

THE EXHIBITION

EXHIBITION TITLE BEYOND BRAZIL

Tracking Johann Natterer through Space and Time

VENUE Museum of Ethnology, Neue Burg, Vienna

DURATION July 18, 2012 - January 7, 2013

PRESS CONFERENCE July 17, 2012 at 10 a.m., Column Hall, MVK

OPENING July 17, 2012 at 7 p.m., Column Hall, MVK

OBJECTS IN THE EXHIBITION 670

EXHIBITION CURATORS Claudia Augustat in collaboration with Christian Feest

Obadias Batista Garcia, Gabriele Herzog-Schröder, Wolfgang Kapfhammer and Ranulfo de Oliveira

EXHIBITION SPACE 700 m²

EXHIBITION CATALOGUE Beyond Brazil. Johann Natterer and the Ethnographic

Collections of the Austrian Expedition to

Brazil 1817 - 1835

Vienna 2012 c. 200 pages € 24,90

German, English and Portuguese editions available

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BEYOND BRAZIL

Tracking Johann Natterer through Space and Time July 18, 2012 - January 7, 2013 Museum of Ethnology

Today, the most important ethnographic collections on early 19th century Brazil are in the Museum of Ethnology in Vienna. Following the marriage of Archduchess Leopoldine to Dom Pedro, the Portuguese crown prince, in 1817 the imperial court in Vienna sent a scientific expedition to Brazil. Portugal had restricted access to the country until the removal of the court to Rio de Janeiro in 1807. Until then it used to be a *terra incognita* for Europeans. The subsequent opening inspired a number of European expeditions during the first half of the 19th century who studied the country, its people, flora and fauna.

Although the ethnological collections assembled during the Austrian expedition to Brazil number over 2400 objects - making them one of the most important in the world - they are little-known, both to scholars and the general public. The exhibition "Beyond Brazil" is the first comprehensive survey of these holdings, and follows the travels of Johann Natterer (1787-1843). A taxidermist by training, he was attached to the *k.k. Naturalien-Cabinet* (Imperial Collection of Natural Objects) and accompanied the expedition to Brazil as a zoologist. He decided to remain in Brazil even after the official ending of the expedition and travelled throughout the country for a total of eighteen years.

Visitors enter the exhibition through an installation that recreates the entry into the harbour of Rio de Janeiro based on a watercolour by the painter, Thomas Ender. The first gallery focuses on the historical context of the expedition and how it was received in Vienna; the room is dominated by the reconstruction of one of the showcases in which objects from it were displayed in the 1830's in the *Kaiserhaus* in Vienna's Ungargasse. The following two galleries invite us to experience what every-day life was like for members of the expedition; it also focuses on the first encounters of Johann Emmanuel Pohl, the expedition's botanist, with Indian civilizations in eastern Brazil. Quotes from his journals and from letters by Johann Natterer explain or comment on the exhibits and document how the scientists perceived what they encountered.

But the exhibition offers far more than a historical summary. In the subsequent galleries the holdings are placed in various cultural-historical contexts, many of which focus on Indian culture and the often very diverse ways they lived their lives in early 19th century Brazil.



Over seventy ethnic groups are represented in the collection, and the presentation reflect the splendour and variety of their material culture. Rich holdings of different groups of objects are placed in the context of contemporary fields of study such as social relationships, the influence of missionaries and the state of current research on material culture. Particular highlights in this context are the magnificent feather-artifacts of the Munduruku that offer insights into their ritual life and their relations with the colonial system. There are numerous examples of Brazil's colonial culture that document that there were far more contacts between Indian culture and colonial society in the early 19th century than generally assumed.

The final two galleries focus on themes like "extinct?" and "cultural change" to form a link to the present day. We hear from representatives of indigenous groups: in March of this year the Sateré-Mawé Obadias Batista Garcia and Ranulfo de Oliveira visited the museum to discuss with Claudia Augstat, the curator of the exhibition, and Wolfgang Kapfhammer of the University of Munich the material remains of their past, demonstrating fascinating continuities right up to the present day. This is yet another impressive example of how the Museum of Ethnology in Vienna cooperates with representatives from the countries where its holdings originate.

In the final gallery visitors leave the collections assembled by the Austrian expedition to Brazil. This section of the exhibition is dedicated to the Yanomami, one of Brazil's largest indigenous groups, and shows that despite the many positive political developments of recent years the situation is still unstable and the future uncertain. With the help of a video installation we leave the harbour of Belém, the port from which Johann Natterer set off on his way home after an absence of no less than eighteen years, deposits visitors in the museum's Column Hall - a place that is "beyond Brazil".

