

# Lost Van Gogh Painting of Sultan of Morocco Found, Tied to Infamous Art Heist and Billionaire's Secret Life

*A fake death, media corruption, & crimes committed like the ones shown in films became a reality. Where some of the largest unsolved art crimes would be solved.*

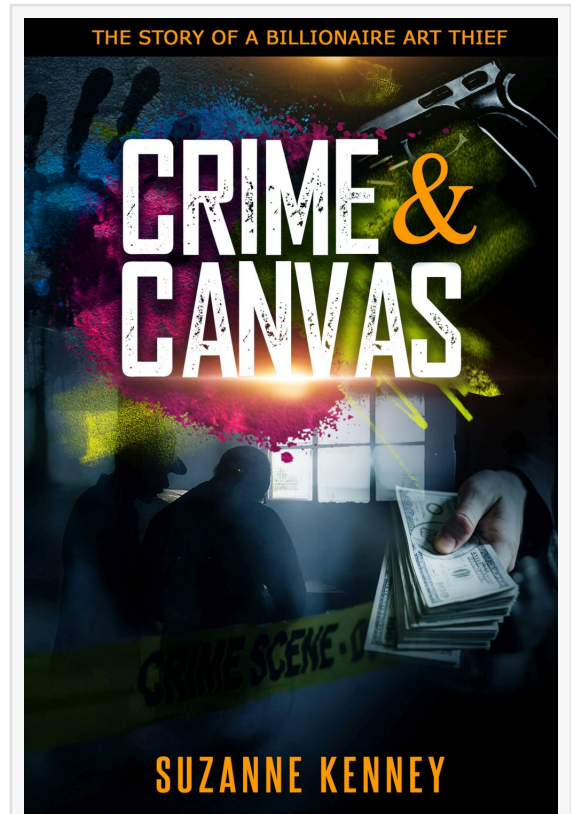
OKEECHOBIE, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES, June 28, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- In a twist that could rewrite art history and true crime narratives, a long-lost [Vincent van Gogh](#) painting depicting the Sultan of Morocco, Moulay Hassan I, has been unearthed. This stunning discovery is intrinsically linked to the notorious 1990 [Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum heist](#) and is at the heart of the newly released true crime memoir, "Crime & Canvas," by Suzanne Kenney.

The oil painting, believed to be inspired by van Gogh's admiration for Eugène Delacroix, bears a striking resemblance to the Sultan and features stylistic elements reminiscent of both Delacroix and Theo van Rysselberghe. It was found in the unlikely possession of the author's mother, a Florida flea market vendor. She had purchased it for a mere few dollars from a mysterious stranger in 1991. This stranger was later identified as Frederick R. Koch, a billionaire art collector with a troubled past.

## A Tangled Web of Secrets:

"Crime & Canvas" is a riveting account of the author's quest to unravel the truth behind her mother's acquisition of the painting and its connection to the Gardner Museum heist. Through meticulous research and examination of handwritten notes accompanying the artwork, the author paints a picture of a troubled billionaire haunted by his actions and seeking redemption through a series of clandestine art transactions.

The book delves into Koch's double life, exploring his motivations for stealing the paintings from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the elaborate scheme he devised to make right with the



Crime & Canvas - The Story of a Billionaire Art Thief

art world undetected, and the role a devastating [art warehouse fire in London](#) played.

Key Points:

Major Art Discovery: The painting is considered a significant find, offering new insights into van Gogh's artistic journey and potentially worth millions.

Art Heist Solved: The author's investigation suggests that the Gardner Museum heist may finally be solved, implicating a billionaire who was previously above suspicion.

Trove of Missing Art: The discovery of the van Gogh is only the tip of the iceberg. The author's mother also acquired other masterpieces, including works by Picasso, Manet, and Calder, potentially resurfacing even more lost art.

True Crime Thriller: "Crime & Canvas" is a page-turner, a true crime memoir that reads like a suspense novel, filled with unexpected twists and turns.

Fake Death, Media Corruption, and More: The book delves into a world of intrigue, revealing shocking details about the art world and the lengths some will go to protect their secrets.

A Daughter's Determination: The author's unwavering pursuit of the truth is a testament to her resilience and determination to honor her mother's legacy.

“

This amazing Sultan of Morocco painting by Vincent van Gogh is part of an incredible story”

*Suzanne Kenney*

her debut book.

Book Details:

Title: Crime & Canvas

Author: Suzanne Kenney

Genre: True Crime, Art History

Available: October 2022, Amazon (<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BMDRQ8RZ>) or <https://crimeandcanvas.com/>

Vincent



**“The Moroccan”**

*The Sultan of Morocco?*

Moulay-Hassan I (born 1831); ascended to the throne in 1873; died in 1894  
(a couple years after van Gogh died).



