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## **CHRONICLES 2009**

# January 1, 2009–December 31, 2009

**Kurt Siehr\***

### 1 JANUARY 2009

**Thomas P. Campbell** became the successor of Philippe de Montebello, the former director of the **Metropolitan Museum** of New York. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, October 2008, pp. 1 and 8; December 2008, p. 48; *The Art Newspaper*, October 2008, pp. 11 and 34; *ARTnews*, March 2008, p. 128, and November 2008, p. 136; *Le Journal des Arts*, 3–16 October 2008, p. 6.

### 1 JANUARY 2009

The Austrian City of **Linz** and the capital of Lithuania **Vilnius** were awarded the title **European Capitals of Culture 2009**, *The Art Newspaper*, April 2009, p. 7.

### 1 JANUARY 2009

The **Vatican City** does not any more receive all **Italian** legislation for its small territory. Italian legislation is checked first before it becomes law in the Vatican. (<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/faith/articles5424552eco>) accessed on 4 January 2009.

### 1 JANUARY 2009

After the retirement of Wilfried Seipel, **Sabine Haag** took over as general director of Vienna's **Kunsthistorisches Museum**. *The Art Newspaper*, July–August 2008, p. 8; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, September 2008, p. 49.

### 1 JANUARY 2009

**Claire Lyons** was appointed as curator of the Department of Antiquities at the **Getty Museum**. *The Art Newspaper*, July–August 2008, p. 8.

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## 2 JANUARY 2009

The **UNESCO Convention of 2001** on the Protection of the **Underwater Cultural Heritage** entered into force between the first 20 states parties. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, March 2009, p. 10.

## 9 JANUARY 2009

**Bulgaria** would get back close to 3800 antique **coins** stolen in Bulgaria and smuggled to **Italy** by a Bulgarian gang. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 15 January 2009, <[http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk)>

## 9-18 JANUARY 2009

**Berlin-Paris:** Under this motto Berlin **galleries** would be receiving Paris galleries, and the Berlin galleries would go to Paris on 6–18 February. *Le Journal des Arts*, 8–23 January 2009, p. 31; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 10 January 2009, p. 27; *art*, January 2009, p. 117.

## 10 JANUARY 2009

A conference in **Rome** discussed the problem of whether to **restore contemporary art** or not. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, March 2009, p. 3.

## 10 JANUARY 2009

Sir Colin **Renfrew** gave a **lecture** in Philadelphia on “Combating the Illicit Antiquities Trade: The 1970 Rule as a Turning Point (or How the Metropolitan Museum Lags Behind the Getty)” as the **SAFE 2009 Beacon Award Winner**. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, <[http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk)> 20 January 2009.

## 11 JANUARY 2009

A drunk electrician in **Moscow** started a **fire** in the famous **Tretyakov Gallery** while smoking a cigarette and falling asleep afterwards. No art works were damaged. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 13 January 2009, <[http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk)>

## 12 JANUARY 2009

The Russian President Dimitry **Medvedev** criticized the **Soviet government** of the years 1920–1930 for having sold many **art objects to the West**, for example, to Great Britain (*Codex Sinaiticus*); to the United States (masterworks of Raphael

and others of the Kress Collection in the National Gallery in Washington); and to Calouste Gulbenkian, the Armenian millionaire of Portugal. *Le Journal des Art*, 20 February–5 March 2009, p. 7.

#### 14 JANUARY 2009

A bilateral **agreement** between **the United States and China** was signed on the protection of cultural property, *IFAR Journal*, 2008–09, nos. 3 & 4, p. 8.

#### 15 JANUARY 2009

At the beginning of the Czech presidency of the **European Union**, the Czech artist **David Cerny** revealed his artwork in the entrance hall of the European Council. The art work consisted of 27 parts, each of them depicting a **member state** of the EU with characteristic features and satirical allusions. Bulgaria, for example, is represented by a toilet. Some guests of the ceremony were not amused. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 16 January 2009, p. 7. The part of Bulgaria is now covered: *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 21 January 2009, p. 7.

#### 16 JANUARY 2009

The **U.S. restrictions** on the importation of **Chinese archaeological material** dating from the Palaeolithic period through the end of the Tang dynasty (907 CE) became effective, as a result of a memorandum of understanding signed by China and the United States on January 14. *The Art Newspaper*, February 2009, p. 4.

#### 16 JANUARY 2009

**Andrew Wyeth** (1917–2009), the American painter of *Christina's World* and the Helga series, **passed away** in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 17–18 January 2009, p. 14; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 19 January 2009, p. 25; *ARTnews*, March 2009, p. 48.

#### 23 JANUARY 2009

The exhibition *Opus Iustitiae Pax: Eugenio Pacelli (1876–1958)* in **Berlin** opened. The exhibition tells the story of **Pope Pius XII** (1939–1958) and his involvement in political issues during the Nazi period. The exhibition also deals with Pius XII and the Holocaust. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 16 February 2009, p. 30.

