



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

An exhibition of the Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany, Bonn, in cooperation with the Palazzo Grassi, Venice, and the École française de Rome.

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Exhibition Dates

Duration	21 August – 3 December 2008
Director	Christoph Vitali
Managing Director	Bernhard Spies
Exhibition curators	Jan Bemann Falko Daim
Academic consultant	Dieter Quast
Project management	Katharina Chrubasik Agnieszka Lulinska
Exhibition architecture	Ursula Gillmann and Matthias Schnegg
Press officer	Maja Majer-Wallat
Catalogue / Press Copy	€ 29 / € 15
Opening hours	Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday to Sunday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Open on Fridays for groups from 9 a.m. Closed on Mondays
Admission	
Standard / Reduced	€ 8 / € 5
Family ticket	€ 14
Public transport	Subway lines 16, 63, 66 and Bus 610 and 630 to Heussallee. A parking garage is located on Joseph-Beuys-Allee behind the Art and Exhibition Hall
Press information	www.bundeskunsthalle.de Press file (German/English)
Guided group tours	Information and registration: Telephone +49 (0)228-9171-491 Fax +49 (0)228-9171-244 E-mail: fuehrung@kah-bonn.de
General information	Telephone +49 (0)228-9171-200 www.bundeskunsthalle.de (German/English)



Information on the Exhibition

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

An exhibition of the Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany, Bonn, in cooperation with the Palazzo Grassi, Venice, and the École française de Rome.

"The Roman world is in collapse." Those were the horrified words of Saint Jerome in 396 AD. And indeed, the Migration Period is one of the most momentous episodes of European history. Research carried out over the last few years has significantly deepened our understanding of the events of this period which brought about the transition from late antiquity to the early Middle Ages.

Tour of the Exhibition

The chronologically structured exhibition encompasses the period between the 2nd and the 6th century AD and is supplemented by an animated map of Europe that illustrates the massive shifts of populations and power of the time. Thanks to the generous support of some 70 European lenders the Art and Exhibition Hall has been able to put together a representative display of approximately 1000 pieces of jewellery, weapons, coins and other important objects.

Confrontation Between Romans and Barbarians

The first two rooms of the exhibition are devoted to the confrontation between Romans and barbarians. The Roman Empire had established itself as the dominant power in the Mediterranean by the 1st century BC. However, its appetite for further expansion was checked under the Emperors Augustus and Tiberius (1st century BC to 1st century AD), when large barbarian alliances began to emerge on the other side of the Rhine and Danube frontiers of the Empire. Keen to share in the wealth of imperial Rome, barbarian warriors became the antagonists of Roman emperors, whose portraits set an often imitated but never equalled standard of state representation in art. In the exhibition this confrontation is exemplified by the gold bust of Emperor Marcus Aurelius (c. 180 AD) and the most famous of ancient portraits of Germans from the bronze cauldrons discovered in Mušov (Czech Republic) and Czarnówko (Poland). The Roman weapons, items of daily use and gold and silver luxury goods shown here whetted the appetites of the barbarian neighbours.

Looting by Germanic Tribes

The exhibition next focuses on the large-scale incursions onto Roman territory by Germanic tribes in the last third of the 3rd century AD. The so-called 'barbarian treasures' discovered aboard sunken ships at the bottom of the Rhine provide eloquent testimony of the extent of the looting. However, the relationship between Rome and the Barbaricum was characterised not only by conflict but also by exchange. Germanic warriors demonstrated their new status with sacrifices of costly weapons and lavish burials, as evidenced by the valuable funerary gifts discovered in the so-called 'princely graves'. Amber, the highly prized gold of the North, was traded along the famous Amber Road, connecting the Baltic Sea with the Mediterranean and the Roman Empire, where it was turned into luxurious items of jewellery such as the ones shown in Bonn.

The Huns

The sudden foray of the Huns into territories north of the Black Sea in 375 is widely regarded to have triggered the Migration Period and to have ushered in a new phase in the relations between Romans



and barbarians. In order to avoid military conflict with the formidable foe, Rome agreed to enormous annual tribute payments in gold. Graves of Hunnic warriors, richly furnished with magnificent weapons and horse tack, jewellery and other status symbols, testify to the craving for recognition and conspicuous display on the part of barbarian elites.

