ART IN EUROPE MUSEUMS AND MASTERWORKS

VICTORIA CHARLES

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VICTORIA CHARLES

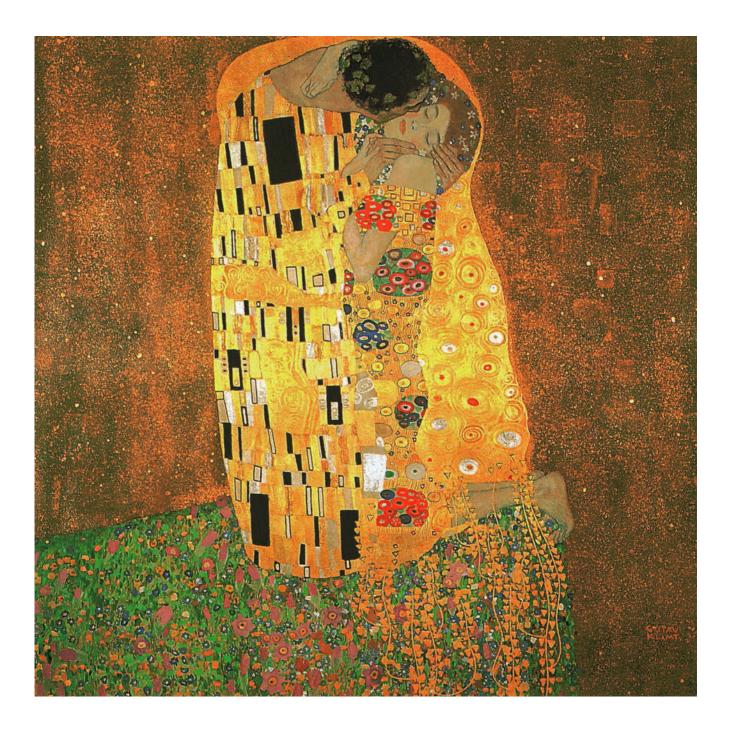
ART EN EUROPE Museums and Masterworks





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Austria

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Graz • Linz • Vienna

Graz

After Vienna, Austria's second-biggest city is Graz, and it holds a position on UNESCO's list of 'Cities of Design'.

One of the cultural attractions that Graz has to offer is the site of the region's provincial armoury. This is of cultural interest as it has been standing since the mid-16th century, and, with over 32,000 pieces, has one of the best preserved (and largest) collections of Baroque armaments in the world.

The "Old Town" of Graz is perhaps one of the better-preserved city centres in Europe, which may be a reflection of its listing as a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site (1999). 2010 saw this site extend to include Schloss Eggenberg. Further accolades include possession of the 2003 title of European Capital of Culture, and the title of City of Culinary Delights in 2008.

Alte Galerie, Schloss Eggenberg, Universalmuseum Joanneum

In Southeast Austria, the most noteworthy Baroque Palace to be found is Schloss Eggenberg. It is this formidable building which plays host to the Alte Galerie, and is considered to be foremost of the most valuable Austrian cultural assets. The decision to add Schloss Eggenberg as an extension to the listing of "Old Town" Graz as a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site (2010) was as recognition of its significance to Austrian cultural history.

Schloss Eggenberg is located to the west of Graz, in the Austrian state of Styria. Within the palace grounds and buildings the Planetary Garden, the Archaeological Museum, the Numismatic collection, and the collection of the Alte Galerie can be found.

The collection of the Alte Galerie covers five centuries of European art, from old masters from the Middle Ages to the end of the 18th century. Works from the Renaissance, Mannerism era, and the late Baroque are showcased in the early modern period section of the show collection. In addition, the collection includes numerous hand drawings and print graphics from 1500 until the end of the 1700s.