## 22 JANUARY 2009

The German Federal Court for Civil and Criminal Matters (**Bundesgerichtshof**) decided that the opera *Moteczuma*, by Antonio **Vivaldi** (1678–1741), could be performed. The copyright claim of the discoverer of the opera failed because he could not give evidence that the piece was not published previously. *Bundesgerichtshof file I ZR 19/07*.

## 27 JANUARY 2009

**John Updike** (born 1932) passed away. He was also an art historian and art critic. *The Art Newspaper*, March 2009, pp. 4 and 27; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 29 January 2009, p. 11.

## 27 JANUARY 2009

The **German Advisory Commission** on Return of Cultural Property gave the advice that the painting *Peasant Girl without Hat with White Scarf*, by Wilhelm Leibl (1844–1900), **should be returned** to the heirs of Dr. Alexander **Lewin**, who lost the painting during the Nazi period. *Kunstrechtsspiegel*, 2/09, p. 100.

## 27 JANUARY 2009

The **Cour d'appel de Paris** decided that the sale by auction of an ancient Egyptian statue of pharaoh **Sesostris III**, bought by Mrs. Maryvonne **Pinault**, was invalid because it is not original but a fake of later times. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 7–8 February 2009, p. 19; *Le Journal des Arts*, 28 November–11 December 2008, p. 28; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 14 February 2009, p. 42.

## 28 JANUARY 2009

The National Gallery of Scotland and the National Gallery in London bought for £50 million *Diana and Actaeon*, a painting by **Titian** (ca. 1480–1576), from the **Duke of Sutherland** and thus saved the painting for the United Kingdom. *The Art Newspaper*, June 2009, p. 1; *ARTnews*, April 2009, p. 56; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 4 February 2009, p. 33.

## 29 JANUARY 2009

Sold at auction for \$10.1 million at Sotheby's New York was the painting *The Bagpipe Player in Profile*, by **Hendrick ter Bruggen** (1588–1629), which was looted by the Nazis from the former owner Herbert von **Klemperer** and returned to his heirs by the **Wallraf-Richartz Museum** in Cologne. The painting was acquired by

the National Gallery in Washington. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, March 2009, p. 6; *The Art Newspaper*, March 2009, p. 47; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 7 February 2009, p. 41, and 29 August 2009, p. 40; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 14–15 February 2009, p. 27.

## 29 JANUARY 2009

The painting *The Temple of Jupiter Panellenius*, by Joseph Mallord William **Turner** (1775–1851), was sold for \$12.9 million. *Le Journal des Arts*, 20 February–4 March 2009, p. 24.

## 29-31 JANUARY 2009

Symposium on **looted art** in the Suermondt-Ludwig-Museum was held in Aachen, Germany, where the exhibition *Schattengalerie—Lost Works of the Gallery* took place. The missing art objects have been found in the meantime in the Art Gallery of **Simferopol, Ukraine**. The paper given at this exhibition is published in *Kunst und Recht*, 2009, p. 39; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 31 January 2009, p. Z3, and 3 February 2009, p. 27.

## 30 JANUARY 2009

In **Italy** convened the Roundtable for the archaeological protection of Rome, which tries to **protect the ancient buildings** and ruins of Rome. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, March 2009, p. 8.

## 30 JANUARY 2009

**France** issued the Ordonnance no. 2009-104 on **money laundering** by purchasing paintings for a great deal of money. *Le Journal des Arts*, 15–28 May 2009, p. 26.

## 31 JANUARY 2009

The **exhibition** *Andrea Palladio. His Life and Legacy* opened in the Royal Academy of Arts in London, recalling the architect **Palladio** (1508–1580), without whom the classical architecture of England and the United States is unthinkable. *The Art Newspaper*, January 2009, p. 53.

## JANUARY 2009

**Rally** in South America caused serious damage to Pre-Columbian sites in **Chile**. *Le Journal des Arts*, 2–15 October 2009, p. 7.

## JANUARY 2009

The court proceedings of the *Anna Amalia Library of Weimar, Germany v. Axa* have been settled. The Library suffered damage in September 2004 because of **fire**. The Library asked for insurance coverage of €20 million; the **settlement** was €5 million. *The Art Newspaper*, February 2009, p. 18.

## JANUARY 2009

UNESCO has called for measures to preserve the *HMS Victory*, a British man-of-war ship, that sank in the English Channel in 1744, following its discovery by a commercial deep sea exploration company. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 6 February 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## JANUARY 2009

The London police caught a **curator** of the **Victoria and Albert Museum** who, during more than 20 years, took home some 2000 valuable items of the V&A and decorated his home with them. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 3 January 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## JANUARY 2009

Norman **Rosenthal**, a former secretary of the Royal Academy, called for an **end to restitution**. *The Independent*, 9 January 2009, p. 5.

