

**Report on the content of the Museum Ludwig
archives**

concerning the artwork

Rayonistic Composition (1916)

by Mikhail Larionov

Author of the report: Verena Franken
Report editors: Jilleen Nadolny and Petra Mandt
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1. Provenance

There are a few notes on the painting's provenance which are listed in the archive of the Museum Ludwig (comp. table 1). In the book *Vom Impressionismus zum Tachismus. Malerei, Lithographie, Photographie, angewandte Grafik* published in 1964 the entry for this painting mentions the collection Christoph Czwiklitzer, Cologne as the previous owner. It is documented that *Rayonistic Composition* later was offered by Gallery Gmurzynska which was located in Cologne that time¹. The artwork was part of the gallery's collection until 1980. The painting was acquired by Peter and Irene Ludwig (Ludwig collection in Aachen) in 1980. In the archive of the Museum Ludwig there is an invoice (dated 17.9.1980) verifying the acquisition. In December 2011 it was donated as artistic legacy to the Museum Ludwig in Cologne after Irene Ludwig's death in 2010 (28th November 2010).

table 1: listing of the painting's provenance.

1964	Collection Christoph Czwiklitzer (1914-1992) ²
until 1980	Cologne, Gallery Gmurzynska (Köln, Galerie Gmurzynska)
since 1980	Aachen, collection Ludwig (collection of Peter and Irene Ludwig) 1980-2011: loan to the Museum Ludwig in Cologne
since 20.12.2011	Donation/ artistic legacy to the Museum Ludwig, Cologne Museum Ludwig, graphic collection).

References in general for the painting's exhibition history and bibliography, see:
<https://www.kulturelles-erbe-koeln.de/documents/obj/05020023>

¹ Founded in Cologne in 1965, Gallery Gmurzynska is now located in Switzerland

² <http://www.galerie20.smbmuseum/kunsthandel/K15.html> (20.03.2017)

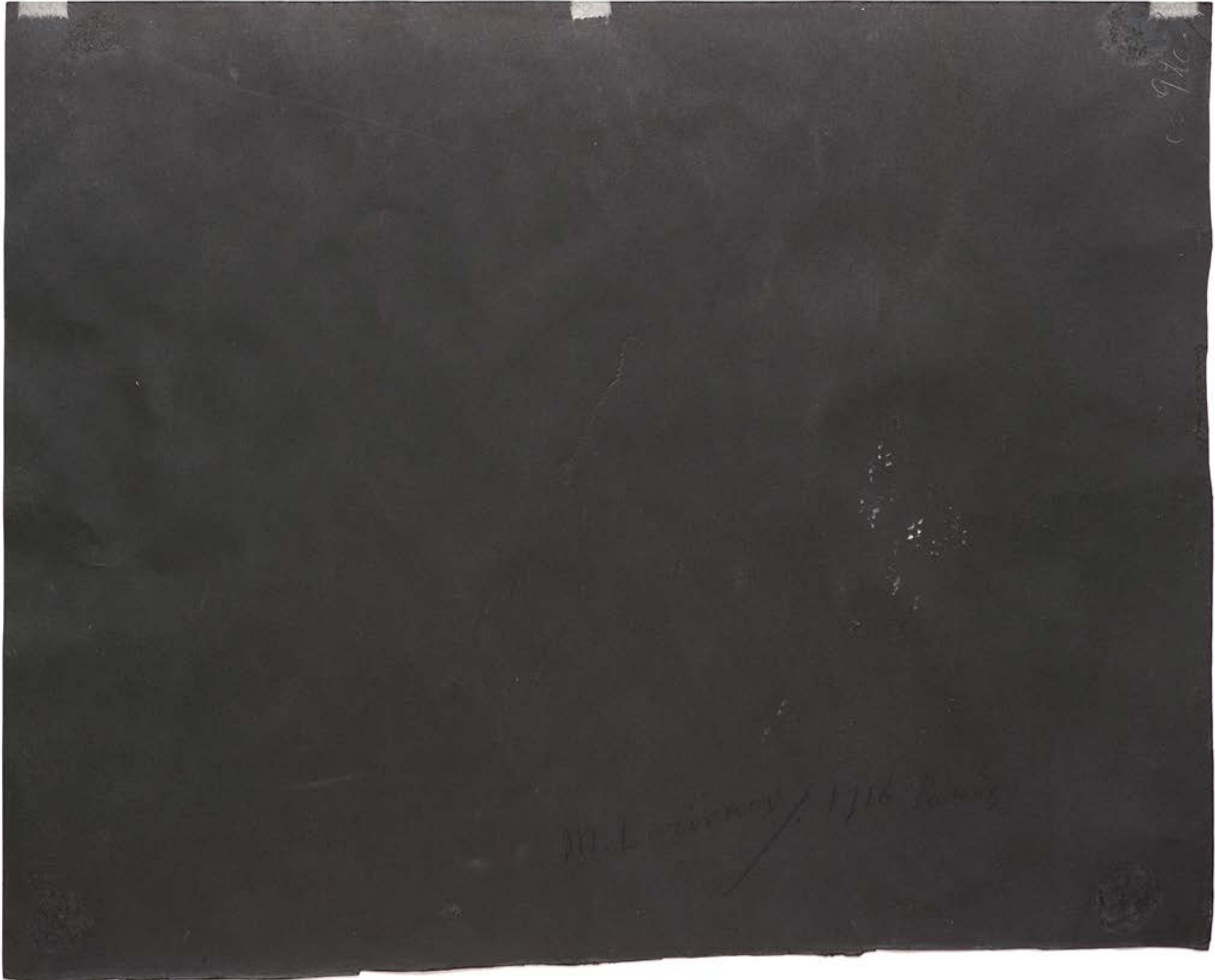
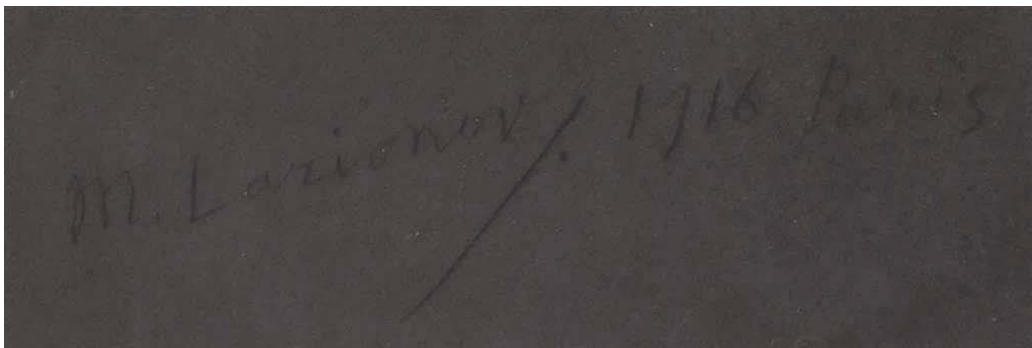