A 'New World'

The events of the Migration Period changed the political map of Europe. The increasing barbarisation of the Roman army and the cultivation and management of large areas by the newcomers brought about a fundamental transformation of the political and economic structures of the Empire. The spread of Christianity and its newly created institutions favoured the formation of early medieval kingdoms (from the 5th century AD) on the territory of the Roman Empire. Lavish funerary gifts convey a differentiated image of Romano-barbarian culture between the Black Sea and the Atlantic. The tour of the exhibition ends on a highly symbolic note with the oldest reliably dated manuscript from the abbey library of St. Gall (Switzerland) of 793. It is a copy of the Lex Salica (Salic law), in which the Merovingian king Clovis I compiled the tribal laws governing the Salian Franks for the first time in writing. With this body of law the barbarian ruler Clovis I cast himself as the heir to great Roman emperors and legislators.

The exhibition is held under the auspices of the President of the Italian Republic Giorgio Napolitano, the President of the French Republic Nicolas Sarkozy and the President of the Federal Republic of Germany Horst Köhler.

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Wall Texts

The Roman Empire and the Germanic tribes

As early as the final centuries BC, Rome emerged as the dominant major power around the Mediterranean basin, permanently expanding its territories by a policy of war and diplomacy. However, only in the first century AD were small areas of the lands beyond the Rhine and Danube rivers brought directly under Roman control. Rome's lack of interest in territorial expansion here was not only due to military setbacks but, above all, the poor prospects of ever establishing permanent and profitable provinces.

The Roman state was extremely well organised on all levels, with an urban infrastructure, an effective administration, a "world-wide" economic area and high standards of civilisation. In striking contrast, the Germanic tribes beyond the Roman Empire's borders lived in small villages and were unable to generate agricultural surpluses or impose their political structures over larger regions. This "culture and prosperity gap" posed considerable potential for conflict and repeatedly led to flare-ups in border provinces, though without ever seriously endangering Rome's existence. In AD 166 this situation changed. 6000 Lombards and Obi invaded Pannonia (southern Central Europe) and triggered the Marcomannic Wars. The wars lasted nearly 15 years and forced the Roman Empire to a turnaround in policy.

The Germanic tribes invade the Roman Empire

During the Marcomannic Wars (AD 166–180), the Roman forces could still repel the invading tribes. Two generations later, the situation had changed. Accounts exist of an invasion in AD 233 in Upper Germania and Rhaetia by Germanic hordes described in later written records as Alamanni. From AD 238, groups of Goths repeatedly crossed the lower Danube, entering the territory of the Roman Empire and even carrying out raids down into Greece, the Aegean and Asia Minor. The extent of the invasions by the Germanic tribes in the period from AD 250 to 270 forced the Romans to abandon their Upper Germanic and Rhaetian Limes border fortifications.

The Germanic raids were about booty rather than settlement, as is eloquently illustrated by the so-called "Barbarian Treasures" recovered from the River Rhine – apparently abandoned when returning plunderers were unable to carry their booty safely back across the river border. The rapid increase of non-ferrous scrap metal of Roman origin in the settlements of Germanic peoples in central and south-western Germany points to the geographical origins of the successful warriors, whose newly acquired status found expression in their elaborate tombs and funeral goods. This phase of conflict only ended after the consolidation of the Roman Empire under Diocletian and Constantine at the end of the 3rd century AD.

Amber – the coveted gold of the north

The Mediterranean peoples regarded the fiery translucent amber as mysterious as it was marvellous. In their imagination, the shores of the *Northern Ocean* where amber was found had all the legendary trappings of a place at the end of the world, shrouded in mystery. In the first century AD, a Roman expedition first reached the shores of the Baltic Sea; it brought back a vast amount of amber.

Emperor Nero (ruled AD 54–68) used the new gemstone for ceremonial show and had gladiatorial games held in an amphitheatre decorated with amber. Rome fell helplessly under the spell of this strange "stone". Amber came to epitomise luxury and was exchanged at exorbitant prices: one small amber figure cost more than a good slave.

The following centuries saw a flourishing trade in amber, which was brought down the Amber Road from Sambia on the south-eastern Baltic shore to the city of Aquileia. When the Western Roman Empire fell, the trail of the Amber Road gradually disappeared. But the memory of the mysterious land that was home to the gold of the north could still be found even at the court of the Ostrogoth king Theoderic the Great (ruled AD 471–526).