Contact details:

Website:

http://museum-joanneum.at/en/alte_galerie/alte-galerie-1 Contact: altegalerie@museum-joanneum.at Tel.: +43 (0) 316 8017 9770 Address: Alte Galerie, Schloss Eggenberg Eggenberger Allee 90 8020 Graz Opening hours: April-October: Wednesday-Sunday: 10 am-5 pm November-December: Wednesday-Sunday: 10 am-4 pm Closed from January-March

Major artists:

Bartholomeus Spranger Giovanni di Niccolò de' Luteri (Dosso Dossi) Jan Brueghel the Elder Johann Michael Rottmayr Pieter Brueghel the Younger

Masterworks:

Mars, Venus, and Cupid Hercules and the Pygmies

Triumph of Death The Sacrifice of Isaac The Kermesse of St George

Gustav Klimt,

The Kiss, 1907-1908. Oil, silver and gold on canvas, 180 x 180 cm. Österreichische Galerie Belvedere, Vienna. (p. 6)

Pieter Brueghel the Younger,

The Kermesse of St George, after 1616. Alte Galerie, Schloss Eggenberg, Universalmuseum Joanneum, Graz.





Neue Galerie Graz, Universalmuseum Joanneum

In 1941 the Provincial Art Gallery (established 1811) was divided into the Alte Galerie and the Neue Galerie Graz. The Alte Galerie encompasses medieval art to the Baroque of the 1800s. The Neue Galerie Graz consists of work done by artists of the Neo-classicist, Romantic, Realist, and Modern Art genres.

The Neue Galerie Graz features a large body of work by numerous Austrian artists focusing on the pedagogic art genre of the 19th and 20th centuries. The procurement of contemporary art is an additional focus of the gallery, as can be seen in the extensive collected works which include 40,000 graphics, photographs, films, and videos. Rivalling its competitors, the Neue Galerie Graz has also become a popular venue for contemporary artists with an assortment of temporary exhibitions.

Austrian artist Gunter Brus has achieved special notoriety in his place amongst the Neue Galerie Graz acquisitions due to the shock-factor of many of his pieces. Brus's permanent exhibition space in the gallery, the 'Bruseum', comes with a parental advisory warning as many of the works are considered to be disturbing.

Major artists:

Egon Schiele Ferdinand Georg Waldmüller

Friedrich von Amerling Herbert Boeckl Herbert Brandl

Masterworks:

Edge of Town Shelter from the Approaching Thunderstorm Portrait of Julie Countess von Woyna Erzberg Waterfall II

Contact details:

Website:

http://www.museum-joanneum.at/en/neue_galerie Contact: joanneumsviertel@museum-joanneum.at Tel.: +43 (0) 316 8017 9100 Address: Neue Galerie Graz Joanneumsviertel 8010 Graz Opening hours: Tuesday-Sunday: 10 am-5 pm Closed on Mondays

Egon Schiele, *Edge of Town (Krumau Town Crescent III)*, 1917-1918. Oil on canvas, 109.5 x 139.5 cm. Neue Galerie Graz, Universalmuseum Joanneum, Graz.

Linz

Austria's third-largest city is Linz, situated in the central north of Austria, on both sides of the Danube, around 30 km south of the Czech border.

The settlement of the city dates back to the Romans, who first gave it the Latin name of Lentia. Today, the city of Linz is a culturally vibrant destination; featuring the likes of the Linz Fest, the international street art festival known as Pflasterspektakel, and the Ars Elektronika Festival.

As well as hosting several art galleries, including the Lentos Kunstmuseum, Linz is also home to the Brucknerhaus, the most significant concert venue in the city. Linz has had musical connections well before the construction of the concert hall (1974), as in the late 1700s Mozart wrote his Symphony No. 36 at Linz, and it has since become known as the *Linz Symphony*.

Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz

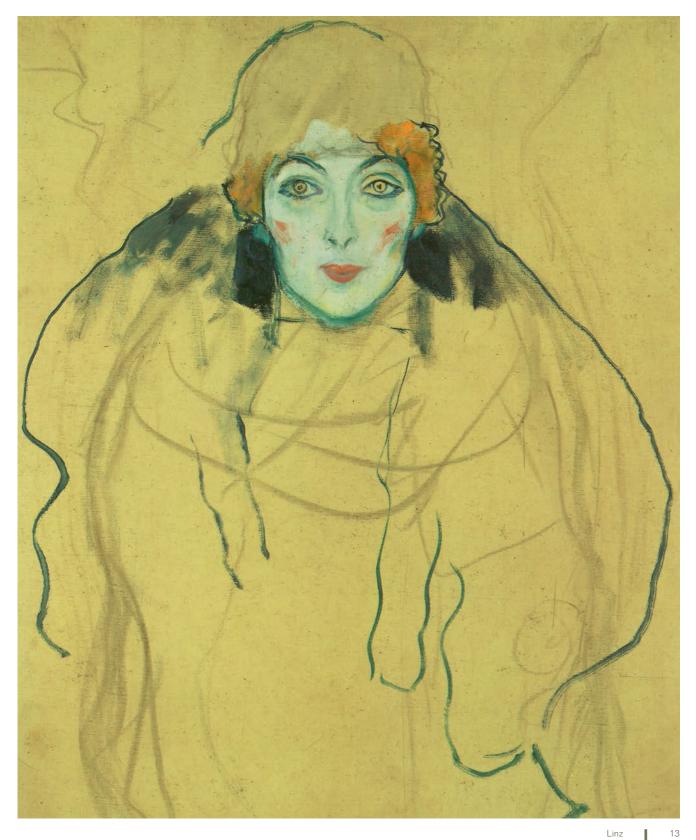
The Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz, founded in 2003, is one of the most important Austrian modern art museums. The museum building itself was designed by Zurich architects Weber & Hofer. The location on the Danube, between the Nibelungen Bridge and Brucknerhaus, gives visitors both spectacular interior and exterior views, due to its transparent glass casing, which is lit up at night.

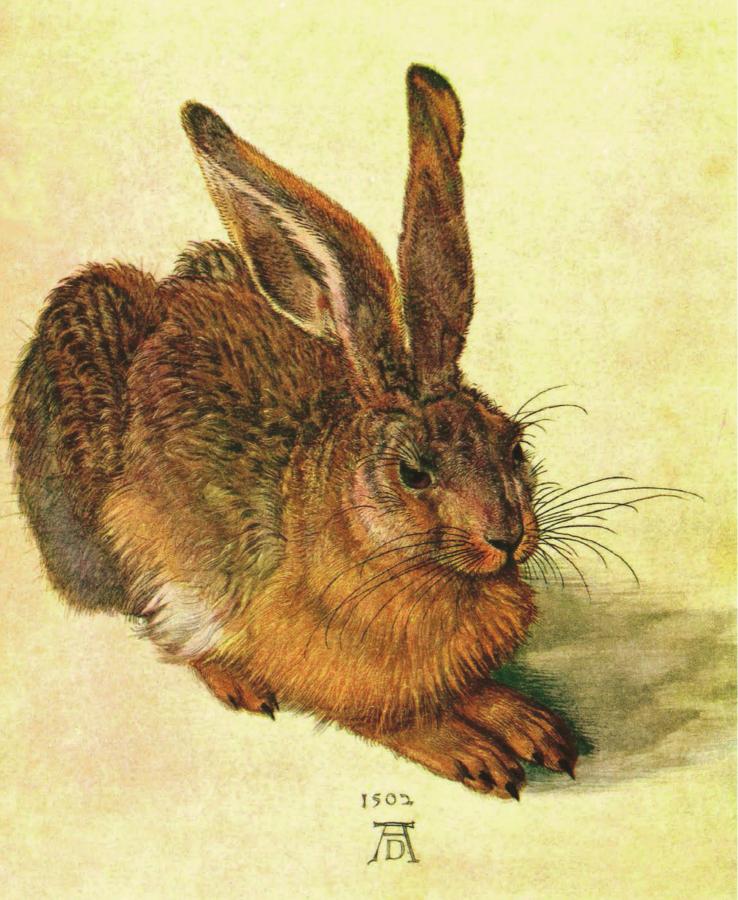
The Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz was built to replace the Linz City New Gallery in 1998. The New Gallery was turned into a city museum, after which time the Lentos Museum acquired its works including that of Klimt, Schiele, Kokoschka, Nolde, Corinth, and Pechstein. After its opening in 2003, the Kunstmuseum focuses on showcasing 20th-century contemporary art. This is put into effect through temporary exhibitions of loaned works, which help to establish a sense of the history of today's art. Permanent and temporary exhibitions are augmented through a dynamic program of workshops, tours, and events.