## JANUARY 2009

The **financial crises** hit museums, universities, art galleries, auction houses, collectors, and state budgets. **Rose Art Museum** was selling paintings (*Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 31 January–1 February 2009, p. 26) or even were about to close (**Trieste Oriental Art Museum**: *The Art Newspaper*, October 2009, p. 13; **Vienna's Kunstammer**: *The Art Newspaper*, January 2010, p. 24); **Brandeis University** and the **National Academy of New York** were considering selling their art collections (*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 28 January 2009, p. 33); the **Getty Foundation** and the **Centre Pompidou** were dismissing staff (*Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 2–3 May 2009, p. 17; *The Art Newspaper*, January 2010, p. 13); **Christie's** and **Sotheby's** were firing employees (*Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 17–18 January 2009, p. 20, *The Art Newspaper*, June 2009, p. 59); **exhibitions** were canceled (*The Art Newspaper*, September 2009, p. 13). **The United States, Italy**, and other **European countries** were reducing the budget for culture (*The Art Newspaper*, February 2010, pp. 1 and 11; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 10 March 2009, p. 13; *The Art Newspaper*, De-

ember 2009, p. 11, and January 2010, p. 1). Even fraudulent **insurance** claims rise: *The Art Newspaper*, September 2009, p. 33. Comprehensively: András Szántó, Will U.S. museums succeed in reinventing themselves? *The Art Newspaper*, January 2010, p. 33.

## JANUARY 2009

*The Colossus*, attributed to **Francisco di Goya** (1746–1828), has been removed from the catalogue of Goya paintings and attributed to a secondary pupil of Goya. There is, however, a debate about whether this reattribution is correct. *ARTnews* June 2009, p. 40; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 5 February 2009, p. 23.

## JANUARY 2009

In **Magdeburg, Germany** an ancient **sarcophagus**, thought to be a decorative sarcophagus of **Queen Editha** (in England Edgith) **of Wessex** (died 946 CE), wife of German King Otto I (936–973), was opened, and bones of a person have been found, supposedly those of Queen Editha. *Die Zeit*, 29 January 2009, p. 32; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 23 and 29 January 2009, pp. 33 and 34. It was later confirmed that the bones were very likely those of Queen Editha. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 22 October 2010, p. 16.

## JANUARY 2009

Neil MacGregor, the Director of the **British Museum**, agreed to a three-month loan of the **Cyrus Cylinder**, with the allegedly oldest declaration of human rights, to the **National Museum of Iran** in Teheran. The loan was postponed several times until the Cylinder was loaned to Iran in 2010. (<[http://Wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyrus Cylinder](http://Wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyrus_Cylinder)> accessed 23 July 2010.

## JANUARY 2009

The fragile ceasefire in force in **Gaza** gives evidence of damage to Gaza's cultural sites. *The Art Newspaper*, February 2009, p. 1.

## JANUARY 2009

**Google Earth** is showing the masterworks of the Madrid Museum **Prado**. Now the masterworks can be seen closely and with magnifying vision. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 24–25 January 2009, p. 25; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 30 January 2009, p. 13.



## JANUARY 2009

The government of **France** published a paper in which a commission stated that 133,000 **works of art** are **missing** in French museums and mostly are decorating offices or private apartments of politicians. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 17 June 2009, p. 33.

## JANUARY 2009

The **United Kingdom** returned to **Egypt** the head of Pharaoh Amenhotep III, stolen in 1990 and kept by the restorer Jonathan Tokeley-Parr. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 23 January 2009, <[http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk)>

## 2 FEBRUARY 2009

Closing of the successful exhibition *Picasso and the Masters* with 700,000 visitors and €1 million profits. Now lending museum asked for a **share** of the profits. *The Art Newspaper*, February 2009, p. 11.

## 2 FEBRUARY 2009

Settlement concerning the Museum of Modern Art's *Boy Leading a Horse*, by Pablo Picasso (1881–1973), and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation's *Le Moulin de la Galette*, by Picasso, with the heirs of the former owner of the paintings, **Paul von Mendelssohn-Bartholdy** (1875–1935), who was expropriated by the Nazis. The paintings will stay in the museums and the heirs will be compensated. *The Art Newspaper*, March 2009, p. 13; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 4 February 2009, p. 32.

## 3 FEBRUARY 2009

Sale at auction at **Sotheby's** London the painting *Street Scene*, by **Ernst-Ludwig Kirchner** (1880–1938), restituted in Berlin to the heirs of family Hess. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 10 January 2009, p. 37.

## 5 FEBRUARY 2009

The **German Federal Constitutional Court** decided that the obligation to maintain churches (**Kirchenbaulast**), introduced after the Napoleonic wars as compensation for taking church property and fixed in the Weimar Constitution of 1919, still survives and is valid. *Die öffentliche Verwaltung* 2009, p. 591.

## 6 FEBRUARY 2009

At the **Art Law Centre** of the University of Geneva, a conference was held on “L’entraide judiciaire internationale dans le domaine des biens culturels” (International **Legal Assistance** with Respect to Cultural Objects). *News of the Art Law Centre*, No. 18, June 2009, p. 1.

## 9 FEBRUARY 2009

Two hundred years ago **Charles Darwin** (1809–1882) was born. This was a cause for celebration in several exhibitions all over the world. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 13 December 2008, p. 33; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 7–8 February 2009, p. 13; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 7–8 February 2009, p. 29, and 11 March 2009, p. 23.

