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Highlights 2027

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KUNSTHISTORISCHES MUSEUM

The Imperial Crown. Power and Myth
16 February 2027–30 May 2027

Dürer Trilogy:

Dürer: The Artist's Dream
12 October 2027–9 January 2028

Dürer: The Lure of Money
4 April 2028–23 July 2028

Dürer: The Painter's Art
26 September 2028–14 January 2029

More highlights

NEUE HOFBURG

Neue Hofburg Tour: House of Habsburg
Audio-guided tour in 12 languages

Crime Scene Ephesus. Cleopatra and Rome
20 October 2026–29 March 2027

PALAIS LOBKOWITZ / THEATERMUSEUM

KLIMT. The Naked Truth
From December 2026

SCHLOSS AMBRAS INNSBRUCK

Philippine Welser. Myth & Reality
25 June–31 October 2027

Preview 2027

The Imperial Crown. Power and Myth
On display at the Kunsthistorisches Museum for the first time!



KUNST
HISTORISCHES
MUSEUM

THE IMPERIAL CROWN

POWER AND MYTH

16 FEBRUARY 2027–30 MAY 2027

For the first time, the legendary Imperial Crown is on display at the Kunsthistorisches Museum. This extraordinary exhibition offers visitors the opportunity to experience one of the Middle Ages' most significant symbols of power up close.

Associated in legend with Charlemagne (r.768–814), the crown – now housed in Vienna – accompanied the rulers of the Holy Roman Empire for centuries. Until the last coronation in 1792, it was a central item of the coronation regalia and, like almost no other object, symbolized power, tradition, and the concept of imperial dignity.

Its use over the centuries saved the Imperial Crown from destruction as the only survivor among the medieval royal and imperial crowns, making it one of the most significant and fascinating treasures of European history.

The most powerful crown in European history



Albrecht Dürer, *Dream Vision* (detail), 1525
Previous double page: Albrecht Dürer,
Adoration of the Trinity (*'Landauer Altar'*, detail)

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DÜRER

THE ARTIST'S DREAM

12 OCTOBER 2027 – 9 JANUARY 2028

How does one of the greatest artists capture his own nightmare? How does art become a business? And what lies beneath the surface of his masterpieces?

The Dürer Trilogy explores these questions and sheds light on Albrecht Dürer in three exhibitions: as the man behind the great artist, as an entrepreneur, and as one of the greatest masters of his craft. Rare originals, new discoveries, and modern investigative methods reveal what would otherwise remain hidden, offering a fresh perspective on Dürer's art.

More than 500 years after its creation, the Kunsthistorisches Museum is the first to dedicate an exhibition to Albrecht Dürer's artistically captured nocturnal vision: his masterpiece *Dream Vision* from 1525 returns to public view after more than a decade. This is an extraordinary opportunity, as the fragility of the watercolour means it is exhibited only very rarely and cannot be loaned out.

On the night of 7 to 8 June 1525, Dürer dreamt of a sweeping landscape flooded by terrifying cascades of water. Still under the spell of this vision, he recorded his experience – not only in a painting, but also in a handwritten account. The *Dream Vision* thus becomes an unusually personal testimony from the artist: it opens a window onto Dürer's inner world and, at the same time, onto an era in which natural disasters were frequently interpreted as divine signs.

The exhibition traces the legacy of this extraordinary work: it demonstrates the significance that *Dream Vision* acquired for Dürer's art and the development of the landscape watercolour, whilst at the same time extending far beyond his own time – right up to Sigmund Freud's (1856–1939) modern interpretation of dreams and psychoanalysis.

Dürer's *Dream Vision*
A glimpse into the unconscious



Albrecht Dürer, *Portrait of a Young Venetian Woman*, 1505

KUNST HISTORISCHES MUSEUM

DÜRER

THE LURE OF MONEY

4 APRIL 2028 – 23 JULY 2028

Dürer was not only an artist but also a successful entrepreneur. He knew how to market his art profitably and thereby secure his livelihood. At the same time, many of his works warn of the dark side of wealth: greed, materialism, and the power of money.

The second exhibition in the Dürer trilogy explores this tension. It depicts an era that saw trade create new opportunities for prosperity while at the same time greed and materialism met with ever greater disapproval.

The exhibition portrays Dürer caught between economic success and moral boundaries, between the opportunities offered by wealth and apprehension about its power. Paintings, prints, drawings, coins, and letters offer an insight into the close entanglement of money, society, and religion in his time. They portray Dürer as an artist who knew how to capitalise on the economic opportunities of his time while at the same time using his art to address the cultural, ethical, and religious questions around wealth.