Contact details:

Website: http://www.lentos.at/de/ Contact: info@lentos.at Tel.: +43 (0) 732 7070 3600 Address: Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz Ernst-Koref-Promenade 1 4020 Linz Opening hours: Tuesday-Sunday: 10 am-6 pm Thursday: 10 am-9 pm Closed on Mondays Major artists: Alfred Kubin Andy Warhol Egon Schiele Gustav Klimt Oskar Kokoschka Masterworks:

The Swamp Mao Portrait of Trude Engel Portrait of a Woman Friends





Vienna

One of the nine Austrian states, and the capital of the Republic of Austria, Vienna is Austria's largest city with a population of 1.7 million. It is uncontestedly the Austrian cultural, economic, and political centre.

Situated in eastern Austria, Vienna achieved a 2001 UNESCO World Heritage Site listing. This listing is not only the result of the several important architectural buildings (such as the Palais Ferstel, Hundertwasserhaus, and the Millennium Tower), but also because of the very rich musical heritage of the city. Classical musicians including Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Brahms, amongst others, all called Vienna home at some point during their careers.

It is perhaps for this reason why the city of Vienna today is known for its theatre, opera, classical music, and fine arts. The numerous theatres and museums are part of the cultural draw of Vienna, and help to account for over 5 million visitors a year.

Albertina

The Albertina Palace in Vienna has had a colourful history. Built upon one of the last remaining sites of the fortifications of Vienna (the Augustian Bastion), it was refurbished in 1745 by the director of the Hofbauamt (Court Construction Office) to become his palace. Later, it was taken over by Duke Albert of Saxon-Teschen. It was the Duke who created the collection; when using the palace as his principal residence, he brought his graphics collection, for which he had the building extended. Duke Albert's successors went on to expand upon his collection.

Count Giacomo Durazzo of Genoa (Austrian ambassador in Venice) collaborated with Duke Albert to create this collection. His aim was to create a collection for future generations that served to educate and highlighted morality. To this effect he presented Duke Albert with nearly 1,000 works of art in 1776.

The ownership of the palace and the collection passed to that of the Republic of Austria in early 1919, whereupon, in 1920, the art collection was combined with that of the former imperial library. Bomb attacks in 1945 caused severe damage, which led to complete refurbishment and modernisation from 1998-2003. It was only recently, in 2003, that the graphics collection was reopened to the public.

Major artists: Albrecht Dürer Egon Schiele

Michelangelo

Pieter Bruegel the Elder

Masterworks: Hare Female Nude Nude Girl with Folded Arms Male Nude Seen from the Back with a Flag Staff Painter and Collector

Contact details:

Website: http://www.albertina.at Contact: info@albertina.at Tel.: +43 (0) 1 534 83 0 Address: Albertina Albertinaplatz 1 1010 Vienna Opening hours: Thursday-Tuesday: 10 am-6 pm Wednesday: 10 am-9 pm Closed on Mondays

Albrecht Dürer, *Hare*, 1502. Watercolour and gouache on paper, 25 x 22.5 cm. Grafische Sammlung, Albertina, Vienna.



Schloss und Österreichische Galerie Belvedere

The Österreichische Galerie Belvedere in Vienna is housed in a historical estate comprised of the Upper and Lower Belvedere palaces, the Orangery, and the Palace Stables. Originally built as a summer palace for Prince Eugene of Savoy, the Baroque-style complex had a series of different owners after the death of the Prince (1736), who failed to leave a legally binding will. In 1776, the Imperial Picture Gallery was moved from the Imperial Stable (part of the Hofburg Imperial Palace) to the Upper Belvedere Palace by Maria Theresa and her son Emperor Joseph II. The aim was to make the imperial collection accessible to the general public.

After the transfer of the imperial collection, for a time neither Belvedere palace functioned as a public museum. Once the Upper Belvedere Palace was designated residence to the heir to the throne, Franz Ferdinand, in 1896, what is now the Moderne Galerie was opened in the Lower Belvedere Palace in 1903. The creation of the Union of Austrian Artists was the key event which led to the Belvedere Museum becoming the first museum with an exclusive focus on modern art. The Viennese Secession's main goal was to highlight the merits of Austrian art, in the face of international modern art. Thus, Schloss Belvedere became the foremost Austrian modern art museum, beginning by acquiring many works by the Impressionists.