## 9 FEBRUARY 2009

The new **Dali-Museum** opened at the Potsdamer Platz in **Berlin** showing about 400 works by the Spanish artist. *Kunstforum*, March 2009, p. 8.

## 10 FEBRUARY 2009

The Landgericht Berlin decided the case of **Peter Sachs** and the German Historical Museum. The defendant has to **return the poster Dogge**, which was held by the German Historical Museum. The case was decided, although the plaintiff’s father Hans Sachs had been compensated for his collection of posters. *Landgericht Berlin*, 10 February 2008, *Kunst und Recht*, 2009, p. 57, with comments by Matthias Druba, *Kunst und Recht*, 2009, p. 48; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 25 February 2009, p. 31, and 2 March 2009, pp. 27 and 31. The decision of the Landgericht Berlin was reversed by the Kammergericht (Court of Appeals of Berlin) on 28 January 2010, *Kunst und Recht*, 2010, p. 17.

## 10 FEBRUARY 2009

A federal court in Florida dismissed the claim in **Park West Gallery v. Fine Art Registry** and held that it is not allowed to file the same suit in two different states under a different name in an attempt to harass the Fine Art Registry and thus to prevent further exposure of Park West Gallery’s questionable business practices. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 15 February 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk)).

## 11 FEBRUARY 2009

**New Zealand** agreed to pay compensation to the **Maori** and to acknowledge that the ritual dance Haka is protected by copyright of the Maori. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 13 February 2009, p. 4.

## 11-16 FEBRUARY 2009

The **Art Rotterdam** fair, 10 years after its founding, was a complete success. *Die Welt*, 21 February 2009, p. 30.

## 11-12 FEBRUARY 2009

Members of a gang have been arrested in **Spain** who may have **forged** old Spanish masters and illegally transferred original paintings. *The Art Newspaper*, April 2009, p. 55.

## 13 FEBRUARY 2009

A director of a state museum in **Turkey** and nine other persons had to go to jail for several years after being convicted of stealing pieces of the **Lydian hoard** and replacing the stolen items with fake objects. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 14 February 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## 13 FEBRUARY 2009

Opening of the exhibition **Coptic Sculpture in the Brooklyn Museum** and revelation that many of the museum's treasures are **fakes** of the past 50 years. *The Art Newspaper*, July–August 2008, p. 1.

## 15 FEBRUARY 2009

**Harald Marx**, the director of the **Dresden** Gallery “Alte Meister” retired with an exhibition in his honor, *Wunschbilder—Sehnsucht und Wirklichkeit*, with paintings of the time of August the Strong, King of Poland, and Elector of Saxony (1697–1733). *art*, May 2009, p. 97.

## 15 FEBRUARY 2009

The **Vatican** for the first time honored **Galileo Galilei** (1564–1642), who was thought to be a heretic and was sent into exile, with a mass in the church Santa Maria degli Angeli in Rome. Several members of the World Federation of Scien-

tists were present. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 16 February 2009, p. 7.

## 18 FEBRUARY 2009

Two **thieves** broke into a gallery in **St. Petersburg, Florida**, and stole two glass sculptures, a Duncan McClellan vessel and a Chuck Boux vase. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 20 February 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## 19 FEBRUARY 2009

In Paris, the UNESCO committee on the **World Atlas of Languages** in Danger stated that in **Germany**, 13 regional languages are in danger of vanishing. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 20 February 2009, p. 7.

## 20 FEBRUARY 2009

On **20 February 1909** the **Futurists** published their first **Manifesto** in the French daily newspaper *Le Figaro*. The head of this predominantly Italian movement was Filippo Tommaso Marinetti (1876–1944). The avant-garde artists were Giacomo Balla (1871–1958), Carlo **Carrà** (1881–1966), Umberto **Boccioni** (1882–1916), Gino **Severini** (1883–1966), and Luigi Russolo (1885–1947). There were also ties to the cubism of Braque and Picasso, to orphic cubism of Robert and Sonia Delaunay, and to rayonnists Michel Larionov and Nathalie Gontscharova. In Milan and Rome there were **exhibitions** in commemoration of futurism. *The Art Newspaper*, February 2009, p. 31; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, December 2008, pp. 50ff., and February 2009, p. 36, and April 2009, p. 44; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 20 February 2009, p. 25; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 20 February 2009, p. 33, and 21 February 2009, p. Z3; *Die Welt*, 20 February 2009, p. 24; *The Times Literary Supplement*, 31 July 2009, p. 17; *The Art Newspaper*, February 2009, pp. 5 and 31. A similar exhibition was later shown in Berlin, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 24 December 2009, p. 26.

## 20 FEBRUARY 2009

**Bruno Schulz**: *Wall Paintings under Coercion*, a new display at the **Yad Vashem Museum of Holocaust Art**, opened in **Jerusalem**. The display includes three wall paintings, the last known work of Polish author and artist Bruno Schulz (1892–1942) before his murder by the hands of a Nazi SS man on November 19, 1942. In **June 2001** these wall paintings were clandestinely removed and covertly brought to **Israel** from the now Ukrainian (formerly Polish) village Drohobycz shortly after their discovery. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 24 March 2009, p. 27.