DÜRER

THE PAINTER'S ART

28 SEPTEMBER 2028 – 14 JANUARY 2029

The finale of the Dürer trilogy takes us beneath the layers of paint in his works. It focuses on the Viennese panel paintings – one of the world's most significant collections of Dürer paintings, comprising eight original works. Among them are masterpieces such as the *Adoration of the Trinity* and the *Portrait of Emperor Maximilian I*.

The eight paintings have undergone extensive examination. Modern investigative methods reveal what Dürer laid down beneath the paint some 500 years ago. Never before have we had such direct insight into how he prepared his paintings and developed finished masterpieces from initial drawings.

Particularly fascinating are the underdrawings, which are being shown to the public for the first time. Sometimes sketchy, sometimes worked out in detail, they reveal Dürer's first steps on the wooden panel. Selected international loans, including Dürer's preparatory drawings for the Viennese panel paintings, complement this unique glimpse beneath the surface and bring his working methods to life.

500 years of Dürer



KUNST HISTORISCHES MUSEUM

450 YEARS OF RUBENS

The Kunsthistorisches Museum houses one of the world's largest collections of works by Rubens. In 2027, it will become a place where visitors can experience the full range of the life, work, and legacy of this artist, who so impressively embodies the splendour and dynamism of the Baroque.

OLD MASTERS IN A NEW LIGHT

A NEW LOOK AT ITALIAN PAINTING

The Picture Gallery at the Kunsthistorisches Museum is resplendent in its new guise: an exciting new exhibition that offers a fresh perspective on familiar masterpieces and invites visitors to rediscover the varied and fascinating world of Italian painting time and again.

A DIFFERENT BEAUTY

JAPANESE CERAMIC MASTERWORKS

17 NOVEMBER 2026–4 APRIL 2027

Selected ceramics from Japan and the East and South-East Asian regions from Heinz Slunecko's renowned and extensive collection are on display. These fascinating works offer insights into centuries-old traditions and showcase the extraordinary diversity, expressiveness, and craftsmanship of Asian ceramic art.

TONI R. TOIVONEN

LAST IMPRESSIONS

4 MAY–29 AUGUST 2027

The Kunsthistorisches Museum presents works by Toni R. Toivonen in which the contemporary artist explores the duality of life whilst reflecting on the various facets of existence. In doing so, the exhibition reveals thematic references to the *vanitas* tradition, *memento mori*, and the symbolic significance of death in art history.

More highlights



NEUE HOFBURG Wien
HOUSE OF HABSBURG
TOUR

NEUE HOFBURG TOUR
HOUSE OF HABSBURG

AUDIO-GUIDED TOUR IN 12 LANGUAGES

The House of Habsburg Tour offers a unique account of the rise and fall of one of the most powerful European ruling families of the past millennium. At the site of their final seat of power and residence, the Neue Hofburg, we present imperial stories that offer insights into the world of the emperors and empresses. Their protagonists range from the founding fathers of the House of Habsburg to Sisi.

