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# The Guardian

## Renoir painting stolen from auction house in central Vienna

**Police hunt three suspects after landscape valued at up to €160,000 taken from display**

*Reuters*

Wed 28 Nov 2018 14.19 GMT Last modified on Wed 28 Nov 2018 16.02 GMT



The Dorotheum auction house in Vienna. Photograph: Leonhard Föger/Reuters

Austrian police are searching for three suspects after a painting by Pierre-Auguste Renoir valued at up to €160,000 (£140,000) was stolen from a Vienna auction house during opening hours.

Golfe, Mer, Falaises Vertes, a lesser known landscape by the prolific French impressionist, was taken from its frame on Monday evening while it was on display ahead of a planned sale at the Dorotheum auction house, police said.

“The men left the site through different exits and fled,” Vienna police said in a statement. They released pictures of the three suspects taken from security camera footage, adding that they were “evidently professional”.



The artist Renoir, who lived from 1841 to 1919. Photograph: Handout

The Dorotheum, Vienna’s best-known auction house in the heart of the city, confirmed that a theft had taken place but declined to provide further details.

The painting was estimated at €120,000 to €160,000 and had been due to go under the hammer Tuesday evening.