## 20 FEBRUARY 2009

Hearing of **Marion True**, former curator of the Getty Foundation in Rome. *The Art Newspaper*, April 2009, p. 5.

## 23 FEBRUARY 2009

The **National Museum of Iraq** in Baghdad **opened** again after having been closed since 2003. A total of 9000 pieces of the **15,000 pieces** stolen are still missing. The museum restored only two galleries of the original 26. These galleries have been restored with financial and technical help from Italy. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 24 February 2009, p. 3; *International Herald Tribune*, 24 February 2009, pp. 1 and 6; *The Art Newspaper*, March 2009, pp. 4 and 11.

## 24 FEBRUARY 2009

Sale at auction of the **Yves Saint Laurent–Pierre Bergé Collection** with Christie's in Paris. Also were sold two figures of the Qing Dynasty (eighteenth century) for \$14 million each despite protests from **China**. *IFAR Journal*, 2008–09, nos. 3 & 4, p. 2; Ling Ji, *XIV Art Antiquity and Law*, p. 167 (2009); *The Art Newspaper*, April 2009, pp. 34 and 58, and January 2010, pp. 1 and 4; May 2009, p. 60; *art*, April 2009, p. 10; *Le Journal des Arts*, 20 February to 5 March 2009, p. 18, and 4–17 September 2009, p. 32; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 21 January 2009, p. 30, and 27 February 2009, p. 33. **Germany** acquired three golden **goblets** that formerly were part of the treasure of Lüneburg. They are now exhibited in the Castle of Celle. *Arsprototo* 2/2009, p. 4.

## 27 FEBRUARY 2009

The billionaire hedge-fund manager **Steve Cohen** bought a 5.9% holding in **Sotheby's** and planned to show 20 masterpieces from his collection at the auction house's New York headquarters from 2 to 14 April 2009. *The Art Newspaper*, April 2009, p. 53.

## 27 FEBRUARY 2009

The **Italian police** announced they had recovered a haul of antiquities looted from **tombs** in the East-Central Marche region. The booty, some 1500 objects in all, had been dug up by a team of “tombaroli” and covered a period stretching from eighth century BCE to the fifth century CE. Security Network on Google Groups, 28 February 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## 27-28 FEBRUARY 2009

Conference in **Moscow** between German and Russian museum officials urging more research in determining the **fate of Russian** and European art works lost during **World War II**. *The Art Newspaper*, April 2009, p. 20; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 2 March 2009, p. 19.

## 28 FEBRUARY 2009

In Munich **Willibald Sauerländer** (born 1924), formerly director of the Central Institute for Art History in Munich, was honored by a meeting of foreign and local art historians. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 2 March 2009, p. 29.

## FEBRUARY 2009

Lord Leicester, an **English Heritage** commissioner, declared the interest of the English Heritage to preserve **Apsley House** in London, the residence of the Duke of Wellington. *The Art Newspaper*, March 2009, p. 16.

## FEBRUARY 2009

French president Nicolas **Sarkozy** created the **Conseil** de la creation artistique (Art Council), which has to intervene in art matters whenever necessary. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 7–8 February 2009, p. 26.

## FEBRUARY 2009

Sculptured reliefs from the **Heroon of Tyrsa** were finally restored after they had fallen down and shattered into pieces while on **loan** in Berlin in 2002 in the Martin-Gropius-Bau. The sculptures of around 380 BCE were discovered in 1841 in the Taurus mountains of Turkey, legally acquired by Austria from the Ottoman Empire by a *firman* (decree) of 1881 and brought to Vienna in 1884. *The Art Newspaper*, March 2009, p. 23.

## FEBRUARY 2009

The **California Historical Society** reopened after a December **flood** that had damaged more than 1500 antique and historic books and the building. The same happened in the **National Library of Scotland**, where a sprinkler valve burst, and the around 700 books were soaked with water. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 3 March 2009, <[http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk)>

## FEBRUARY 2009

**Richard Serra** placed his iron sculpture *Clara Clara* (1983) in the **Jardin des Tuileries** after he had tried to locate it in front of the Centre Pompidou. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 28 February 2009, p. Z3.

## FEBRUARY 2009

The **Fanjul family** was pleased to note that the State Department opened an investigation into potential violation of U.S. law by **Bruno Scaioli**, an Italian-Argentine art dealer. It had long been suspected that Scaioli was in possession of at least one of the paintings that belongs to the Fanjul art collection confiscated by the **Cuban government** when Castro took over. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 26 February 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## 1-4 MARCH 2009

The American **National Conference on Cultural Property Protection** met in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 19 February 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## 3 MARCH 2009

The **City Archive of Cologne, Germany**, collapsed and buried many of its treasures in dust, water, and rain. The building of a new underground railway may have been the cause of this **collapse**. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 14 February 2009, p. 27, 5 March 2009, pp. 9 and 31, 24 February 2010, p. N3; 3 March 2010, p. 27, 17 March 2010, p. 34, 14 April 2009, p. 27; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, 28 February 2010, p. 61; *Die Welt*, 3 March 2010, p. 25; *Zeitschrift für Bibliothekswesen und Bibliographie* 56 (2009), p. 149.