Vincent van Gogh - The Sultan of Morocco  
Booklet

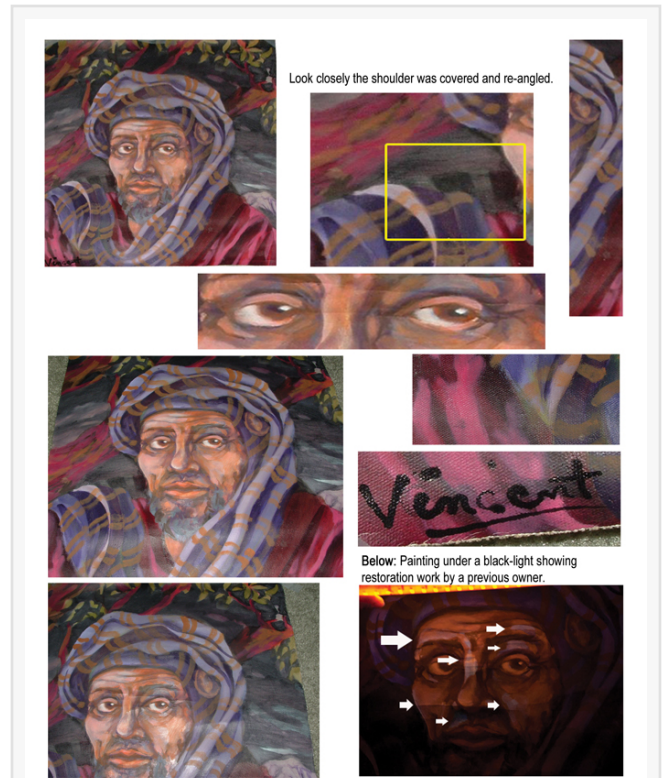
### Additional Information:

The van Gogh painting's discovery is expected to generate immense interest from art collectors, museums, and true crime enthusiasts alike. "Crime & Canvas" offers a unique and intimate perspective on this historic find, promising to enthrall readers with its gripping narrative and shocking revelations.

Offering readers a thrilling glimpse into the shadowy corners of the art world.

For more information visit  
<https://theartworkstory.com/>

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### Quick Facts:

- If this was painted in 1889 or 1890 the age of the Sultan would be 58 or 59 years old (matching the age of the man in our painting).
- The Sultan died in 1894, only four years after Vincent van Gogh.
- The painting's style appears to be inspired by Eugène Delacroix, who also painted a prior Sultan of Morocco in 1845. Vincent van Gogh was deeply inspired by Eugène Delacroix. See following page.
- Van Gogh liked to paint a night sky in the background - Google "van Gogh and the colors of the night".
- You can view nearly 100 van Gogh paintings and drawings done in a similar style to our painting at our website.
- The person in the painting does resemble the Sultan at the time van Gogh was painting. See artwork of the Sultan below by other artists:



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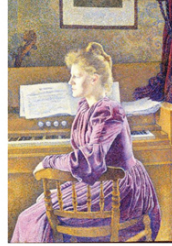


**The Influence of Theo van Ryssselberghe and Eugène Delacroix.**

According to his Wikipedia page, Theo van Ryssselberghe (1862 - 1926) was influenced by Eugène Delacroix. He not only painted many Moroccan paintings, he even did a drawing of the same Sultan of Morocco in 1887.

Two direct quotes from Theo's Wikipedia page are:

*"In December 1887 he was invited, together with Edmond Picard, to accompany a Belgian economic delegation to Meknès, Morocco. During these three months he made many color pencil sketches. He also drew a portrait of the Sultan Hassan I."*



*"In Paris he had a meeting with Theo van Gogh and managed thus to invite Vincent van Gogh to the next exhibition in Brussels. That is where van Gogh sold Vigne Rouge in Montmajour to Anna Boch, the only painting he ever sold."*

Left: Painting by Theo, titled: Maria Sethe at the Harmonium, 1891. This painting has similar color tones (purple and burgundy) as ours; van Gogh could have borrowed paint from Theo.

Note: There are several paintings online Theo painted of Morocco. We have been unable to locate a copy of the Sultan drawing mentioned on his Wikipedia page.

Eugène Delacroix (1798 - 1863) is who we believe influenced the style of our painting. He painted many Moroccan paintings, including the Moroccan Sultan of his time.

**Artwork by Eugène Delacroix**



Left: Moroccan Sultan Right: Moroccan Military  
Below: one of the Sultan's Guardsmen, a Moroccan saddling his horse, and a Moroccan Sheikh.



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