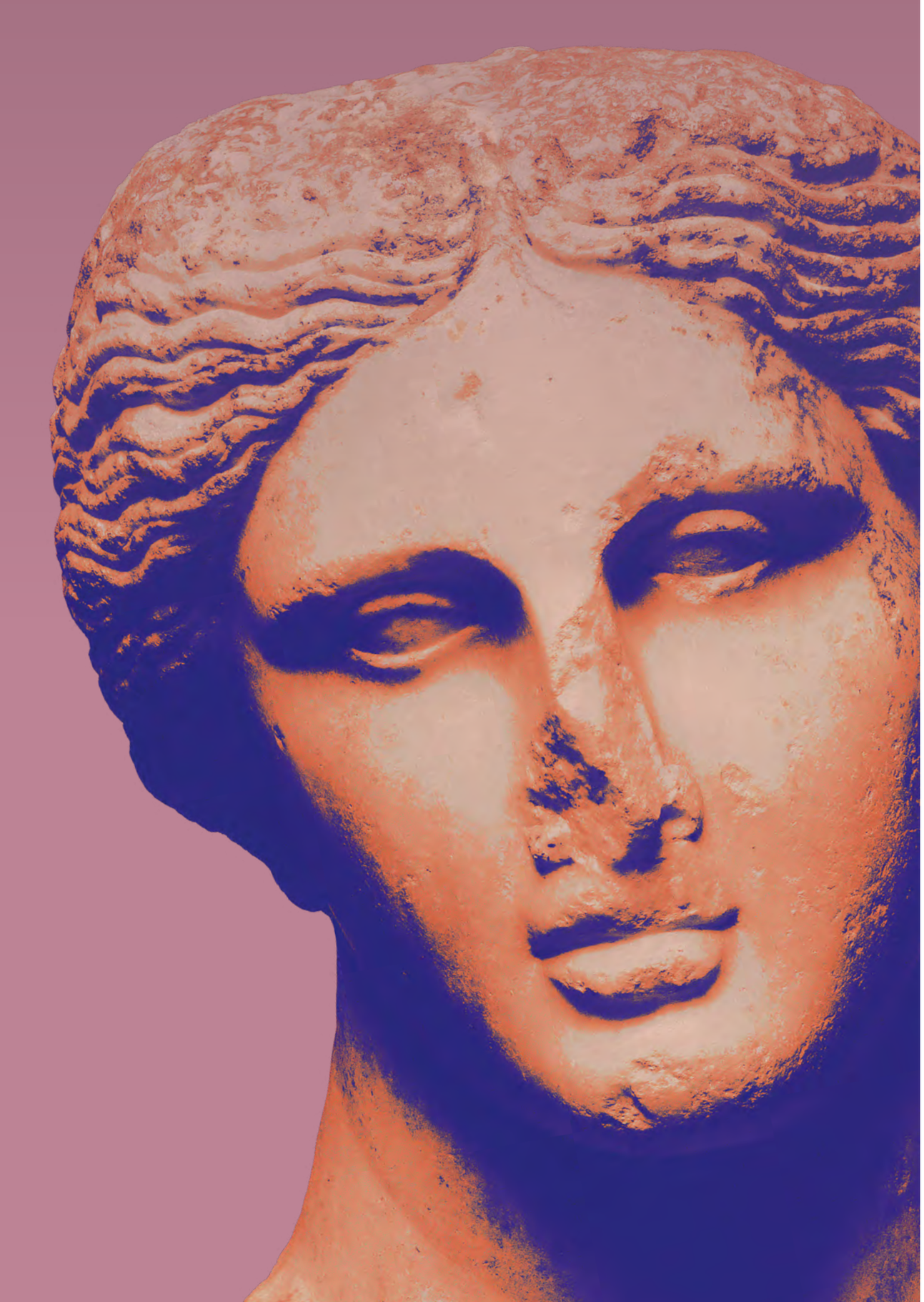
The history of the Habsburg Monarchy is a tale of alternating triumph and tragedy. Under this dynasty, Vienna was a centre of power and music. One place where all this can be traced in a unique way is the Neue Hofburg, the newest wing of the Vienna Hofburg. This is due, on the one hand, to the historic building itself and, on the other, to the two collections it houses: the Imperial Armoury and the Collection of Historic Musical Instruments.

Our tour takes you on a journey through the entire history of the Habsburgs, from the late Middle Ages to the modern era, past suits of armour that, in today's terms, would have been worth as much as a sports car, past a fortepiano on which Mozart once played, and past the only wax bust that faithfully depicts Joseph Haydn. The tour winds its way through the corridors and galleries where the spirit of Sisi still lingers in apartments originally intended for her. The Empress never took up residence, however: she was assassinated in 1898.

A tour through 650 years of royal history under one roof

Crime Scene Ephesus
Cleopatra & Rome





Arsinoë II/III (?), 3rd cent. BCE
Previous double page:
Gemma Augustea (detail), 9–12 CE

KUNST HISTORISCHES MUSEUM

AN EXHIBITION BY THE KUNSTHISTORISCHES MUSEUM
ON VIEW AT THE NEUE HOFBURG / WELTMUSEUM WIEN

CRIME SCENE EPHESUS

CLEOPATRA AND ROME

20 OCTOBER 2026–29 MARCH 2027

A mysterious tomb, a scandalous murder, and a world in flux: *Crime Scene Ephesus. Cleopatra and Rome* explores a mysterious octagon containing a preserved tomb, and with it, a fascinating story from antiquity! The octagonal structure, discovered by Austrian archaeologists around 100 years ago, is reminiscent in shape of the Lighthouse of Alexandria. To this day, it remains unclear who was buried in the octagon – a fascinating lead initially pointed to Arsinoë, Cleopatra's sister.

Taking this extraordinary find as its starting point, the exhibition offers an insight into archaeology, history, and the latest scientific findings within a fascinating cultural-historical panorama. It tells the story of the 'global players' of this era – Cleopatra, her allies (and lovers) Caesar and Marc Antony, and her adversary Augustus. In an 'audio drama', the historical figures themselves have their say and guide visitors through the exhibition with their narration.