Contact details:

Website: http://www.belvedere.at Contact: public@belvedere.at Tel.: 43 (0) 1 795 57 134 Address: Upper Belvedere: Prinz Eugen-Straße 27 Lower Belvedere, Orangery, and Palace Stables: Rennweg 6 1030 Vienna Opening hours: Tuesday-Sunday: 10 am-6 pm Closed on Mondays

Egon Schiele, *Embrace (Lovers II)*, 1917. Oil on canvas, 98 x 169 cm. Österreichische Galerie, Belvedere, Vienna.

Major artists:

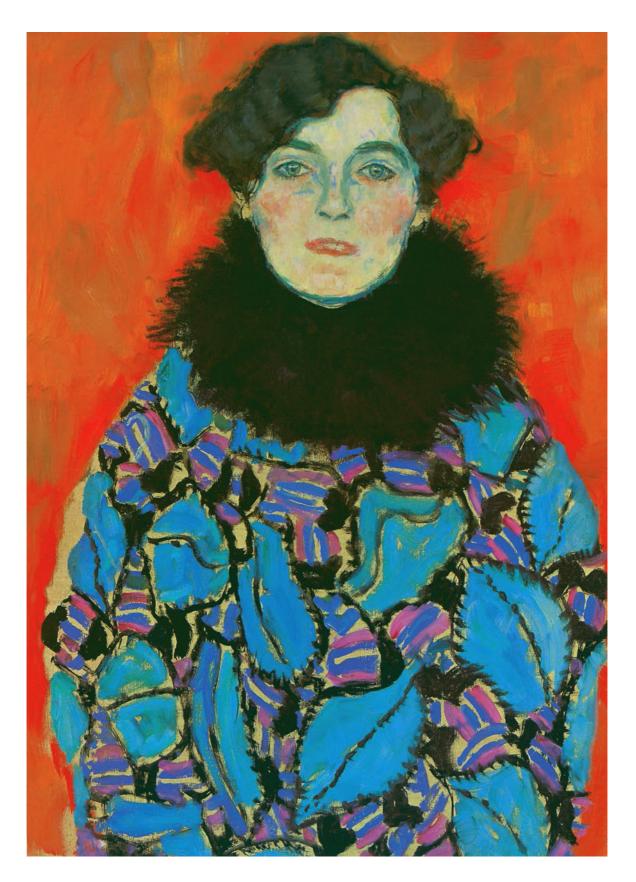
Egon Schiele Franz Xaver Messerschmidt Gustav Klimt

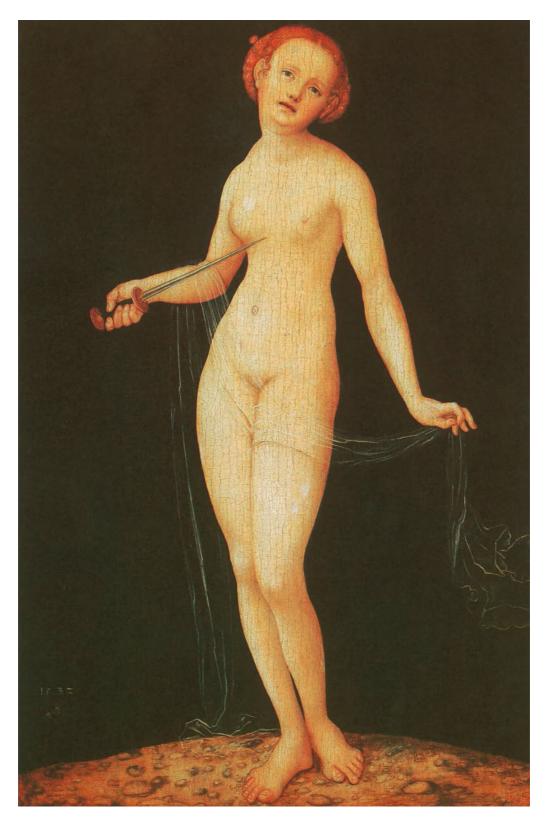
Emil Nolde

Masterworks:

Embrace (Lovers II) Character Heads The Kiss Portrait of Johanna Staude Joseph Tells His Dreams

Gustav Klimt, *Portrait of Johanna Staude* (unfinished), 1917-1918. Oil on canvas, 70 x 50 cm. Österreichische Galerie Belvedere, Vienna.







