
KUNST
HISTORISCHES
MUSEUM
WIEN

Adopt a
Masterpiece

GET CLOSE TO ART



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DEAR ART LOVERS,

the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna is a vibrant institution dedicated to collecting and displaying art, to its conservation, research and documentation, to education and discourse.

Would you like to support our wide range of activities? We would love to have you on board. This brochure showcases the wealth of activities and projects in which our collections are involved. Did you perhaps fall in love with a particular artwork during your visit and would like to become its patron? Your support will enable us to preserve it for future generations. And from now on your name will always be connected with this work of art and the inventory of the Kunsthistorisches Museum. As a patron you support the scientific documentation and research of our holdings, or the restoration and conservation of artworks that could otherwise not be displayed in the permanent galleries. Your commitment to our museum will offer you exceptional insights into our holdings and exclusive access to our scholarly museum activities.

I very much hope we can interest you in one of our many projects.

Sabine Haag
Director General

**ADOPT A
MASTER-
PIECE**

YOUR COMMITMENT

Personal commitment broadens one's horizon; and this, in turn, invigorates the museum and allows it to grow. And the beauty of it is that as a patron you can participate and share in this. It's all about long-term relationships – with favorite artworks, with the different collections, with curators and experts. Come and join us now! It's worth it

Why not give someone an Adopt-a-Masterpiece membership? Pass on real values to your children or grandchildren by giving them an Adopt-a-Masterpiece membership, or give one as a birthday-, anniversary- or wedding gift.

**ADOPT A
MASTER-
PIECE**

"I care about passing on values. I gave my grandchildren Adopt-a-Masterpiece memberships. From an early age they have an intimate connection with the museum and our country's artistic and cultural heritage." Edith Raidl





YOUR ADVANTAGES

DONATION OF UP TO € 250

Donations to the Kunsthistorisches Museum made as part of our Adopt-a-Masterpiece program are tax deductible.

Donate up to € 250 and receive your personal Adopt-a-Masterpiece certificate, and your name will be entered in our list of donors.

DONATIONS OVER € 250

Donate over € 250 and receive a comprehensive documentation of the selected artwork, your name will be entered in our list of donors, and you will receive invitations to our formal receptions as well as personal invitations to all openings at the Kunsthistorisches Museum.

DONATIONS OVER € 4.000

Donate over € 4.000 and in addition to the advantages listed above receive invitations to all previews and “behind the scenes” events, and one annual ticket to the Kunsthistorisches Museum valid for two persons for one year.

DONATIONS OVER € 20.000

Donate over € 20.000 and in addition to the advantages listed above your name will be displayed either next to the selected artwork or on a “roll of honor” in the collection.

EGYPTIAN AND
NEAR EASTERN
COLLECTION

The Kunsthistorisches Museum's Egyptian and Near Eastern Collection comprises over 12.000 artefacts, making it one of the world's foremost collections of ancient Egyptian antiquities. Join our Adopt-a-Masterpiece program and fund the conservation of sculptures, sarcophagi, reliefs and papyri, or help us realize the digital archiving of historical photographs and records documenting important archaeological campaigns.



*Sphinxes in storage at the
Kunsthistorisches Museum*

Ancient Treasures from the Land on the Nile

COLLECTION OF
GREEK AND ROMAN
ANTIQUITIES

Expertise, care and passion are prerequisites for the welfare and preservation, research and presentation of our artefacts. Holdings comprising celebrated masterpieces like the unique “Gemma Augustea”, the Nagyszentmiklós Treasure and the portrait head of Aristotle make this one of the world’s foremost classical collections. Much, however, remains to be done: many archaeological objects need careful interventions to regain their former splendor. Analyzing and assembling ancient fragments promises not only visual enjoyment but also answers to vital historical and archaeological questions.

Ancient Masterpieces



Cameos in the storage of the Collection of Greek and Roman Antiquities

Precious artefacts in the Imperial Treasury Vienna offer visitors a unique panorama of a thousand years of European history, from Charlemagne to the end of the Holy Roman Empire to the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. This treasure chamber is filled with crowns, sceptres and orbs, carefully-worked gold and silver vessels, sumptuous robes, precious jewels and pearls that tell of former imperial power and glory. All these treasures, however, require constant care and conservation to ensure that Austria's heritage can be enjoyed by coming generations.

