plaque carved in high relief with the figure of Saint Eustace, a hound beneath and a putto-mask above, plain horn butt-plate, finely engraved horn ramrod-pipes and fore-end cap, iron trigger-guard, set trigger, and horn-tipped ramrod, the cheek-piece inlaid in engraved mother-of-pearl with two single-headed eagles, one clutching a sceptre, and the other an orb and cross, with central vacant oval cartouche, behind the barrel-tang a dark horn plaque stamped 'Johan Michael Maucher Bildawwer Vnnd Bixenshifter zve Schweb Gemend', circa 1680 30 1/4 in. barrel [E. 187, S.26]

P.B. lid ok
orig ee

LITERATURE:

- Ehrenthal, plate III
- Grancsay, p. 49
- A. Hoff, 'Die Waffensammlung in Schloß Dyck', p. 135, plate 4
- Petrasch, p. 12
- Schedelmann, *Die Großen Büchsenmacher*, p. 157

The barrel is by Johannes Haas, who died in 1704

The Swabian stockmaker Johann Michael Maucher was born into a family of wood, ivory and amber carvers in Schwäbisch-Gmünd in 1645, and worked there until 1688. He moved to Augsburg, then Würzburg in about 1693, where he died in 1701.

He is known to have made other similarly decorated objects of all kinds in ivory and wood, including figures and several large ewers and basins. Like the firearms such objects were intended as items for display, rather than for use.

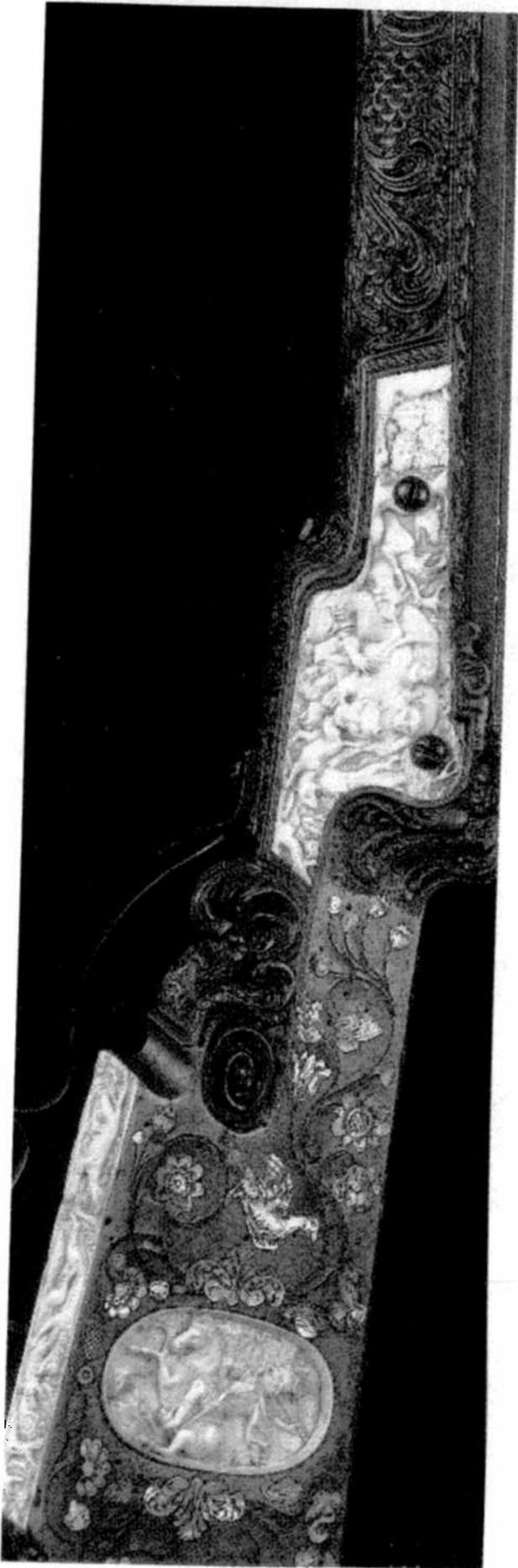
Prince Johann Adam Andreas von Liechtenstein (1657-1712) thought so highly of the Maucher rifle still in the Liechtenstein collection (Inv. No.859), that it was included in the still life painted for him by Dirk Valckenburg in 1698-9. Maucher is reported to have presented a richly decorated gun to Leopold I in 1688. This apparently no longer exists. About thirty firearms by Maucher have survived, mostly longarms, but only some of them are signed. Most of them are now in public collections, the largest group being in the Bayerisches Nationalmuseum, Munich. For further information on Maucher see Walter Klein, *Johann Michael und Christoph Maucher*