## 5 MARCH 2009

The **exhibition** *Wings of God*, works of the Algerian-born artist Adel **Abdessement**, showing slaughtered animals reopened in Turino, Italy, after having been closed on 11 February 2009 because of protest of **animal rights groups**. *The Art Newspaper*, April 2009, p. 3.

## 5 MARCH 2009

Antiquorum Auctioneers in New York sold at **auction** the estate of **Mahatma Gandhi** (1869–1948) for \$1.8 million to the Indian billionaire Vijay Mallya. The estate consists of shoes, spectacles, a watch, a plate, and a small bowl. *Süddeutsche Zei-*

*tung*, 7–8 March 2009, p. 12; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 7 March 2009, p. 7; *International Herald Tribune*, 7–8 March 2009, p. 1.

## 5 MARCH 2009

The Supreme Court of the Czech Republic confirmed the lower court, which held that the **Veit Cathedral** in Prague belongs to the state and not to the church. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 7–8 March 2009, p. 7.

## 5 MARCH 2009

**Prosecutors** in New York intervened in the case about the origin of the **Dead Sea Scrolls**. Raphael Golb is charged with identity theft, criminal impersonation, and aggravated harassment because he opened an e-mail address using the names of other Dead Sea Scroll scholars who do not want to be mentioned. *International Herald Tribune*, 7–8 March 2009, p. 2.

## 6 MARCH 2009

Opening of the exhibition **Giotto e il Trecento** in Rome and celebrating the great medieval master (ca. 1301–1337) of frescos and paintings. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, March 2009, p. 21.

## 7 MARCH 2009

**Antiquities** that were pillaged from more than 1500 ancient sites around **Afghanistan** by scavengers, looters, and thieves have been returned to Kabul. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 8 March 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## 9 MARCH 2009

Three thieves of **eight paintings stolen** in 1987 from a gallery in **Maastricht** were heard in court after the paintings were seized by the Dutch police. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 9 March 2009, p. 7.

## 11-12 MARCH 2009

Conference at the Palais de l'Europe in **Strasbourg**, France, on “**Who Steals the Past**: Europe’s Archaeological Heritage under Threat.” *Europae Archaeologicae Consilium*, p. 1.



## 11 MARCH 2009

Opening at the **Musée Jacquemart-André** in Paris of an exhibition of the collection of old Italian masters of the thirteenth to fifteenth century kept in the museum **Lindenau** in **Altenburg, Germany**. The German baron Lindenau (1779–1854) collected the paintings between 1840 and 1850 and deposited them in the small museum close to Dresden. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, March 2009, p. 24.

## 12 MARCH 2009

The **silver treasure of Priamos** could be seen for a short time in Berlin-Charlottenburg before the Museum of Pre-History closed, before being transferred to Museum Island in **Berlin**. Some of the items had been given back to Germany by **Russia** before the Duma passed the law that prohibited the return of German national treasures. *Die Welt*, 23 April 2009, p. 24.

## 12 MARCH 2009

The **agreement** between the **United States and Honduras** on the protection of cultural property was extended until 2014. *IFAR Journal*, 2008–09, nos. 3 & 4, p. 10.

## 12 MARCH 2009

Opening of the exhibition *Saved—The Inventories of the Archaeological Collection of the former Prussia Collection of Königsberg*. The inventories have been saved, discovered, and given to Berlin. (<http://www.museumportal-berlin.de>) accessed 24 April 2009; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 25 March 2009, p. 36.

## 13-23 MARCH 2009

The European Fine Art Fair (**TEFAF**), one of the important European fairs, opened at **Maastricht**. *Kunstforum*, May 2009, p. 20; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, March 2009, p. 60; *The Art Newspaper*, April 2009, p. 60; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 14–15 March 2009, p. 27; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 14 March 2009, p. 43; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 14–15 March 2009, p. 22; *New York Times, Global Edition*, 21–22 March 2009, p. 12.

## 13 MARCH 2009

The **United States** deposited the instrument of ratification of the **1954 Hague Convention** for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of War at UNESCO. *IFAR Journal*, 2008–09, nos. 3 and 4, p. 5.

**15 MARCH 2009**

The exhibit *Reclaimed—Paintings from the Collection of Jacques Goudstikker* opened in the Jewish Museum in **New York** showing the paintings returned to the heirs of J. Goudstikker. *ARTnews*, April 2009, p. 41.

**15 MARCH 2009**

Opening of the exhibition *Titian, Tintoretto, Veronese: Rivals in Renaissance Venice* at the Museum of Fine Arts, **Boston**. On loan were paintings from Naples (Museo di Capodimonte), Vienna (Kunsthistorisches Museum), and Omaha (Joslyn Museum). *The Art Newspaper*, March 2009, p. 53; *The New York Review*, 16 July 2009, p. 12.