Huns – Mounted warrior nomads from the Eurasian steppes

The completely unexpected Hun invasions in the northern Black Sea region in AD 375 are regarded as triggering the barbarian migrations. Shortly before AD 370 individual groups of equestrian nomads had formed into successfully operating units of warriors, rapidly expanding as they absorbed the subjugated tribes. As early as AD 376, these groups were already penetrating as far as the south-Romanian Walachia. At this stage, though,



individual Hun leaders still entered into shifting alliances, guided by the prospects of the greatest booty and the largest profit. On this basis, they also fought for the Romans against other barbarian groups.

The Hun tribes were only first united and emerged as a major military power under their leader Attila (AD 434/445–453), making them into a serious threat to the Roman Empire. To avoid military conflicts, the Romans transferred vast sums of gold across the Empire's borders, as is evidenced by the richly furnished Hun tombs of the first half of the 5th century. When Attila died in AD 453, the Hunnic Empire fell just as rapidly as it had risen.

In the spotlight of events:

The Carpathian Basin in the 5th century AD

For centuries, the barbarian tribes were not a serious threat to the Roman Empire. Rome's relationship to the peoples and tribes around its borders was marked by confrontation and integration. Loyal members of the tribes could serve in the Roman army, and even reach the highest military ranks, enabling them to enjoy the social advancement they desired.

After the powerful Hunnic Empire rose, though, members of the tribes had an alternative source of prosperity and prestige. Successful military actions could result in greater power and the increased wealth to maintain their own steadily growing group of followers. At the same time, the Roman Empire saw itself forced to buy peace by shipping vast amounts of gold across the River Danube. The finds of rich tombs and treasure troves document the prosperity of the elite among the barbarian tribes.

After the Hunnic Empire collapsed (AD 453), the area around the Danube returned to a power structure coined by competing warlords ruling smaller territories. The Goths and the Gepids were the two peoples most successful at expanding their hegemony north of the borders of the Empire and inside the Empire itself. Earlier, defeated groups of Goths fleeing from the Huns were permanently integrated into Roman Imperial territories. The insights into the Roman military and administrative structures gained by the barbarian leaders provided the foundation for the creation of the Romano-Barbarian kingdoms that came to replace the Western Empire.

The Romano-Barbarian Kingdoms

The events during the migration period changed the political map of Europe. The Germanic kings now ruling the lands of the old Western Empire did not rely on a power base created by short-term military conquests. All the Germanic peoples that established successful kingdoms had previously lived for at least a generation in the Roman Imperial territories. There, they became familiar with military and civil society administrative structures. The kings of the Goths, Vandals and Franks continued to draw their military might from their barbarian armies, but the civilian administration was adopted from the late Roman Empire, often together with the administrative staff. For this reason, those kingdoms are no longer termed "Germanic" but are nowadays referred to as "Romano-Barbarian".

Permanent kingdoms could only flourish where the various sections of the population were successfully assimilated. In this process, Christianity came to have a particular significance. Members of old-established Roman families exploited church structures to be appointed as bishops and retain their social status. Ultimately, the foundation of medieval Europe was forged in this interplay of worldly and clerical power.

Rome and her Legions

With the conquest of Gaul at the hands of Gaius Julius Caesar (58–52 BC), Roman politics began to focus increasingly on the Germans alongside Celts and Scythians. After efforts to expand the Roman Empire to the banks of the River Elbe had failed under Emperors Augustus (r. 27 BC–14 AD) and Tiberius (r. 14–37 AD), the Romans secured the Rhine and Danube frontiers from permanently manned forts along the two rivers. The Roman army was composed of legionaries – Roman citizens serving as infantrymen – and auxiliary units recruited from allied peoples. Soldiers enlisted for a term of 25 years. Upon discharge the barbarian auxiliaries were granted Roman citizenship. Archaeological finds of the period attest to the superiority of Roman military technology and equipment.



The Marcomannic Wars (166–180 AD)

The term *bellum Marcomannicum* – widely used in antiquity – describes a series of wars in the Danube provinces, northern Italy, the southern Balkans and in the Barbaricum north of the middle Danube. Although the wars were named for the Germanic tribe of the Marcomanni, numerous other barbarian peoples from as far away as the Baltic coast took part in the conflict.

At the time of the Marcomannic Wars larger tribal alliances and leagues began to emerge in the Barbaricum, giving rise to far-reaching societal shifts and migrations. Having set out to lighten the yoke of Roman domination or to shake it off altogether, the barbarian peoples effectively blocked further expansion of the Empire and thwarted Rome's ambition of asserting herself as the dominant super power. The upheavals of the Marcomannic Wars are widely regarded as a harbinger of the Migration Period.