refer department
60,000

U.S. HAS TOTAL BAN ON IMPORTING IVORY
SOLD TO SWÄBISCH-GMÜND MUSEUM.
SCHWÄBISCH



END OF MORNING SESSION



CHURCHES - BOHNSCHNID BASE

#177200 - \$95000 + Premium \$11,000 of 106000

July
1999

CHRISTOPHER BISHOP'S DRAWING



CHRISTIE'S
BETHSCHAILED SAGE



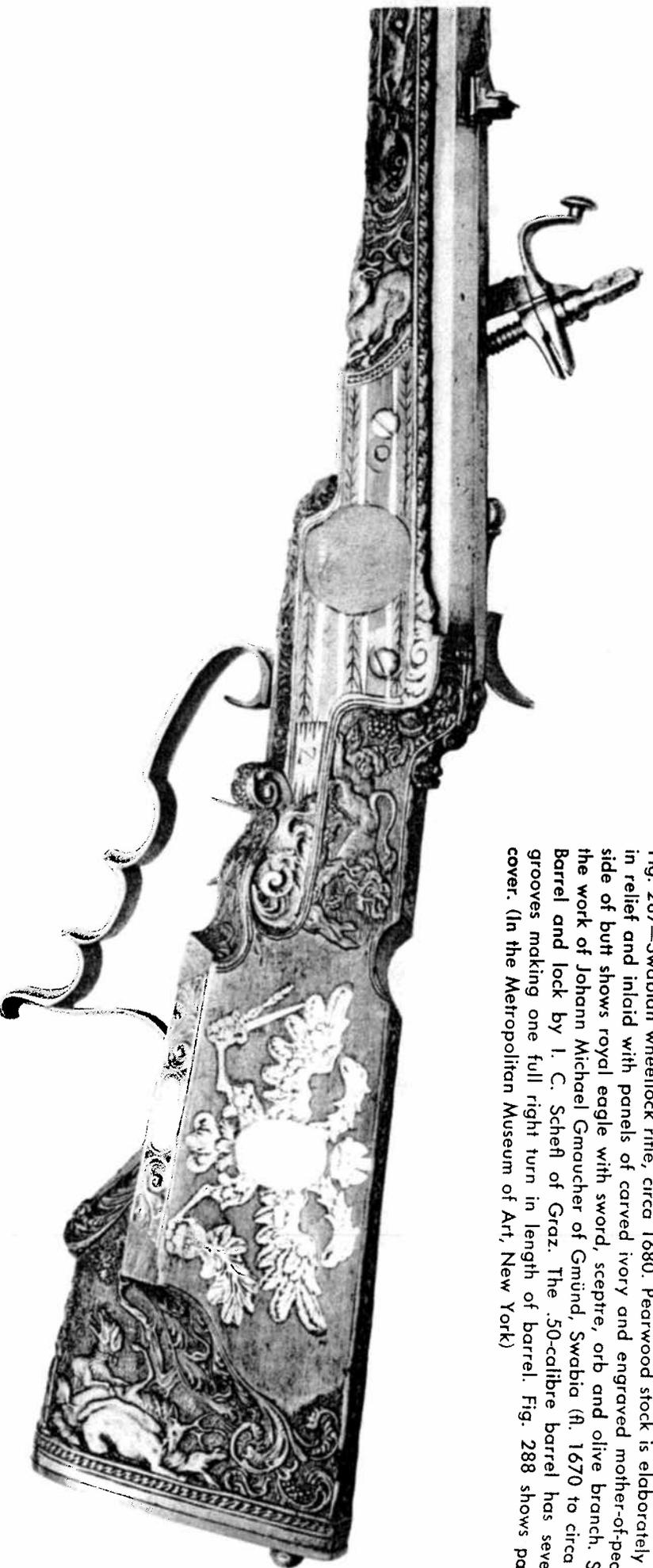


Fig. 287—Swabian wheellock rifle, circa 1680. Pearwood stock is elaborately carved in relief and inlaid with panels of carved ivory and engraved mother-of-pearl; left side of butt shows royal eagle with sword, sceptre, orb and olive branch. Stock is the work of Johann Michael Gmaucher of Gmünd, Swabia (fl. 1670 to circa 1700). Barrel and lock by I. C. Scheff of Graz. The .50-calibre barrel has seven rifle grooves making one full right turn in length of barrel. Fig. 288 shows rifle cover. (In the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York)

THE AGE OF FRONTIERS
 REBEKAH HEDG 1957

Fig. 288—"Patchbox" cover of rifle in Fig. 287.



