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**KUNST  
HISTORISCHES  
MUSEUM  
WIEN**

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**Vitrine EXTRA #6**  
***Vitrine EXTRA #6: Pitch Black – Colourful?***  
***Current Research on Polychromy in Antiquity***  
21 February – 31 August 2025  
Collection of Greek and Roman Antiquities

At regular intervals, the Vitrine EXTRA series places ancient artefacts that link art and science – from simple shards to precious objects – on temporary display in the Collection of Greek and Roman Antiquities. The presentation invites visitors to learn more about archaeology, to see the past in a new light, and to experience and comprehend ancient life and values.

The polychromy of ancient sculptures is a long-known but often forgotten phenomenon of the Greek and Roman world. The stone monuments excavated along the Danube and in the environs of Vienna and Carnuntum were painted too, not only to enhance their appearance but also to emphasise the message these statues and reliefs sought to convey. In Vitrine EXTRA #6, we present a cult image of the sun deity Mithras, discovered almost two centuries ago near Stixneusiedl (Lower Austria). The polychromy of Roman monuments in the Danube provinces is the focus of a research project by the Collection of Greek and Roman Antiquities.

Exhibition website:

<https://www.khm.at/en/visit/exhibitions/vitrine-extra-6/>

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## PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

Press photographs are available for download for topical reporting in the press section of our website: [press.khm.at/en](https://press.khm.at/en)



### *Mithras Slaying the Bull*

(False-colour composite based on a multispectral image)

Votive relief

Roman, c.200 CE

Place of discovery: Stixneusiedl (Lower Austria)

Collection of Greek and Roman Antiquities

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The brightly glowing areas in the image illustrate the luminescence of ancient Egyptian blue, captured using a specialized infrared imaging technique. This method allows the original blue to be revealed through the luminous spots.



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## OPENING HOURS AND ENTRANCE FEES

Daily (except Mon) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Thu, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

June, July and August:  
Daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Thu, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The current admission prices can be found on our website at:  
[www.khm.at/en/visit/besucherinformation/hours-admission/](http://www.khm.at/en/visit/besucherinformation/hours-admission/)

All tickets and offers are available in the online ticket shop:  
[shop.khm.at/en/tickets](http://shop.khm.at/en/tickets)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on Instagram, Facebook and TikTok and stay informed about the exhibition and the supporting programme.

IG: @kunsthistorischesmuseumvienna  
FB: @KHMWien  
TikTok: @kunsthistorischesmuseum

## MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Journalists visiting the KHM-Museumsverband for professional purposes are entitled to free admission to its exhibitions and locations. For this purpose, you need to register via [presse@khm.at](mailto:presse@khm.at) at least two working days in advance.

We request that, in addition to mentioning your medium, you also specify the date of your visit and attach a scan of your valid press pass.

## PRESS CONTACT

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