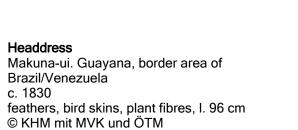
This exhibition is curated by Claudia Augustat in collaboration with Christian Feest,
Obadias Batista Garcia, Gabriele Herzog-Schröder, Wolfgang Kapfhammer and Ranulfo de
Oliveira



PRESSPHOTOGRAPHS



poster © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM





The Yanomami Schaman, Machadão Wakathatheri, Brazil1976 Photograph: Claudia Andujar



Johann Natterer Michael Sanders 19th century Lithograph © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM





Map of Brazil showing the routes taken by the Austrian expedition to Brazil

- c. 1832/36
- © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM



Feather cape

Munduruku. Rio Tapajos, Brazil c. 1830 feathers, cotton, w. 110 cm © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM



Mamels and birds from the Johann Natterer Collection

Brazil 1817-1835

© Naturhistorisches Museum Wien



The installation of the Paressi and Caripuna Collections in the "Kaiserhaus"

c. 1840 watercolour © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM



Reconstruction of a showcase at the "Kaiserhaus"

Paressi, Caripuna. Brazil c. 1830

© KHM mit MVK und ÖTM





Two pectorals made of jaguar's and cow's teeth

Bororo da Campanha (Biriboconné). Rio Paraguai, Mato Grosso, Brazil c. 1825 jaguar teeth, cotton, resins; cow's teeth, cotton l. (in total) 129,85 cm



Captured headdress

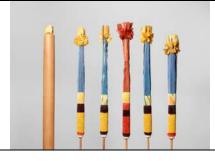
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Parintintin, Rio Tapajos, Brazil c. 1830 feathers, cotton, w. 40 cm © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM



Feather-sceptres, and case

Munduruku. Rio Tapajos, Brazil c. 1830 feathers, bamboo, reed, I. max. 74 cm © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM



Clothes

Pauxiana, Porocoto, Wapixana. Guayana, border area Brazil/Guyana c. 1832 plant fibres, feathers, cotton, human hair, glass beads, I. max. 71 cm © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM



Saddle and bridle for a mule

Popular culture. São Paulo, Brazil c. 1820 leather, cotton, shells, feathers, metal, I. max. 70 cm © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM





Dishes for personal hygiene

Para, Brazil c. 1835 ceramics, painted, h. max. 11,5 cm © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM



Guaraná ensemble

Sateré-Mawé. Lower Amazon, Brazil c. 1830 and 2012 gourd, rattan, fish tongue, Guaraná, plastic © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM



Brazil's colonial culture

Popular culture. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil c. 1820 wood, leather, brass, ceramics, fabric, cork l. max. 45 cm © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM



Animal figures made of natural rubber

George Tancredi and Rufina da Silva, Makuxi. Guyana 2005 Natural rubber, colours, I. max. 23,2 cm © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM

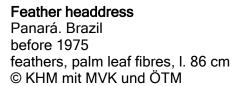


Rattles

Tukano. Upper Rio Negro, Brazil c. 1830 and 2006 gourd, wood, fruit pits, seeds, colours, I. max. 40 cm © KHM mit MVK und ÖTM









Ranulfo de Oliveira and Obadias Batista Garcia in front of the "Haus des Kaisers" Vienna, 2012

Foto: Wolfgang Kapfhammer





OPENING HOURS

Museum of Ethnology 1010 Vienna, Heldenplatz Library

Daily except Tuesdays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Mondays and Tuesday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Wednesdays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thursdays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Closed Fridays

ENTRANCE FEES

| adults concessions Vienna-Card Groups of 10 or over, each Guided tour Audio Guide (German / English) | € 8,- € 6,- € 7,- € 6,- € 2,- |
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| Audio Guide (German / English) | , |
| Children under 19 Annual Ticket | free € 29,- |

GUIDED TOURS

Guided tours for private groups and school groups in German, English and sign language Christine Kaufmann

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EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Claudia Augustat (ed.), Beyond Brazil. Johann Natterer and the Ethnographic Collections from the Austrian Expedition to Brazil (1817–1835), c. 200 pages, richly illustrated Vienna 2012

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