The German immigrant gunsmiths in America who settled and opened their shops in and near Lancaster, Reading and other frontier towns in eastern Pennsylvania, introduced German rifles in the New World at the beginning of the eighteenth century. Business flourished, for good rifles were scarce; but at once problems developed. A frontiersman who often trekked through the wilderness for weeks could hardly be expected to carry along a thirteen- to twenty-pound gun, a hammer, the enormous quantity of powder required for .65- to .75-calibre barrels, a false muzzle and a pouch of bullets so large that a month's supply—say 150—weighed between eight and

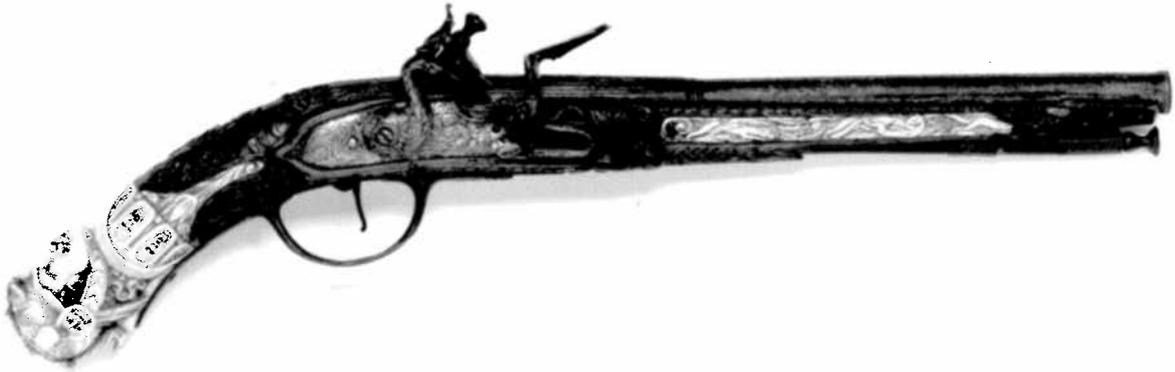
in this case Maucher imitates the works of other celebrated stockmakers: the craftsmen who in Maastricht specialized in the manufacture of pistols with stocks of solid ivory (4). Anyhow, in the present case, it is practically sure that the pistol under consideration is the work of Johan M. Maucher and should be placed — if we accept the dates suggested for the firearms which are stylistically closer to it — towards 1680, i.e. in the years before he left Schwäbisch Gmünd (5).

Tot. length: 46,4 cm. Barrel: 28,9 cm. Cal.: 13,5 mm.

Bibl.: Blair 1968, fig. 183; Schedelmann 1972, p. 157.

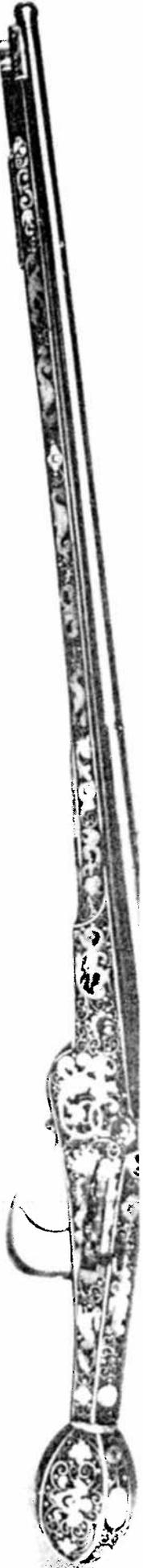


(4) For these craftsmen see: Lenk, pl. 51/2; Hayward II, 1963, pp. 161/3; E. v. Philippovich, W.u.K. 1963, pp. 96/8.
(5) The costume of the horseman's figure carved on the grip could justify also an earlier dating. A pair of pistols very similar to the one under consideration (Sotheby, 6th December 1951, Lot 147, now in Joe Kindig Collection, York, Pa), has the lock inscribed IE NAVE (Nave is the name of a place near Brescia: Brescian locks or barrels are sometimes mounted on firearms produced in the Low Countries or in Germany).