The Treasures of the House of Habsburg



Daniel Neuberger, The death of Emperor Ferdinand III as a symbol of transience, Vienna, ca 1660

Cradle of the Museum

KUNSTKAMMER
VIENNA

The Kunstammer Vienna showcases unique artworks while telling their stories and those of their former owners. This journey back in time takes you from mediaeval treasures to the Kunstammer collections of the Renaissance and the Baroque to the collection assembled in the 19th century, from which the museum as we know it today evolved. Come and see exceptional goldsmith works like Cellini's "Saliera", the "Krumau Madonna" and other splendid sculptures, fabulous bronze statuettes, delicate and bizarre ivory figures, examples of virtuoso hardstone carving, precious clocks, complex automata and scientific instruments, magnificent game boards and much much more.

Join our Adopt-a-Masterpiece program and ensure that these treasures are preserved for future generations.

**ADOPT A
MASTER-
PIECE**

"My god-child is a winged altarpiece. A wonderful, unique artefact, and the work of a great artist. It needed to be restored, and now it gleams and sparkles again in the newly-installed Kunstammer. I am proud of this, especially when I think about my name being entered in the Kunstammer inventory. This way my family name will remain connected with the collection for centuries." Helene Sebök

TAPESTRIES

Creating an ambience of both restrained elegance and courtly splendor, tapestries were present at countless festivities and ceremonial occasions celebrated at Habsburg palaces. Our holdings comprise around eight hundred tapestries, among them important series like the mythological scenes commissioned by King Francis I of France at Fontainebleau near Paris, or the “Pastoral Scenes” after cartoons by Jacob Jordaens. Despite their generally monumental size these tapestries woven from wool, silk and frequently gold- and silver threads are fragile works of art. They have always required – and continue to require – careful handling, conservation and a period of rest and care after every public appearance. Today, they recuperate in our state-of-the-art storage. However, visits from members of our Adopt-a-Masterpiece program are always welcome and, who knows, may even induce our tapestries to recount stories from bygone days ...

Tapestries have
witnessed history
being made!



*Installing a tapestry at the
Kunsthistorisches Museum*

One of the world's foremost collections of Old Masters, the Picture Gallery includes paintings by Durer, Cranach, Raphael, Titian, Pieter Bruegel the elder, Vermeer, Rembrandt, Rubens and Velázquez.

Today, this renowned collection faces many challenges: displaying the artworks, researching them, publishing the results of these studies and much, much more. But we also need to preserve our fabulous holdings for future generations, and this requires conservation and restoration work.

A number of paintings should now be on their way back from storage, either to return to the galleries or as loans to important exhibitions. First, however, they have to be carefully analyzed, cleaned and, frequently, restored. Join our Adopt-a-Masterpiece program or make a donation to help the Picture Gallery showcase once more now-hidden treasures. We would also love to welcome you as a guest at our research projects on Titian and Bruegel.



A Focus on Old Masters



COLLECTION OF
ARMS AND ARMOR

A visit to the best-documented armory of the Western world brings to life the sumptuous display of wealth and courtly splendor that accompanied princely festivities such as coronations, Imperial Diets, campaigns, engagements, weddings or christenings. But all these suits of armor, saddles, morions, pistols, elegant sabres and circular shields require permanent care, conservation and research. Would you like to provide a prince with a state-of-the-art ersatz-body? Interested? Let us tell you what this is all about.

ADOPT A
MASTER-
PIECE

“The Kunsthistorisches Museum is a treasure trove of art. By joining the Adopt-a-Masterpiece program I want to contribute my share to the future survival of these masterpieces.”
Rudolf Leeb

Princely Pomp and Circumstance



COLLECTION OF
HISTORICAL
MUSICAL
INSTRUMENTS

ADDITIONAL
BENEFITS:

TICKETS TO
OUR MATINEES

PATRONS NAMED
ON PROGRAMMES,
FOLDERS OR
CD BOOKLETS

Musical objects in a museum face one big problem: they are rarely played, which deprives them of one of their essential features – music. Luckily many of our historical instruments are in excellent condition and can still be played. Our Sunday matinees in the galleries of the Collection of Historical Musical Instruments have become quite an institution in Vienna. Your support would enable us to pay for more frequent tunings of the instruments, excellent musicians and the use of professional recording studios. Some instruments, however, need to be restored first – or would you prefer to support an acquisition instead?

