

Christie's, London, auction of 20th century books and manuscripts, 2 December 2004, lot 106, estimated at £500-800, unsold at auction, but sold later by Christies as a private sale.

Catalogue description

Lot 106 [un-illustrated]: Freud, Sigmund and Anna Freud. 'Sigmund Fred Esq. Draft Will', carbon copy of typed document with autograph pencil insertions and amendments by Anna Freud, [June-July] 1938, 2°, 8 pages typed on rectos only, punched and with paper-fastener (lightly faded, minor marginal chipping and small holes on folds of final leaf). Provenance: Martin Freud and Margaret Freud (gift to the vendor).

A DRAFT OF FREUD'S WILL WITH AUTOGRAPH AMENDMENTS BY ANNA FREUD, GIVING HER NAME AS AN EXECUTOR AND RECIPIENT OF FREUD'S COLLECTION OF ANTIQUES AND PSYCHIATRIC AND PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOKS, presumably made under Freud's instructions. Following the Nazi Anschluss of Austria in Spring 1938 and the consequent persecution of the Freud family, arrangements were made to emigrate to England; on 6 June 1938 Sigmund, Martha and Anna Freud arrived in London, where they rented 39 Elsworthy Road, Hampstead (given as Freud's address on the draft will). This will was drafted by the solicitors Stanley de Leon, and Anna's amendments (in German) insert the names of Martin, Ernst and Anna Freud as executors, add her own name as the recipient of Freud's collection of antiques, note that she is to receive Freud's books on psychology and psychiatry, exempt Ernst Halberstadt from the bequests to Freud's grandchildren, and specify that the annuity to Freud's sister-in-law Minna Bernays should be £300. These amendments are incorporated into a photo-mechanical copy of Freud's will (headed 'Office copy', blindstamped 'Royal Court of Justice Probate' and dated 28 July 1938), which is included in the lot; thus, the insertions can be dated to either June or July 1938. With a black-edged printed card 'We wish to express our sincere thanks for your sympathy shown to us on the death of Sigmund Freud', 20 Maresfield Gardens, London, October 1939. (30
Estimate: £500-800

Note: This lot and lots 104-105 in the same sale, were formerly the property of Margaret Freud, the partner of Freud's second son Martin Freud, author of the novel *Parole d'honneur* (London: 1939), and the biographical *Glory Reflected. Sigmund Freud--Man and Father* (London: 1957), and were given by her to the vendor, a neighbour and friend.