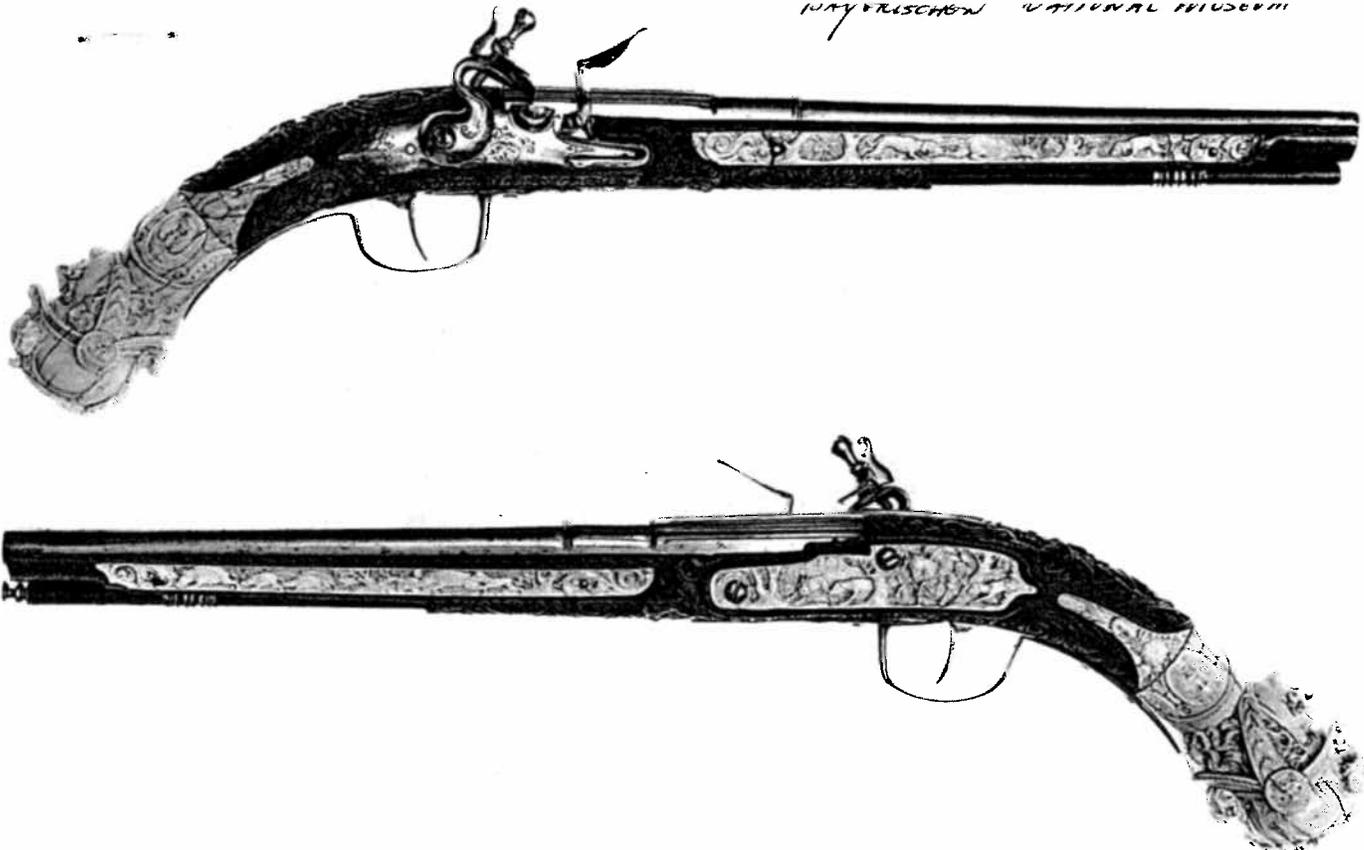


See other side

Photo from Peter Eimer
showing broken inlay.



Dexter - 42 year Swardbook
Rossignol Russia B. Aiken Co. to
Co. to Metropolitan and the...



229/230

Schlackenwerth (bei Karlsbad)

ANDREAS MICHAEL SIGL (erw. 1680-1730; Stöckel I, S. 282. Neuer Stöckel II, Nr. 1168).