Hieronymus Bosch,

The Last Judgement, c. 1504-1508. Tempera on wood, 163 x 128 cm (central panel), 167 x 60 cm (each wing). Gemäldegalerie der Akademie der bildenden Künste, Vienna.

Gemäldegalerie der Akademie der bildenden Künste

The Gemäldegalerie der Akademie der bildenden Künste (Viennese Academy of Fine Arts) originally opened in 1692 as a private academy, following the examples of the Parisian Royal Academy of Painting and Sculpture. Following the temporary closure of 1714, Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph I officially declared the academy Supreme Government Authority for the Arts (1872). Construction of a new building was approved. Despite the building's unveiling in 1877, it took nearly 20 more years for the interior works, including Anselm Feuerbach's ceiling frescos, to be completed.

From 1998, the Academy has held a university status, with a current intake of approximately 1,300 students. Within the library, around 110,000 volumes can be found. The Academy also boasts one of the largest collections of drawings and prints in its Kupferstichkabinett (etchings cabinet), numbering approximately 150,000. Part of this collection is open to the public, although the majority is used for academic studies.

Major artists:

Barend Fabritius Claude Lorrain Dirck Hals Hieronymus Bosch Lucas Cranach the Elder

Masterworks:

Self-Portrait as a Shepherd Flock of Sheep in the Campagna Elegant Company The Last Judgement Lucretia

Contact details:

Website: http://www.akademiegalerie.at/ Contact: gemgal@akbild.ac.at Tel.: +43 (0) 1 58816 2222 Address: Gemäldegalerie der Akademie der bildenden Künste Wien Schillerplatz 3 1010 Vienna Opening hours: Tuesday-Sunday: 10 am-6 pm Closed on Mondays

Lucas Cranach the Elder, *Lucretia*, 1532. Oil on wood, 37.5 x 24.5 cm. Gemäldegalerie der Akademie der bildenden Künste, Vienna.



Pieter Bruegel the Elder, *The Tower of Babel*, 1563. Oil on wood, 114 x 155 cm. Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien, Vienna.

Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien

The Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien (Art History Museum in Vienna) is located in two buildings, facing each other across the Maria-Theresien-Platz on Ringstrasse. Karl Freiherr von Hasenauer and Gottfried Semper designed these buildings, which were built between 1872 and 1891. The museum buildings were officially opened to the public in 1891.

The Ringstrasse museums were built with the singular purpose of housing the royal Habsburg art collection. The Emperor felt that there was nothing suitable in existence already, and with the new museums' construction, the venue created the perfect combination of sufficiently grand lodgings for the art collection and a venue that would be convivial for public viewing. The interiors of the buildings are remarkable for the sumptuous marble decoration, abundant gold-leaf, and valuable paintings. The overall effect was to create one of the most impressive and splendid interiors that 19th-century Vienna had to offer.

The different locations that are encompassed by the museum include the Maria-Theresien-Platz, Hofburg, Heldenplatz, and the Museum of Carriages at Schönbrunn Palace.

The biggest art theft in Austrian history occurred in 2003 at the museum. The decorative piece by Cellini, the *Cellini* Salt Cellar, was stolen in 2003, but was later recovered in 2006.

Contact details:

Website: http://www.khm.at Contact: info@khm.at Tel.: +43 (0) 1 525 24 4025 Address: Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien Maria-Theresien-Platz 1010 Vienna Opening hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday-Sunday: 10 am-6 pm Thursday: 10 am-9 pm Closed on Mondays

Major artists:	Masterworks:	
Albrecht Dürer	All Saints	
Peter Paul Rubens	The Four Rivers of Paradise	
	Helena Fourment	
Pieter Bruegel the Elder	The Tower of Babel	
Raphael	Madonna and Child with	
	St John the Baptist	



Egon Schiele, *Young Mother*, 1914. Oil on canvas, 100 x 120 cm. Wien Museum, Vienna.