Prestige Goods for Barbarians

Roman influence extended far beyond the borders of the Empire. As early as the 1st and 2nd century AD select burials in the Barbaricum were furnished with exquisite Roman and provincial Roman artefacts. These 'imports' reached the Germanic peoples in various ways – as booty and trade items, as tribute payments or valuable diplomatic gifts. Highly prized as prestige objects, they testified to the social status of the deceased. One such object is a late Celtic enamelled strainer, probably produced in Britain and discovered in Łęg Piekarski (Poland). Of similar significance and quality are a silver casserole unearthed in Groß Kelle in Mecklenburg, Germany, and glass vessels from Zohor in present-day Slovakia. Burial customs of the time are notable for the separate necropolises established by upper class families.

The New Elites in Germania

Booty sunk in the Rhine near Hagenbach and Neupotz testifies to successful Germanic raids onto Roman territory. Other indications of Germanic incursions are the exceptionally richly furnished graves of the latter two thirds of the 3rd century AD in central Germany. A case in point is the extravagant wealth of burial gifts brought to light in the so-called 'princess grave' of Hassleben. Similarly, the valuable goods found in a so-called 'princely grave' in Gommern attest to the sophisticated lifestyle of an Elbe Germanic aristocrat. Graves such as these bear witness not only to the prosperity of the barbarian upper classes but also to their far-reaching connections and contacts, both with the Roman Empire and among each other. In their choice of symbols of power, the Germanic social elites looked to high-ranking Roman military officers, as is exemplified by grave goods brought to light in Silistra (Bulgaria).Der

Cultural Exchange in the Barbaricum

The necropolis of Weklice is situated in present-day Poland, east of the lower Vistula, and has thus far yielded more than 450 graves from the 2nd and 3rd century AD, most of them richly furnished female burials. Of particular note are the Scandinavian style inhumations in boat-shaped coffins or small boats. Close links to Scandinavia are also evident in a range of unusual fibulae, while the large number of amber finds is a reminder of Weklice's position on the ancient Amber Road. The Weklice burials exemplify the wide range of supra-regional and cross-cultural exchanges in the Barbaricum.

The hoard discovered in Łubiana in East Pomerania (Poland) attests to a different kind of activity. Found in 1985, the 14 kg of bronze objects from different time periods and regions suggest that the items were looted from several ancient cemeteries.



Funerary Customs of the Equestrian Nomads

As the Huns advanced westwards at the beginning of the Migration Period, burial practices in areas controlled by the Huns changed markedly. Extensive necropolises made way for individual burials or small groups of tombs. The nomadic horsemen followed funerary rituals that called for the burial of the personal items of the deceased – weapons (for example recurve bows covered in gold foil), vessels made of precious metals, clothing, accessories and horse tack – at some distance to the actual body. The items are notable for their decoration with simple gold sheets and are often set with rough, uncut semiprecious stones. Though technically undemanding, these decorative objects underscore the deceased's wealth and prestige.

The Welschbillig Herms

The series of herms found at the Roman villa of Welschbillig near Trier is one of the most important sculptural ensembles of late antiquity. The magnificent villa was erected in the 4th century, probably as the residence of a high-ranking imperial dignitary. Because of medieval construction on the site of the villa, only parts of a large boating basin could be excavated. Edged with rectangular limestone slabs, the pool was once surrounded by 112 herms representing not only gods, mythological characters, poets, philosophers and emperors but also barbarians, among them Germans. By the time Emperor Constantine (r. 306-337 AD) came to power, Germans had long been an integral part of the Roman army, and indeed many Germans had been appointed to high military positions. For this reason their presence at Welschbillig should not be read as personifications of the enemy, but as portraits of high-ranking officers and symbols of the successful integration of former foes.**Die Krim – an der**

Crimea – A Cultural Crossroads

Situated in eastern Crimea, the Cimmerian Bosphorus – the strait connecting the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov – was considered the border between Asia and Europe throughout antiquity. The ancient Bosporean kingdom (5th century BC – 5th century AD) had long been a Hellenistic state whose mixed barbarian population had adopted the Greek language and civilization. In the 1st century AD it became a Roman vassal state with a stable economy and flourishing urban structures, particularly in the capital city of Panticapaion (present-day Kerch) overlooking the strait. The legendary wealth of the necropolis on Mount Mithridates, first investigated in 1904, attests to diplomatic contacts with the imperial court in Rome. For a long time the characteristic polychrome style of Migration Period art was believed to have originated in the Black Sea area, because of the large numbers of such objects found in tombs there but not within the Roman Empire. In AD 375, after the break-up of Ermanaric's vast Gothic kingdom, polyethnic Crimea came under Hunnic sovereignty.