Hope to *hear*
from you soon



A harpsichord; after fixing several cracks the soundboard and the case are reassembled

COIN COLLECTION

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS:

DONATE € 25 OR
MORE PER COIN
OR MEDAL
AND BE NAMED
AS A DONOR IN OUR
PUBLIC INVENTORY

We have one goal: one day we want to be able to view all the artefacts in the Coin Collection (with over half a million objects one of the largest numismatic collections in the world), study the delicate details of their ob- and reverses and compare them with other pieces without having to open padded drawers and safes, wear gloves or use magnifying glasses, microscopes or specialized numismatic libraries. With your support we can continue and expand our digitalization project. Join this research project! Donations start at € 25 per coin, and the wealth of our holdings means the sky's the limit.



Restoring a coin under a microscope

Money *Power(s)* Research



LIBRARY

The Library of the Kunsthistorisches Museum houses around 36.000 historically important and extremely fragile books dating from the 15th to the 19th century. Focal points of the collection are incunables, early prints and maps that deal with political, cultural and art history, the library of Maximilian, and countless objects pertaining to the history of the 19th century museum building. We feel a deep obligation to preserve these treasures both for the general public and for scholars and researchers – but this requires urgent conservation measures. Another important project is the digitalization of these extensive holdings.

Gutenberg's extended family



Analyzing books requiring conservation interventions in the Library



Seen through
a microscope

CONSERVATION
SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT

ADDITIONAL
BENEFIT:

DONORS WILL BE
LISTED IN OUR PUB-
LICATION „TECHNO-
LOGISCHE STUDIEN
DES KUNSTHISTO-
RISCHEN MUSEUMS“

Working with art poses numerous questions: what materials were used? What lies beneath the surface? Are there pentimenti or later additions? Is there an explanation for visible changes?

Using non-invasive methods, our laboratory helps to find answers to these and many other questions. In addition, we try to ensure ideal conditions for the masterpieces in all our collections. With your support we could undertake more of this fascinating and important research.



The Conservation Science Department

For centuries horses and carriages functioned as status symbols: the emperor's coaches were "thrones on wheels"; in addition, there were countless equally beautiful carriages for travelling, sport, recreation and children, many of which are now in the Imperial Carriage Museum, together with a unique collection of magnificent bridles and harnesses. From a conservator's point of view carriages are monumental sculptures, making their preservation a major challenge. Many of these treasures are therefore confined to storage. But after a professional restoration intervention they would shine like new.

Elegant and sumptuous robes were worn at court. The Imperial Carriage Museum also comprises the Court Wardrobe, which houses a unique collection of court uniforms, liveries and robes worn by members of the imperial family. Many of these textile masterpieces urgently require conservation interventions so that they can continue to reflect the splendor of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.



*Court uniform of a member of
the Hungarian Life Guards*

Imperial Carriages



AMBRAS CASTLE,
INNSBRUCK

For over four centuries the collections at Ambras Castle – the Armories and the Kunst- und Wunderkammer – have been housed in purpose-built museum buildings. Today, this unique Renaissance ensemble continues to reflect the spirit of its Habsburg founder, Archduke Ferdinand II. Ambras Castle contains splendid parade armor and arms as well as rare and precious natural objects and artefacts. In addition, visitors learn about the early history of museums. One of our aims is to use state-of-the-art conservation methods to preserve this ensemble for future generations while continuing to make it accessible to the public.



*The Coral Cabinet, southern Germany,
2nd half of the 16th century*

Inside one of the world's oldest museums

We owe the amazing depth and wealth of our collections to connoisseurs and collectors from the House of Habsburg, who for over six centuries bequeathed them to family members. Today we have taken up the baton to preserve Austria's cultural heritage for coming generations of museum lovers.

By including the Kunsthistorisches Museum in your will you will leave an enduring legacy and contribute to the preservation of these magnificent collections. Your name will remain linked to that of the Kunsthistorisches Museum and live on.

Please contact me for a personal consultation or additional information. All inquiries will be handled with discretion and in confidentiality. I look forward to hearing from you.