228. Steinschloßbüchse

1. Viertel 18. Jh., Inv.-Nr. 13/627.
Länge gesamt 119 cm, Lauf 79 cm. Mündungsdurchmesser 15 mm, 8 Züge. Ganz geschäftet.

Lauf. Achtkantig, blank. Über der Kammer graviert stehende weibliche Figur auf Sockel, von Volutenranken mit Akanthus umgeben. Davor „ANDREAS/ M. SIGL. A. SCHLACKENWERTH“, dazwischen Marke (Messing), in Oval Greif unter „AMS“ (Stöckel I, Nr. 1026). Klappvisier; Korn schmaler Längswulst (Messing).

Schloß. Flach, Kanten abgeschrägt. Relieft: Auf dem Hahn Fabeltierkopf und Akanthusranken, auf der Schloßplatte (Messing, ebenso die Zündpfanne) symmetrisches Bandwerk mit Voluten und Akanthus. Im Zwickel der Batteriefeder bezeichnet „M:ROS“ (Stöckel I, S. 260).

Schaft. Glatt, einfacher Konturschnitt. Kolbenlade mit Schiebedeckel. Beschläge Messing,

relieft, ziseliert: Symmetrisches Band- und Rankenwerk mit Akanthus, an der durchbrochenen Schloßgegenplatte darin Medaillon und allegorische Figuren, auf dem Kolbenrücken stehender Krieger, auf der Daumenplatte Büste in Vierpaß, darüber zwei eine Krone haltende Löwen. Auf der Kolbenplatte graviert „A Nr. 154“. Holzladestock mit eiserner Gewindevorbohrung und Hornkopf.

Zweibr. 1795, Nr. A 154.

Schwäbisch Gmünd

JOH. MICHAEL MAUCHER (Schäfter, s. Nr. 43-48, 1645-1701; Neuer Stöckel II, S. 774).

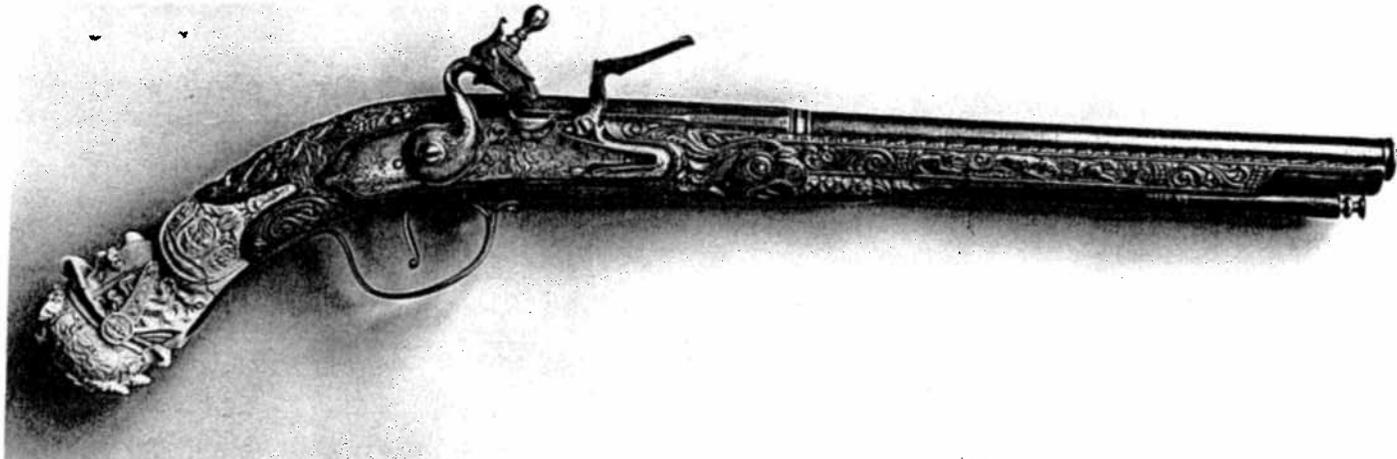
229./230. Steinschloßpistolenpaar
Farbtafel XII, nach S. 208

Um 1680. Inv.-Nr. W 2832, 2839.
Länge gesamt 52 cm, Lauf 32,3 cm. Mündungsdurchmesser $\frac{20,8}{14}$ mm, $\frac{12,9}{12}$ mm, glatt.

Lauf. Über der Kammer Längsriefelung, dann rund, blank. Auf dem Schwanzschraubenblatt „1“ bzw. „2“. Kein Visier. Unbezeichnet.