The *Foederati*: From Enemies to Allies

The Latin term *foedus* describes a treaty of mutual assistance between Rome and another people. While Rome engaged to subsidize her allies with gold and food, the *foederati* were expected to provide a contingent of soldiers to serve in the Roman army. The dramatic deterioration of the Empire's military situation in the late 4th and 5th century forced Rome not only to rely increasingly on barbarian troops but also to grant them permission to settle on Roman territory, thereby providing barbarian elites with unprecedented opportunities of advancement within the Empire. Thus military service became a gateway to high office for barbarian leaders such as the Burgundian prince Hariulfus and many others who became exponents of a hybrid Roman-barbarian culture. Thanks to the great mobility of people and ideas this culture gained currency in areas beyond the Roman sphere of control.



You Shall Know them by their Wives...

The enormously high demand for soldiers led the late Roman military administration to rely more and more on barbarian contingents who were entrusted with the defence of the borders along the Rhine and the Danube. Both in the east and the west of the Empire, usually close to camps of Roman legions, sumptuous female burials dating to the 5th century have been found which differ substantially from those of the Roman population. Clothing and jewellery of the women, whose husbands served the Roman state, attest to their barbarian roots and document the pervasiveness across ethnic lines of 5th-century Germanic-Danubian female fashion.

Royal Treasures

The conquest of new territories, the contact with the sophisticated civilisations of late antiquity and the diplomatic ties with Rome heightened the desire for sumptuous display of the barbarian elites. Barbarian kings demonstrated their new rank and status by accumulating impressive treasures which became indispensable to the exercise of power. They served to underscore their authority and enabled barbarian kings to make lavish gifts to their followers and other rulers. For reasons that are impossible to fathom today (treasure trove or sacrificial offering?), parts of such royal treasures were buried in Szilagysomlyó (Hungary, now Simleu Silvaniei, Romania) and Pietroasa (Romania). Particularly impressive are the fibulas, which were modelled on the imperial regalia and probably reached the barbarians in the Carpathian basin gifts accompanying the successful conclusion of treaties.

Under the Sign of the Cross

Signed in AD 313, the *Edict of Milan* guaranteed religious toleration in the Roman Empire and thus put Christianity on a par with other religions. Yet it was not until AD 391, during the reign of Emperor Theodosius (r. 379–394 AD), that Christianity became the official state religion of the Empire.

Early Christianity was primarily an urban phenomenon. Active communities formed in the cities and the architecture of Christian churches began to emerge and dominate the urban landscape. As Christianity spread, so did Christian iconography. Funeral customs, too, changed fundamentally. Burials were no longer performed in necropolises outside the city boundaries, but in graveyards adjoining the churches.

Recognising that a single, shared religion promoted cohesion among diverse populations, Germanic rulers tended to adopt Christianity for political reasons. Yet it was to take the Church a few more centuries to exercise the kind of spiritual and organisational authority that was to underpin the Christian Middle Ages.



Guided Tours

Regular guided tours in German language

The regular guided tours cost 3 EUR / reduce 1.50 EUR additional to the admission to the respective exhibition. minimum number of participants: 6 | maximum number of participants: 25 | A reservation is not possible | Duration for each guided tour: 60 minutes | Tour stickers available at the information desk in the foyer

Time: Tuesday and Wednesday 6 p.m.

Thursday and Friday 2 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday and public holidays 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Children's tours

From 7 September: Sundays 4 p.m.

5 EUR incl. admission

Group guided tours

Guided Tours can be booked until five opening days before the desired date at the Educational Service. Special demands and interests of groups are welcome.

Self guided tours

Groups without tour reservation or touring on their own are asked to register in advance with the Educational Service. These groups can be admitted on a priority basis.

Registration and information

Mon - Fri 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

E-mail: fuehrung@kah-bonn.de

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Audio tours

The Museum's audio tour system serves individual visitors as an alternative to the staff-guided group tours. (German, English, French, Dutch). An audio guide for children six years and older is available in German language.

