
**KUNST
HISTORISCHES
MUSEUM
WIEN**



6 JUNE TO
2 SEPTEMBER, 2018

**OLD MASTERS FROM THE HERMITAGE
MASTERPIECES FROM BOTTICELLI TO VAN DYCK**

One of the world's foremost collections of Old Masters is paying a visit to Vienna: fourteen masterpieces from the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg will enter into a dialogue with great paintings from the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna. On show are, for example, works by Botticelli, Tintoretto, Rembrandt and van Dyck. The representative selection of masterpieces from these two great collections offers a concise overview of European painting from the Renaissance to early Neoclassicism, and documents how effortlessly these paired paintings united by a common European cultural region communicate with each other.

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The Kunsthistorisches Museum and the State Hermitage Museum

The State Hermitage Museum and the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna are among the world's leading cultural institutions, and both are best known for their collections of paintings.

These two great museums share historical parallels and institutional parameters; both began life as imperial collections that were nationalised at the end of the First World War. Both are housed in unique buildings that are highlights of, respectively, Russian eighteenth and Austrian nineteenth century architecture, and both are indivisibly connected to the historical centres of their respective home cities, St. Petersburg and Vienna. And, last but not least, both are seminal centres of scholarship and culture in their home countries, both of which underwent dramatic and fundamental changes in the course of the twentieth century.

Today, the Hermitage and the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna are fixtures on the global tourist itinerary and their collections attract millions of visitors every year.

The Exhibition – a Common Heritage

Sending selected masterpieces from each collection on a journey – and a fascinating visit to the banks of the Rivers Neva and Danube – has produced a focused exhibition project juxtaposing fourteen paired paintings spanning five centuries and two thousand kilometres, as well as a “distillate” of the history of European art.

The ease and poignancy of these pairings reminds us that the two collections could be sisters. The project emphasises the common cultural heritage to which both collections are deeply committed. The project is powered by the knowledge that museums reach across and overcome temporal and spatial distances, and that in today's Europe it can help to showcase what we share and what connects us.

For many decades, the two institutions have collaborated on scientific and cultural exchanges. They support and help each other by loaning important works for major exhibitions, such as,

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for example, the recent blockbuster show on Pieter Paul Rubens shown in Vienna in 2017/18.

The Paired Paintings

Two religious works by Sandro Botticelli and Albrecht Altdorfer kick off the show – a juxtaposition that illustrates the differences between the Renaissance north and south of the Alps. Other pairs of important Northern paintings are by Hans and his brother Ambrosius Holbein, and by Bartholomäus Spranger and Hans von Aachen.

Italian painting forms a focal point of both collections, and in the show it is represented by Venetian works. Compositions by Nicholas Poussin and Bernardo Strozzi introduce us to early baroque painting in Rome. Rembrandt, Jan Steen and van Dyck speak for the “Golden Age” of Dutch and Flemish painting. And works by Thomas Gainsborough and Philipp Hackert function as examples of British and German art.

Both the Romanovs and the Habsburgs were partial to historical and mythological subject matters. Charged with political content, these scenes displayed their patron’s (political) intentions and aims. Genre scenes and landscapes, however, represent the other end of the artistic spectrum.

Portraits and the way they capture a sitter’s personality form another major focal point of the exhibition. Among the highlights are two portraits by Anthony van Dyck: that of Nicholas Lanier and the artist’s self-portrait. Both showcase his virtuosity and his ability to capture a sitter’s character in his gaze and pose.

The exhibition also hopes to invite visitors to take a “journey of discovery” to the River Neva by showcasing less well-known artists – among them the above-mentioned Ambrosius Holbein, the brother of the celebrated Hans Holbein the Younger, or Domenico Capriolo, whose oeuvre is closely connected with Titian and Giorgione – but also by the, maybe initially surprising, confrontation of works by, for example, van Dyck and Watteau.

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This exchange of paintings between the Picture Galleries in St Petersburg and Vienna was made possible by the support of OMV and Gazprom, who celebrate fifty years of collaboration.

The exhibition will be on show at St Petersburg from October 4, 2018 through January 13, 2019.

SABINE HAAG,
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

“The Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg and the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna are both former imperial collections, and both are among the world’s leading museums. This joint exhibition project offers not only a wonderful survey of a particular artistic period, it also showcases the outstanding quality and variety of the holdings of these two great museums, and their collection histories.”

RAINER SEELE,
CEO OF OMV

“OMV has facilitated the exhibition together with its partner GAZPROM to mark the 50-year anniversary of natural gas supplies from Russia to Austria in 2018. We are delighted to contribute to the cultural exchange between Austria and Russia!”

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PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

Press photographs are available in the press section of our website free of charge, for your topical reporting: press.khm.at.