228. Laufmarke



231

231. Steinschloßpistole

Um 1680. Inv.-Nr. 51/124.

Länge gesamt 51,5 cm, Lauf 33,2 cm. Mündungsdurchmesser 13 mm, glatt.

Lauf. Im ersten Drittel achtkantig, dann rund, gebläut. Über der Kammer Blütenranken geätzt. Kein Visier. Unbezeichnet.

Schloß. Gewölbt, geätzt: Blattwerk, vor dem Hahn unter Ranke sitzender Vogel. Unbezeichnet.

Schaft. J.M. Maucher zugeschrieben. Im Holz geschnitten am Kolben Fruchtgehänge, auf dem Rücken Fanfare blasender Reiter, an der Unterseite über Maske Adlerkopf; an der Laufschäftung Akanthusvoluten und Hunde, Hasen hetzend. Elfenbeineinlagen: Am Platz der Schloßgegenplatte Darstellung des in den Abgrund sprengenden Marcus Curtius mit Stadtkulisse und Zuschauern, am Kolben kleine Zwickelflächen mit Blütenkelchen. Der in geradem Schnitt angesetzte Kopfknauf entspricht weitgehend den vorhergehenden. Variiert sind nur die Ovale am Schulterstück (hier durchwegs mit Masken) und die Ovale am Helm, hier gefüllt mit Doppeladler, mit Wappen Arco-Valley im Herzschild. Der kleine aus einer Durchbrechung des Schloßgegenplattenreliefs hervortretende Stift zeigt die für Maucher typische Art, in seinen Reliefs mechanische Feinheiten zu verbergen, wie z. B. auch bei Nr. 43, 45 und 46 auf dem Deckel der Kolbenlade mit kleinen Stiften zum Lösen der Arretierung.

1951 aus Wittelsbacher Privatbesitz erworben.

Die Pistole, die sich bis auf die erwähnten Varianten eng an das vorausgehende Paar anschließt, hat ein nächstverwandtes Gegenstück in einer Pistole der Sammlung

Odescalchi in Rom (Inv.-Nr. 53, s. Lit.), übereinstimmend in der Maskenfüllung der Ovale des Schulterstückes und in den Adlern auf dem Helm, jedoch mit leerem Wappenschild. Allen ist gemeinsam der unharmonische Anschluß der „Kopfknäufe“, die offensichtlich unter Einfluß der sog. Maastrichter Elfenbeinpistolen entstanden sind, deren Köpfe aber generell, analog der Kolbenneigung, abwärts gerichtet sind, während die der Mauchergruppe entgegengesetzt nach oben blicken. Die Frage einer nachträglichen Veränderung durch die Köpfe schon bei A. v. Reitzenstein (s. Lit.) angeschnitten. Pistolen mit einheitlich bis zum Knauf durchgehenden Elfenbeinreliefs von Maucher im Badischen Landesmuseum Karlsruhe (Inv.-Nr. G 643, 644; s. Lit. Petrasch).

Lit.: A. v. Reitzenstein, *wkk* 1959, S. 111 ff. - E. Petrasch, *wkk* 1960, S. 11 ff. - E. v. Philippovich, *wkk* 1963, S. 96 ff. - Nolfo di Carpegna, *Firearms in the Princes Odescalchi Collection in Rome*, 1975, S. 104 f.

Suhl (Heidersbach b. Suhl)

JOH. CHRISTOPH STOCKMAR (1719-1747, Neuer Stöckel II, S. 294).

232./233. Steinschloßbüchsenpaar

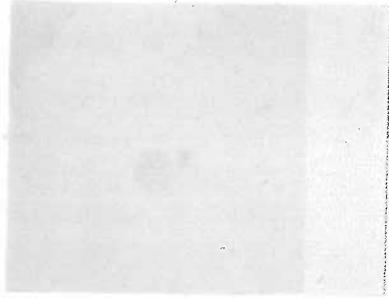
Farbtafel XIII, nach S. 216

1745. Inv.-Nr. 13/567, 568.

Länge gesamt 103,5 cm, Lauf 65,3 cm. Mündungsdurchmesser 14 mm, 7 Züge. Ganz geschäftet.

