The Getty Research Institute has undertaken to collect and publish information and records on Austrian and German auction catalogues and on art trade sales during the first half of the 20th century. The purpose of the project is to provide academics, particularly provenance researchers but also other interested persons, with a detailed insight into the illicit sale of art and cultural objects during the Nazi era and the art trade in the years preceding. The Getty Provenance Index previously comprised around 300,000 entries and has now been extended to include an additional 570,000 entries, which were collected as part of a complex and time-consuming project. The project's aim is to enable a deepening of knowledge on provenance and art trade research and, following the complex digitization process, to facilitate access to this information and allow it to be available on an international scale.

Further information:

Article: http://blogs.getty.edu/iris/half-a-million-records-on-early-20th-century-german-art-market-added-to-getty-provenance-index/

Database: http://piprod.getty.edu/starweb/pi/servlet.starweb?path=pi/pi.web