Loan fee: 4 EUR / 3 EUR (reduced) / 2 EUR children

Catalogue

Rom und die Barbaren

Europa zur Zeit der Völkerwanderung

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Preview 2008 / 2009
subject to alteration

Gandhara – The Buddhist Heritage of Pakistan
Legends, Monasteries, and Paradise
21 November 2008 – 15 March 2009

To the Western viewer the Buddhist art of Gandhara seems strangely familiar; its rootedness in Western traditions is strikingly obvious. Gandhara is the name of a region in present-day Pakistan whose connection with the West can be traced back to the far-flung conquests of Alexander the Great (330 BC) and his local successors. Alexander's foray laid the foundation for the trade along the Silk Road between the Roman Empire and the Far East and southern Asia. The Silk Road was also instrumental in the spread of Buddhism beyond its native India.

The Art and Exhibition Hall is pleased to be able to present the first major exhibition of Gandharan art in Germany. Some 270 outstanding objects – among them exquisite stone sculptures, highly detailed reliefs, precious coins and elaborate jewellery – introduce the visitor to the art of the ancient kingdom from the 1st to the 5th century AD. The presentation highlights the multifaceted artistic production of Gandhara under Kushan rule and explores the rich artistic heritage of the region, a melting pot of many different cultures. The exhibition focuses on stone reliefs depicting the life of the Buddha. Depicted for the first time under Kushan rule, the Buddha is shown wearing a pleated garment reminiscent of the Roman toga. Greek subjects are also prominent and coins feature Greek inscriptions. The exhibition places Gandharan art in a wider context, from the establishment of Greek culture in the region to its legacy in Central Asia and present-day Afghanistan. This legacy garnered worldwide attention when the gigantic rock-cut Buddha sculptures of Bamiyan were destroyed by the Taliban in March 2001.

19th Federal Competition
Art Students Display Their Works
13 February – 15 March 2009

For the 8th time the Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle offers young artists studying in the Federal Republic of Germany a forum. The exhibition is intended to create opportunities for comparison and to stimulate discussion, whilst providing an interested general public with an insight into work currently being done at art schools in Germany. The purpose of this competition, which the Federal Ministry for Education and Research holds every two years, is to promote young artists. At the same time, it sets out to display the quality and diversity of education in the fine arts and to draw attention to the importance of artistic activity in society.

48 students, two from each of the 24 colleges, represented in the Conference of the Deans and Rectors of Art Colleges, Academies and Universities, have submitted works which will be judged by a three-person jury.

Czech Photography of the 20th Century
13 March – 26 July 2009

Czech photography produced and produces leading figures in all areas of photography – from classical documentary photojournalism to surrealism, realism or avant-garde works. From 13 March 2009 on, the Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany is presenting over 400 photographic works, a historical mosaic of Czech photography from 1900 until the late 20th century that underlines the international reputation enjoyed by Czech photography today. That reputation is not only apparent in the outstanding contributions by such renowned artists as Josef Sudek, Karel Hájek, Václav Jírů, Vilém Reichmann, Jan Reich, Jindřich Štreit, Frantisek Drtikol, Jaromír Funke, Jaroslav Rossler, Josef Koudelka



and Jan Saudek, but also in works from a host of younger photographers. The exhibition does not only showcase famous names but also less well-known photographers, providing an overall impression of the variation and innovation in Czech photography.

Amedeo Modigliani

17 April – 30 August 2009

Amedeo Modigliani was one of the most important artists of the 20th century. His works have long since gained iconic status in our collective pictorial memory. The Art and Exhibition Hall is holding a comprehensive retrospective exhibition to pay tribute to this outstanding artist, who died tragically young at the age of only 35. Born in Italy in 1884, Modigliani was a painter, draughtsman and sculptor. With the exception of a handful of landscapes, his creative energy was entirely devoted to portraits and nudes. Modigliani's paintings are deeply rooted in Italian art history, drawing particularly on the formal languages of the Renaissance and Mannerism. These he combined with elements from Expressionism, Cubism and Symbolism as well as African sculpture, whose perceived primitivism and iconic presence equally fascinated many other avant-garde artists of his day. While Modigliani's work cannot be easily classified as belonging to any contemporary styles such as Cubism or Fauvism, it bears eloquent testimony to the restlessness and exuberance of an artist only too aware of his own vulnerability and mortality, and who needed the euphoria of intoxication to live and work. Even today, Modigliani's idiosyncratic, at times melancholy portraits have lost none of their power to captivate the viewer. The exhibition is structured biographically, reflecting the decisive turning points of his life. The Art and Exhibition Hall hopes to present a representative selection of paintings, drawings and sculptures from 1909 to 1919, giving a vivid impression of the oeuvre of this exceptional artist.