Lauf. Achtkantig, blank. Über Kammer und Mündung fein ziselierter Reliefschnitt mit vergoldetem Grund: Rocailles, Blumenkorb, Jäger in Zeittracht unter Bäumen. Standvisier, Korn kleiner Längswulst. An der rechten Seitenkante vor dem Zündloch graviert „I. C. STOCKMAR. A. SVHL“.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art



Rumor has it that you were the fortunate (and wise) buyer of the Maucher pistol at Christie's a few months ago. Congratulations on this splendid and very reasonably priced acquisition.

As you undoubtedly know, your pistol is considered to be the mate to that in the Odescalchi Collection in Rome. The Italian authorities were unable to organize a private-treaty purchase with Christie's and obviously failed to acquire the pistol at auction, but they have at least noted the existence of your pistol in a little catalogue they issued in connection with an exhibition of some of the Odescalchi material that is currently on display at the Palazzo Venezia. I am enclosing photocopies from the publication for your reference.

I am very impressed by the critical and very selective manner in which you are forming your collection of European arms and armor. I would especially enjoy seeing your collection, the American as well as the European items. Perhaps when the snow has disappeared from the landscape you might invite me up sometime?

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Stuart W. Pyhrr
Arthur Ochs Sulzberger Curator in Charge
Department of Arms and Armor

Enclosure



Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali

*Soprintendenza Speciale
per il Polo Museale Romano*

Belle e terribili

La collezione Odescalchi. Armi bianche e da fuoco

*A cura di
Marta Giulia Barberini*





Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali

Soprintendenza Speciale
per il Polo Museale Romano

Belle e terribili

*La collezione Odescalchi.
Armi bianche e da fuoco*

Museo di Palazzo Venezia
18 dicembre 2002 – 23 marzo 2003



Palombi Editori

Pistola a focile

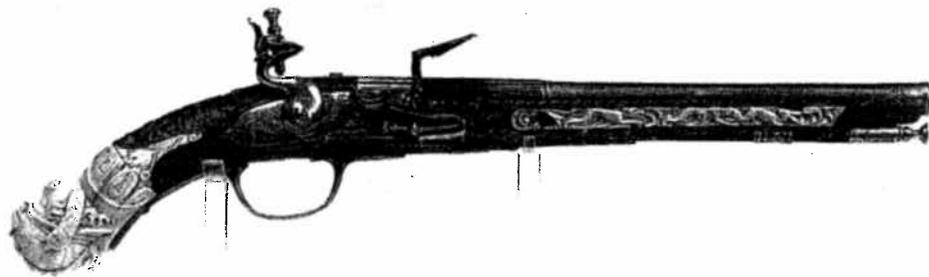
Epoca:	Germania meridionale, circa 1680
	Nella collezione Odescalchi portava il numero 1782; inv. P.V.11343
Materiale:	Cassa in noce intagliato; decorazione in avorio; battipalla in acciaio
Dimensioni:	Peso gr. 860; lunghezza cm 47; canna cm. 29; calibro mm. 15

Notizie storico-critiche:

Il Carpegna aveva già sottolineato le fortissime somiglianze con altre pistole, conservate nel Museo Nazionale di Monaco, che per le loro caratteristiche si possono attribuire a Johan Michael Maucher, che si definiva "scultore e incassatore", e che ebbe larga notorietà in Germania (Carpegna, 1968, p. 102, n.25). Maucher, figlio di un intagliatore, nacque nel 1645 in Svevia; dopo il 1688 si trasferì ad Augsburg prima e quindi a Wurzburg, ottenendo il diritto di cittadinanza. Morì tra il 1700 e il 1701. Le sue opere si distinguono per la ricchezza decorativa, dovuta all'impiego dell'avorio e all'intaglio ad alto rilievo delle casse, con scene che attingono alle incisioni di Jost Amman e di Adrian Collaert. Mentre per la forma del pomo a testa umana coperta da un elmo, il Maucher si è ispirato alle opere di altri intagliatori: molto probabilmente agli artigiani olandesi che a Maastricht si erano specializzati nella produzione di pistole interamente coperte in avorio. La compagna di questa pistola è oggi sul mercato di Londra (informazione cortesemente fornita da Paolo del Pennino).

Descrizione:

Canna a due ordini, con listelli rilevati nella parte quadra; sotto la culatta, due marche riferentisi al centro di Suhl (Turingia). Piastra a focile, incisa a fogliami. Cassa in noce intagliato completata da decorazioni in avorio scolpito; contropiastra con scena di caccia al cervo (Carpegna, 1976, p. 80, n. 488).



Paio

Epoca:

Materi

Dimen:

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Descrizi

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