



**Invitation to the Press Conference
21st August 2008**

**Rome and the Barbarians
Europe during the Migration Period
22 August - 7 December 2008**

Confronted with the persistent and momentous invasions of barbarian hordes into the territory of the Roman Empire, Saint Jerome wrote in 396: "The Roman Empire is collapsing." In fact, the incisive political, social, and cultural changes that shook the Hellenistic-Roman world from the 4th to the 7th century AD led to massive migration movements among Germanic and horse nomadic tribes. This migration, which occurred in several waves, ultimately brought about the collapse of the Western Roman Empire and was followed by new forms of governance and the emergence of a multifaceted Roman-Barbarian culture. At the same time the vast geographical region between the Baltic Sea and the Black Sea saw the outbreak of an unprecedented series of confrontations between various peoples, among them Goths, Gepids, Alamanni and Huns, and their subsequent redistribution across Europe. The exhibition presents a systematic account of these complex processes. What set this mass migration in motion, who were the main actors of the events, how did the Empire react? The richly varied selection of magnificent weapons and riding harnesses, precious jewellery, luxurious status symbols, as well as functional articles of everyday use, cult objects and exquisite burial gifts makes the distant era of the migration period come alive.

An exhibition of the [Palazzo Grassi, Venice](#), and the Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany, Bonn.

**The press conference will be held on 21st August 2008 at 11.00 a.m. in the
Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany.**

Please register by Fax (+49/228/9171-211) or E-Mail (ferreira@kah-bonn.de). **Extensive essays and photo material are available at the press office or www.bundeskunsthalle.de. Please direct all requests for interviews to this office.**

We are looking forward to your visit.

Maja Majer-Wallat
Press Officer

Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik Deutschland GmbH
Geschäftsführer: Dr. Christoph Vitali, Dr. Bernhard Spies
Vorsitzender des Kuratoriums: N.N.
Stellv. Vorsitzender des Kuratoriums: Leitender Ministerialrat Peter Landmann
HRB Nr. 5096, Amtsgericht Bonn · Umsatzsteuer ID Nr. DE811386971
Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 4, 53113 Bonn · Postfach 12 05 40, 53047 Bonn
Telefon +49 228 9171-0 · Telefax +49 228 234154 · www.bundeskunsthalle.de
Bankverbindung: Deutsche Bank Bonn · BLZ 380 700 59 · Konto 3 177 177