Summit of the Modern Art

The Kunstmuseum Winterthur

The Great Collections

24 April – 23 August 2009

This summit of leading modernist artists provides a veritable feast of outstanding paintings and sculptures – and offers the chance to trace the development from Impressionism to contemporary art through this unique collection of around 240 paintings, sculptures and drawings. This remarkable exhibition at the Art and Exhibition Hall in Bonn, on show from 24 April to 23 August, comprises works from the Winterthur Art Museum by a range of artists whose names seem to read like a "Who's Who" of the art world: Arp, Artschwager, Beckmann, Bonnard, Brancusi, Braque, Calder, Cézanne, de Chirico, Delacroix, Delaunay, Dégas, Ernst, Fontana, Giacometti, van Gogh, Guston, Hodler, Kandinsky, Kelly, Kokoschka, Kounellis, Léger, Lehmbruck, Magritte, Maillol, Merz, Miró, Mondrian, Monet, Morandi, Picasso, Renoir, Richter, Rodin, Schlemmer, Sisley, Tanguy, Tapiès and many more. The exceptional collection of the Winterthur Art Museum, offering a complete overview of the period, can be favourably compared to the collections at internationally renowned museums such as the Guggenheim or the Museum of Modern Art. Gerhard Richter even named the Winterthur Art Museum as his favourite museum.

James Cook and the Exploration of the Pacific

28 August 2009 – 10 January 2010

The British explorer, navigator and cartographer James Cook (1728–1779) achieved world fame for leading three expeditions into the vast and uncharted waters of the Pacific Ocean. He was the first to survey and map New Zealand, Australia and the South Pacific islands, completing our modern image of the world and finally defeating the idea of a mythical southern continent.

The exhibition includes around 500 original exhibits presenting the voyages of James Cook and the international team of scientists and artists accompanying him. Their work during the European enlightenment period contributed new insights to a host of disciplines from navigation and astronomy to



natural history, philosophy and art. It even led to the birth of a new science: the field of ethnology and ethnography.

As early as the end of the 18th century many of the ethnographic and natural history objects from diverse Pacific cultures, which were collected during the three Cook voyages, were spread into various collections all over Europe. Now, for the first time, they are being reunited for this exhibition in Bonn. Many of the objects are of incalculable value to art historians since such exquisite feather ornaments, wooden sculptures and other Oceanic artefacts can no longer be found in the Pacific region.

The ethnographic exhibits are supplemented by magnificent paintings and drawings by the artists accompanying Cook on his voyages. Their works offer a fascinating insight into the explorers' euphoric yet curious view of the exotic South Sea landscapes. Ship models, original sea charts and navigation instruments also provide a vivid introduction to the world of James Cook's voyages. The exhibition is a cooperation between the Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany in Bonn, the Kunsthistorisches Museum – Museum of Ethnology, Vienna (March to July 2010), and the Historisches Museum, Bern (August 2010 to January 2011).

Markus Lüpertz – A Retrospective **9 October 2009 – 24 January 2010**

The Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany in Bonn has presented a series of major monographic exhibitions on German painters starting with Gerhard Richter in 1993/94, and continuing with Sigmar Polke in 1997 and 2000/01, and Georg Baselitz in 2004. The series now presents a comprehensive retrospective of works by Markus Lüpertz. The exhibition, covering around 2000m², is showcasing a representative selection of around 130 works – paintings, drawings, and sculptures – by this leading contemporary artist. Almost uniquely among artists today, he cultivates the gestural and rhetorical posture of the "genius", the epitome of the artist in the classical sense. The exhibition has taken on the task of looking behind the "grand gestures", identifying the conscious playing with the role of the artist and exploring Lüpertz's oeuvre in all its passionate, intellectual, serious and multifaceted dimensions. Here, we meet an artist who never felt indebted to any one style, never believed in the sheer mimetic quality of art, and who, as a 'creator', draws on a vast wealth of material to create anew, freely and with his own individual handwriting.

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