Vigilius Eriksen (Copenhagen 1722–1782 Rungstedgård)
Catherine II in front of a Mirror
between 1762 and 1764
canvas 262,5 × 201.5 cm
© St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, 2018
photograph: Pavel Demidov



Anton von Maron (1731 Vienna–1808 Rome)
Maria Theresa with the Statue of Peace
canvas, 287 × 125 cm
1773
© KHM-Museumsverband

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Sandro Botticelli, also known as Alessandro di Mariano Filipepi (Florence 1445–1510 Florence)

St Jerome

c. 1498 / 1505

canvas, transferred from a panel, 44.5 × 26 cm

© St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, 2018



Albrecht Altdorfer, attributed (c. 1480–1538 Regensburg)

The Beheading of St Catherine

c. 1505/6

limewood, 57 × 36.5 cm

© KHM-Museumsverband



Ambrosius Holbein (Augsburg c. 1494 – c. 1519 Basel?)

Portrait of a Man of Twenty

1518

panel, 44 × 32.5 cm

© St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, 2018

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Hans Holbein the Younger (Augsburg 1497/98–1543 London)
John Chambers, Physician to King Henry VIII
c. 1541/42
oak, 58 × 39.7 cm
© KHM-Museumsverband



Jacopo Robusti, called Tintoretto (Venice c. 1518–1594 Venice)
St George
c. 1543/44
canvas, 122 × 92 cm
© St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, 2018



Jacopo Robusti, called Tintoretto (Venice c. 1518–1594 Venice)
Descent from the Cross
c. 1547/49
canvas, 91 × 122 cm
© KHM-Museumsverband



Domenico Robusti, called Domenico Tintoretto (Venice 1560–1635 Venice)
Portrait of a Man
c. 1586/89
canvas, 79 × 71 cm
© St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, 2018

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Giovanni Battista Moroni (Albino 1521/24–1579/80 Venice)
Portrait of Giovan Pietro Maffei
c. 1560/64
Canvas, 88 × 70 cm
© KHM-Museumsverband



Nicolas Poussin (Les Andelys 1594–1665 Rome)
The Victory of Joshua over the Amalekites
1624/25
canvas, 97.5 × 134 cm
© St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, 2018



Nicolas Poussin (Les Andelys 1594–1665 Rome)
The Destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem
1635
signed on the edge of the shield far right: “Ni. Pusin. Fe“
canvas, 148 × 199 cm
© KHM-Museumsverband



Bernardo Strozzi (Genoa 1581–1644 Venice)
The Healing of Tobit
1632
canvas, 158 × 223.5 cm
© St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, 2018



Bernardo Strozzi (Genoa 1581–1644 Venice)
The Prophet Elijah and the Widow at Zarephath
c. 1640/44
Canvas, 106 × 138 cm
© KHM-Museumsverband

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Rembrandt Harmensz. van Rijn (Leiden 1606–1669 Amsterdam)
Old Woman Sitting on a Chair

1654

canvas, 109 × 84 cm

© St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, 2018



Rembrandt Harmensz. van Rijn (Leiden 1606–1669 Amsterdam)
The Prophetess Hannah

1639

oak panel, 79.5 × 61.7 cm (trimmed to an oval)

© KHM-Museumsverband



Anthony van Dyck (Antwerp 1599–1641 London)
Self-Portrait

1622/23

canvas, 116.5 × 93.5 cm

© St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, 2018

photograph: Vladimir Terebenin



Anthony van Dyck (Antwerp 1599–1641 London)
Nicholas Lanier

1628

canvas, 111 × 87.6 cm

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Jean-Antoine Watteau (Valenciennes 1684–1721 Nogent-sur-Marne)
The Holy Family (Rest on the Flight to Egypt)
1719
canvas, 117 × 98 cm
© St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, 2018



Anthony van Dyck (Antwerp 1599–1641 London)
The Holy Family
c. 1626/28
canvas, 106 × 83.5 cm
© KHM-Museumsverband



Jakob Philipp Hackert (Prenzlau 1737–1807 Florence)
View of the Temples at Agrigento I
1778
canvas, 123 × 170 cm
© St. Petersburg, The State Hermitage Museum, 2018



Thomas Gainsborough (Sudbury 1727–1788 London)
Landscape near Sudbury, Suffolk
c. 1749
canvas, 65 × 95 cm
© KHM-Museumsverband

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OPENING HOURS AND ENTRANCE FEES

Tuesdays–Sundays, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
Thursdays until 9 p.m.

June, July, and August open daily!

Annual Ticket	€ 44
Adults	€ 15
Vienna Card	€ 14
Concessions	€ 11
NEW: Annual ticket under 25	€ 25
Children under 19	free
Group ticket (p.p.)	€ 11
Guided Tour	€ 3
Audio Guide	€ 5
(Ger/Eng/Ita/Fra/Russ/Spa Jap/Kor/Chin)	

Buy your tickets online at:
<https://shop.khm.at/en/ticket-shop/>

CATALOGUE

A catalogue in English and German will be published in conjunction with the exhibition.

Sabine Haag – Stefan Weppelmann (eds.)
**Old Masters from the Hermitage. Masterpieces from
Botticelli to van Dyck**
Hardcover, 152 p.
German and English in one volume
Price: € 24,95

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