**16 MARCH 2009**

A **meteorite stolen** in 1968 from Meteor Crater east of **Flagstaff**, Arizona was given back by the person who bought the metal for \$10 some years ago and later learned that it may be a meteorite. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 24 March 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

**17 MARCH 2009**

Opening in **Geneva** at the Musée Barbier-Mueller the exhibition *African Terra Cotta—A Millenary Heritage*. Protest arose about the **pillage of Africa**. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 4 May 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

**17 MARCH 2009**

A dispute about art objects was settled in **Switzerland**. In **1525**, during reformation time, the last abbot of the **Rüti** cloisters fled to Catholic **Rapperswil** and took a **miter and a crozier** of the treasure of Rüti with him. When the city of Rüti celebrated its 1200th anniversary, it recalled the art objects taken from Rüti to Rapperswil almost 500 years ago and asked for their return. A settlement provided that the treasure **will be given back** as soon as the Rüti cloisters are reinstalled. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 18 March 2009, p. 38.

**18 MARCH 2009**

**Sotheby's of London** sold at auction artworks collected by the Italian designer Gianni **Versace**. The collection was preserved in the Villa Fontanelle on the Lago di Como. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 15 March 2009, p. 65.

## 18-19 MARCH 2009

Major disappointment of **Sotheby's** with their **auction at Doha, Qatar**. Just 37 of 77 lots were sold with the top price of \$542,500 paid for Rudolf Ernst's (1854–1932) *A Hard Bargain*. *The Art Newspaper*, April 2009, p. 65.

## 19 MARCH 2009

The **Supreme Court of Brazil** decided that the nature reserve in the Amazon region **Raposa, Serra do Sol**, is reserved for **indigenous peoples** and that nonindigenous people have to leave the region. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 21–22 March 2009, p. 9; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 21–22 March 2009, p. 2.

## 19 MARCH 2009

The painting *Sposalizio della Vergine*, by **Raphael** (1483–1520), has been restored and can be admired at the Pinacoteca di Brera in **Milan**. *Gazzetta Antiquaria*, nuova serie, No. 55-1/2009, p. 64; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, March 2009, p. 37.

## 19 MARCH 2009

The **French Cour de cassation** decided that after 30 years of possession of an artwork the return claim of the former owner is barred by “**prescription acquisitive**” (statute of limitations) according to Article 2229 (now 2261) of the Civil Code. *Recueil Dalloz*, 2009, Jur., 948.

## 20 MARCH 2009

Continuation of the proceedings in Rome charging Marion **True** and Bob **Hecht** and others of smuggling art treasures out of Italy. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, March 2009, p. 16; April 2009, p. 14; *The Art Newspaper*, May 2009, p. 9.

## 21 MARCH 2009

**France** returned rare objects (watches and clocks) to **Israel** 25 years after they had been stolen from the David Lionnel Salomons collection in the Islamic Museum in Jerusalem. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 26 March 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## 23 MARCH 2009

The U.S. **Federal District Court** for the Southern District of New York decided the case *Sotheby's Inc. v. Rod Shene* and found that the **Augsburg Geschlechterbuch** had been stolen from the Staatsgalerie Stuttgart and shall be **returned** to the

Staatsgalerie. (<http://www.Bloomberg.com/apps/m+news?pid>) accessed on 24 October 2010; *The Art Newspaper*, December 2009, p. 5.

## 26 MARCH 2009

The author, historian and lecturer **Olivier Bernier** gave a lecture at the IFAR Evening in the National Academy in New York on “**Cambodia—Angkor** and Beyond: The Ravages of Time, War and Looting.” *IFAR Journal* 11 (2009) No. 1 pp. 20ff.

## 26 MARCH 2009

The New York art dealer **Lawrence B. Salander** was charged by a **grand jury** with 100 counts of grand larceny, falsifying business records, scheming to defraud, forgery and perjury, and damaging clients in the amount of **\$88 million**. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 28 March 2009, p. 39.

## 27 MARCH 2009

The foreign ministers of the EU member states meet at **Castle Frauenberg** at the Moldau river, formerly owned by the Schwarzenberg family, of which **Karel Schwarzenberg**, Czech foreign minister, is a member. He does not pursue the return of the castle and has been sued by his sister in Vienna. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 24 March 2009, p. 6.

## 27 MARCH 2009

200 years ago Baron **Georges Eugène Haussmann** (1809–1891) was born. Haussmann was Préfet de la Seine from 1853 to 1870 and changed medieval **Paris** into a modern city by tearing down entire quarters and planning wide avenues and modern houses. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 27 March 2009, p. 25.

## 28 MARCH 2009

300 years ago **Johann Friedrich Böttger** (1651–1719) gave notice to King August the Strong (1697–1733) of Saxony and Poland that he successfully produced **porcelain**. *Die Zeit*, 26 March 2009, p. 92.