Around 100 objects – including significant international loans from the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the British Museum in London, the Cleveland Museum of Art in Ohio, and the Louvre in Paris, as well as high-calibre objects from the collections of the Kunsthistorisches Museum, such as the *Gemma Augustea* – convey a striking picture of antiquity on the threshold of the Roman Empire.

A mysterious tomb, an unsolved murder, a world in upheaval

Palais Lobkowitz reopening



THEATER MUSEUM

PALAIS LOBKOWITZ

The Palais Lobkowitz is one of the oldest Baroque town palaces in Vienna. It has a rich and eventful history and was long owned by the art-loving Lobkowitz family.

Construction of the palace began in 1687 on the instructions of Count Philipp Sigmund von Dietrichstein. Giovanni Pietro Tencala was responsible for the design, whilst Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach designed the main entrance and the central risalit. The building was completed in 1694; later alterations mainly concerned the ballroom around 1730. In the first half of the 18th century, Count Gundacker von Althan acquired the palace and bequeathed it to his stepson, Ferdinand Philipp von Lobkowitz, in 1745. Several generations of his family went on to reside in this magnificent town palace, which from then on was known as the Palais Lobkowitz.

Visitors will be struck by the stunning Baroque architecture as soon as they enter the building. At the heart of the palace lies the magnificent Eroica Gallery, where Ludwig van Beethoven himself premiered his Third Symphony (‘Eroica’) in 1804, alongside numerous other works; the ballroom was named in his honour. The Palais Lobkowitz regularly hosts concerts, events, and special exhibitions as well as housing the extensive collections of the Theatermuseum.

New from spring 2027: the Beethoven Rooms at the Palais Lobkowitz

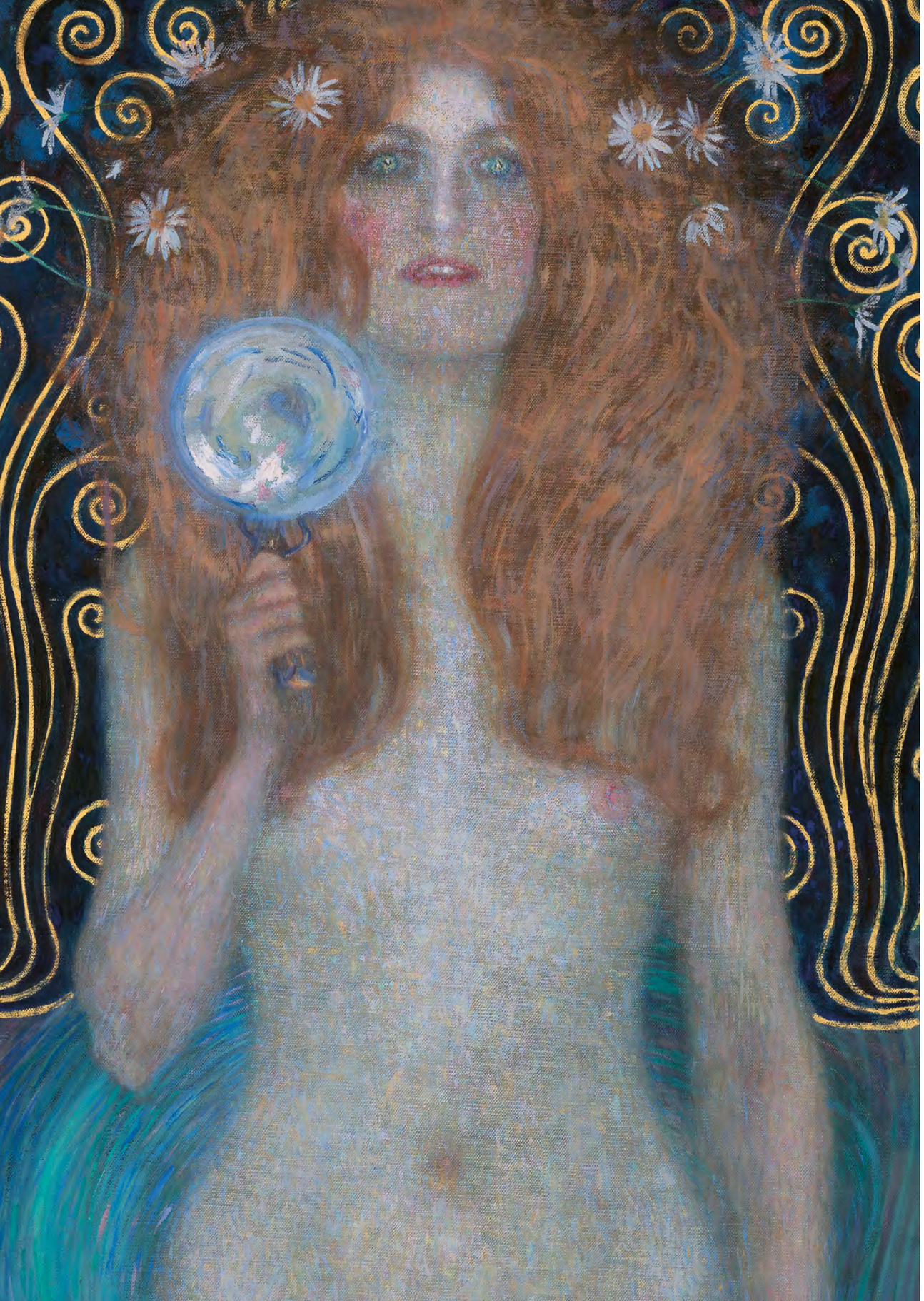
EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHT

AT THE THEATERMUSEUM

Theaterkunst
23 September 2027–17 April 2028

A Viennese town palace steeped in history, art, and music

KLIMT.
A new guest experience at the Palais Lobkowitz



KLIMT
DIE NACKTE WAHRHEIT

KLIMT. THE NAKED TRUTH

A NEW ERA AT PALAIS LOBKOWITZ

Gustav Klimt, *Nuda Veritas* (detail), 1899
Previous double page: Gustav Klimt, *Egypt,* 1891, staircase of the Kunsthistorisches Museum

Palais Lobkowitz invites you to a new, immersive exhibition. The focus is on the visionary masterpiece *Nuda Veritas*. This painting is Gustav Klimt's clear statement in favour of artistic freedom and marks his bold break with the conventions of the time.

Visitors can look forward to a tour that brings this artistic epic to life: to begin with, you will be transported back to Vienna around 1900 and see the original Klimt painting *Lady with a Lilac Scarf*, which is being exhibited at Palais Lobkowitz for the first time. A film then recounts Klimt's transformation from celebrated court painter to uncompromising visionary. The tour culminates in the unveiling of *Nuda Veritas* in a moment that gives immediate effect to the power of this work. Feel the impact of Klimt's direct defiance of the expectations of his patrons, the public, and the art world.

Klimt's most provocative painting re-examined

Ambras Castle Innsbruck



Philippine Welser (1527–1580), first wife of Archduke Ferdinand II, Prince of Tyrol, c.1557
Previous double page:
Ambras Castle Innsbruck, Spanish Hall

SCHLOSS AMBRAS INNSBRUCK

PHILIPPINE WELSER

MYTH & REALITY

JUNE - OCTOBER 2027

Philippine Welser (1527–1580) is one of the most popular figures in Tyrolean and Austrian history; yet there are many gaps in her biography. Ambras Castle Innsbruck is marking the 500th anniversary of her birth as an opportunity to shine a spotlight on her life, which has been shrouded in myths and legends. The exhibition traces her extraordinary story, set against the backdrop of the tension between her bourgeois origins and courtly life, and sheds light on the image of Philippine that emerged in the 19th century – an image that is, however, romanticised, idealised, and distorted.

Philippine, whose rise from a commoner to the wife of Archduke Ferdinand II was considered a scandal in the sixteenth century, was far more than just the (long secret) wife of the Tyrolean sovereign. She was also a castle owner, governor of the province, healer, and cook.

Ambras Castle, a gift from Ferdinand out of love, was not only Philippine Welser's home but also the centre of her activities, and still bears traces of its former mistress to this day. This makes the castle itself an exhibit.

Significant artefacts recount the key moments in Philippine's life and invite visitors to rediscover the person behind the stories. Who was Philippine Welser really? What is fact, what is fiction? Can these questions even be answered 500 years on?

Philippine Welser. Love – Life – Legend



KUNST HISTORISCHES MUSEUM

Daily except Mondays, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Thursdays until 9 p.m.
Open daily from June to August
Kunsthistorisches Museum
Maria-Theresien-Platz, 1010 Vienna
www.khm.at

NEUE HOFBURG Wien
HOUSE OF HABSBURG
TOUR

Open daily except Mondays, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Tuesdays until 9 p.m.
Neue Hofburg
Heldenplatz, 1010 Vienna
www.houseofhabsburg.at

THEATER MUSEUM

Open daily, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Palais Lobkowitz/Theatermuseum
Lobkowitzplatz 2, 1010 Vienna
www.theatermuseum.at

SCHLOSS AMBRAS INNSBRUCK

Open daily, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (closed in November)
Ambras Castle Innsbruck
Schlossstraße 20, 6020 Innsbruck
www.schlossambras-innsbruck.a

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