

Press Release

HIDDEN TREASURES FROM THE COLLECTION SECOND PRESENTATION

Since November last year the Collection Oskar Reinhart 'Am Römerholz' has been showing works of art from its permanent inventory that, despite their unquestionable quality, have not been on show to the public for a considerable time. The reasons for this absence are partly of a conservational nature and partly due to the limited available space. This separate individual presentation allows members of the public to take their time to contemplate these otherwise hidden gems. Accompanied by additional events such as discussions and special guided tours, these artworks will be explained and discussed from all perspectives. Representatives of many different professions will be invited, allowing the discourse to extend far beyond the usual core area of expertise in art history.

The painting by Gustave Courbet has now been replaced by a far older one, namely the small panel painting *St. Christopher* by Pieter Huys, painted around 1560.

This portrayal of the man who carried the Christ Child through the midst of catastrophic elemental events despite being threatened by monsters of various shapes and forms could hardly be more dramatic. In terms of style the work follows quite obviously on from that of Hieronymus Bosch. The entertainment value of these strange hybrid beings and their sometimes comical activities meant that this kind of diablerie was highly valued. Only five works can be safely attributed to Pieter Huys, an Antwerp master, as they were signed by him. The Römerholz picture panel is one of them. The painting is part of a considerable inventory of works by Old Masters belonging to an epoch-spanning collection acquired by Oskar Reinhart (1885 – 1965) to complement his Impressionist paintings.

Exhibition duration: February 2 – April 23, 2017

Opening: 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday February 1, 2017, with Kerstin Richter, Head of the Collection



Pieter Huys, *St. Christopher*, around 1560
Oak, 34 x 43 cm
Oskar Reinhart Collection 'Am Römerholz', Winterthur