Bärbel Holaus-Heintschel
baerbel.holaus@khm.at
T +43 1 525 24 - 4035

A legacy
lives on



ADOPT A
MASTERPIECE

Please visit our website for more information on the different artworks and projects:

www.khm.at/Adopt-a-Masterpiece



"We have always enjoyed visiting the Kunsthistorisches Museum, but since we've joined the Adopt-a-Masterpiece program we feel a deep affinity. It has, in a way, become a little bit our museum." Renate and Herbert Pimmer



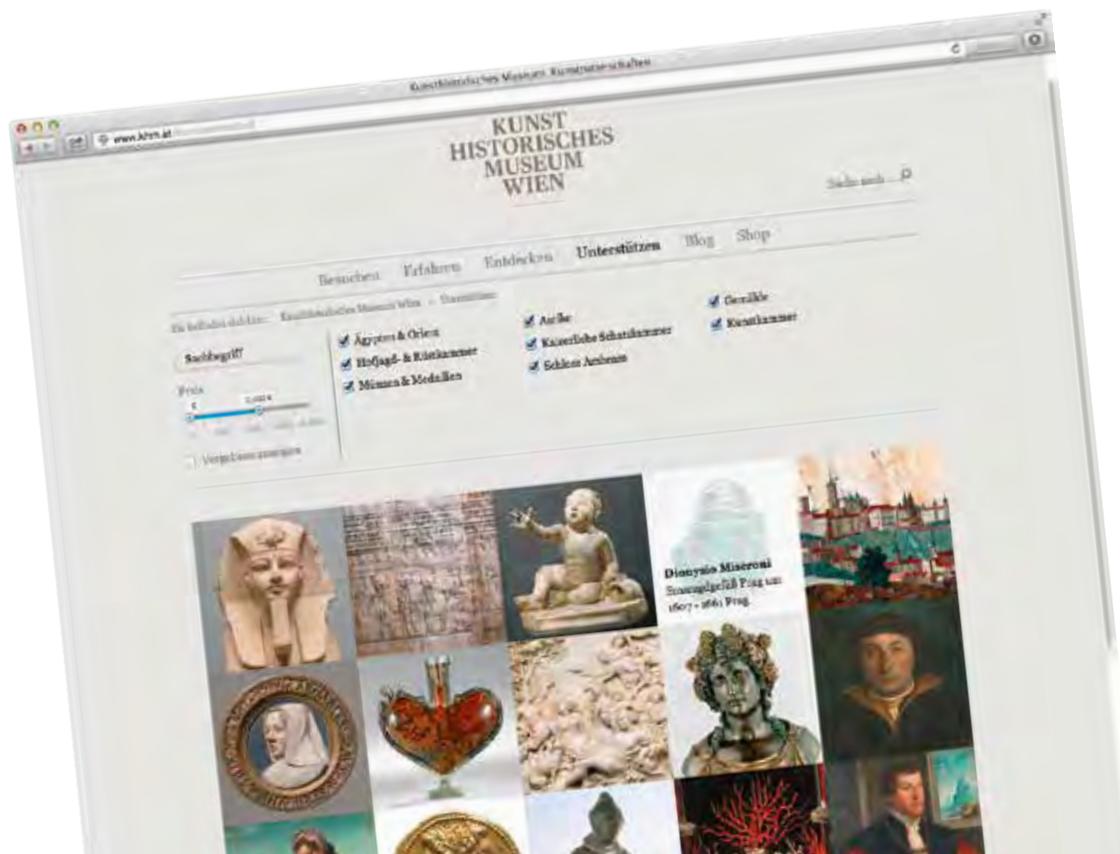
We look forward to hearing from you!

Bärbel Halaus-Heintschel

Michaela Meth-Fill

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**GENERAL
INFORMATION**

Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna
Maria Theresien-Platz, 1010 Vienna
Opening Hours
Daily except Monday 10 am – 6 pm
Thursday 10 am – 9 pm
(Coin Cabinet closes at 6 pm)
www.khm.at

Collections in the Neue Burg
Collection of Arms and Armor
Collection of Historical
Musical Instruments
Heldenplatz, 1010 Vienna
Opening Hours
Wednesday – Sunday 10 am – 6 pm
www.khm.at

Ambras Castle Innsbruck
Schlossstraße 20, 6020 Innsbruck
Opening Hours
Daily 10 am – 5 pm
www.schlossambras-innsbruck.at

Imperial Carriage Museum Vienna
Schönbrunn Castle, 1130 Vienna
Opening Hours
May – October
Daily 9 am – 6 pm
November – April
Daily 10 am – 4 pm
www.kaiserliche-wagenburg.at

**ADOPT A
MASTER-
PIECE**

Imperial Treasury Vienna
Hofburg, Schweizerhof
Opening Hours
Daily except Tuesday 9 am – 5.30 pm
www.khm.at/Adopt-a-Masterpiece