Wien Museum

The Wien Museum is the collective term for the grouping of several city museums, including those at Karlsplatz, Hermesvilla, Otto Wagner Hofpavillon, Vienna Clock Museum, Johann Strauss's residence, and the residence of Mozart. One of the most noteworthy museums, however, is the Historisches Museum der Stadt (The Historical Museum of the City of Vienna). This has been in existence since 1887.

Up until 1959 this museum was to be found in the Vienna Town Hall, after which time it moved to a building designed by Oswald Haertl. This building, of an unassuming contemporary modern style, was the Second Republic's first newly constructed museum.

The Historical Museum claims the prestige of the site of one of the most successful exhibitions ever to be held in Vienna. In 1985, the Jugendstil exhibition *Traum und Wirklichkeit* (*Dream and Reality*) attracted more than 600,000 visitors.

The Vienna city museums were combined in 2003 to become what we now know as the Vienna Museum, and the Historical Museum became the Vienna Museum Karsplatz. More exhibition space was added in 2006 upon the renovation of the foyer.

Major artists:	Masterworks:	Contact details:	
Egon Schiele	Self-Portrait with Black Vase and Spread Fingers Young Mother	Website: http://www.wienmuseum.at	
Ferdinand Georg Waldmüller Gustav Klimt	The Seizure Portrait of Emilie Flöge	Contact: office@wienmuseum.at Tel.: +43 (0) 1 505 87 47 0 Address: Wien Museum Karlsplatz	
Hans Makart	Dora Fournier-Gabillon	Karlsplatz 8 1010 Vienna	

Opening hours: Friday-Wednesday: 10 am-6 pm Thursday: 10 am-9 pm





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Antwerp

The largest metropolis in Belgium is Antwerp, which is situated in the province of Flanders (of which it is the capital). Blessed with a rich history, the city of Antwerp had its first origins as a Gallo-Roman settlement, dating to approximately the 3rd century. It was later settled by the Franks (4th century), and saw Spanish rule in the 17th century. Today, the city of Antwerp is both financially and culturally prosperous. The city is also known for the impressive merchant houses of the 16th century, a large number of which managed to survive both fire and World War II bombings.

The Het Steen (a medieval fortress) stands proud in the midst of the city, providing a fitting location for the popular Museum of Archaeology, and St James Church is known for being the final resting place of the 17th-century artist Rubens.

Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten Antwerpen

Founded in 1810, the Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten Antwerpen (Antwerp Royal Museum of Fine Arts) is home to a collection of sculptures, paintings, and drawings dating from the 14th to the 20th centuries. Although now temporarily closed for renovation (until 2017) the collection can still be seen at various locations around Antwerp and Belgium. The collection itself is a prime example of art from Belgium and the Northern and Southern Netherlands from the 15th century. Throughout the renovation, the collection will be on display at the Cathedral of Our Lady in Antwerp, the Municipal Museum in Lier, and Schepenhuis in Mechelen.

Contact details:

Website: http://www.kmska.be/en Tel.: +32 (0) 3 224 95 50 Address: Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten van Antwerpen Leopold De Waelplaats 2000 Antwerp Opening hours: Closed for renovation until 2017 Major artists: Antonello da Messina Hans Memling

Jan Brueghel the Elder Jean Fouquet

Peter Paul Rubens

Masterworks:

Calvary Christ with Singing and Music-Making Angels Flowers in a Vase Madonna Surrounded by Seraphim and Cheruhim Venus Frigida

Jan Brueghel the Elder,

Flowers in a Vase, c. 1620. Oil on panel, 101 x 76 cm. Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten Antwerp, Antwerp. (p. 22)

Jean Fouquet,

Madonna Surrounded by Seraphim and Cherubim, c. 1452. Oil on panel, 94.5 x 85.5 cm. Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten Antwerp, Antwerp.