Plate 1 Mikhail Larionov, *Rayonistic Composition*, inscribed 1916, collection Museum Ludwig: Inv. Nr. ML/Z 211/134. Verso, visible light.

Rheinisches Bildarchiv Köln, Patrick Schwarz, rba_d045147_02, <http://www.kulturelles-erbe-koeln.de/documents/obj/05020023>

Below, 1.b, a detail of the inscription, verso: 'M. Larionov. 1916 Paris'.



2- Art historical information

It is supposed the gouache *Rayonistic Composition*, dated 1916, probably is a preliminary study for a painting³ owned by the Wilhelm-Hack-Museum, Ludwigshafen on the Rhine (Nakov^o1973⁴ Weiss 1993: 146.⁵ ,Gassen and Präger 1999: 177)⁶. A.Nakov pointed out in his catalogue entry 1973 *that the dating of Larionov's rayonnist-abstract works still poses a number of problems.*

The small oil and the gouache exhibit several compositional similarities in form and colour for example the white highlights and the black lines, but differ much in size.

The date for the painting in the Hack collection meanwhile was changed from 1907/08 to 1913/16.

³ Mikhail Larionov, Rayonistic composition, 1913/16, oil on canvas on cardboard. Wilhelm-Hack-Stiftung, Inv. Nr. 458/36.

⁴ *Tatlin's Dream. Russian Suprematist and constructivist Art 1910-1923.*[exhibition catalogue Nov. 1973-Jan.1974, Fischer Fine Arts Ltd., London], p. 64, no. 30.

⁵ *Von Malewitsch bis Kabakov: Russische Avantgarde im 20. Jahrhundert. Die Sammlung Ludwig* [exhibition catalogue, 16 October 1993 to 2 January 1994, Josef-Haubrich- Kunsthalle], Weiss, E. (ed.) Munich: Prestel (1993), p. 146.

⁶ Gassen, R. W. and Präger, C. *Kunst des 20. Jahrhunderts. Wilhelm- Hack- Museum. Eine Auswahl aus dem Bestand.* Ludwigshafen on the Rhine: Förderkreis Wilhelm-Hack-Museum (1999), p. 177 (with photo).