## 29 MARCH 2009

Closing of the exhibition ***Bonaparte et l’Égypte*** in **Paris**, exhibiting the military expedition of 1798 to Egypt and the consequences for Napoleon, France, and Egyptology. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 16 December 2008, p. 36.

## MARCH 2009

**Yale University** filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court in Connecticut against Pierre **Konowaloff**, a French businessman and heir of the Russian pre-Revolutionary collector Ivan **Morosov**, asking for a declaratory judgment confirming that Yale University is the owner of the painting *The Night Café*, by **Vincent van Gogh** (1853–1890). The painting was **nationalized** in 1918, and sold to a Berlin Gallery, which sold it to Knoedler, New York. Then it was acquired by Stephen C. Clark, the founding trustee of the Museum of Modern Art, and Clark donated it in 1960 to Yale University. *ARTnews*, May 2009, p. 40.

## MARCH 2009

The painting *Sumpflegende*, by **Paul Klee** (1879–1940), was taken by the Nazis in 1937 and was again in dispute. The Amtsgericht München declined a claim of restitution to the heirs of **Sophie Lissitzky-Küppers** in 1993. But in the meantime the Washington Conference Principles of 1998 apply, and the City of Munich should return the painting to the heirs. *art* April 2009, p. 115.

## MARCH 2009

The painting *Medea and the Urn*, by **Anselm Feuerbach** (1829–1880), has been **given back** by Austria to the English heirs of the former owner from whom the painting was seized in 1938. *The Art Newspaper*, March 2009, p. 20.

## MARCH 2009

The **Freer Gallery** of Art and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, initiated a comprehensive **World War II Era provenance research** project with the web site <http://www.asia.si.edu/collections/provenance.htm> Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 20 March 2009, [http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk)

## MARCH 2009

The bank Landesbank NordLB **returned** painting “Cat behind a Tree” by Franz Marc (1880–1916) to its former **Jewish owner**. *Kunstrechtsspiegel*, 2/09, p. 103.

## MARCH 2009

The **National Museum** of Fine Arts in **Buenos Aires** announced that it will not send valuable works of art to the 2010 Book Fair in **Frankfurt, Germany** because

it is afraid of private investors who still want about \$6 billion and are planning to attach the works of art. *The Art Newspaper*, April 2009, p. 13.

## MARCH 2009

**Christie's guaranteed** a client the sale of a painting by Francis Bacon for at least \$40 million. When the auction took place, nobody wanted to buy the painting. Now **Weiss Family Art** LLC is suing Christie's in New York. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 28 March 2009, p. 39.

## MARCH 2009

The **City of Bamberg** (situated in Franken as a part of **Bavaria**) demanded return of three **crowns** formerly preserved in the Cathedral of Bamberg and brought to Munich 200 years ago. There will be a settlement of the case as soon a replica of the crown has been made and brought to Bamberg. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 25 March 2009, p. 2.

## 1 APRIL 2009

The **Bauhaus**-Museum in **Weimar** opened the exhibition *Das Bauhaus kommt*, celebrating 90 years of the Bauhaus, founded by Walter **Gropius in 1919**, with works by Wassily Kandinsky, Lionel Feininger, and Paul Klee, all once teachers at the Bauhaus. *Kunstforum* May 2009, p. 8; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 21–22 March 2009, p. 15; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 2 April 2009, p. 32; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 28–29 March 2009, p. 31.

## 1-3 APRIL 2009

The 37th annual conference on **Legal Issues in Museum Administration**, cosponsored by the American Law Institute, American Bar Association, and the Smithsonian Institution, met in Boston and raised **important issues** for museum staff, such as a guide to gifts, legal twists in loans, the global museum, and social media tools. *The Art Newspaper*, May 2009, p. 16.

## 3 APRIL 2009

Minister Jenny Macklin announced in the Australian parliament that **Australia** will accept the UN Declaration on **Indigenous Peoples** and thereby will improve relations with the Aborigines. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 4–5 April 2009, p. 3.

#### 4 APRIL 2009

A lifelike wax sculpture of *Christ seated in an electric chair*, by the British artist **Paul Fryer**, on loan from the collection of French luxury goods magnate François Pinault, caused outrage in **France** when it was installed in the cathedral of the city of Gap over Easter weekend. *The Art Newspaper*, May 2009, p. 6.

#### 5 APRIL 2009

At the Whitechapel Art Gallery in London, the **Guernica tapestry** was exhibited, which aroused concern in New York (it was hanging just outside the Security Council chamber) and was temporarily draped on 5 February 2003 when U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell announced the war on Iraq. *The Art Newspaper*, February 2009, p. 14.

#### 6 APRIL 2009

An **earthquake** close to **Aquila, Italy**, damaged the whole city, including national treasures and monuments in the area of Southern Italy. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, 2009, Speciale Abruzzo; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 7 April 2009, p. 1, 8 April 2009, p. 8, 9 April 2009, p. 35, and 20 August 2009, p. R5; *The Art Newspaper*, May 2009, p. 1; *Le Journal des Arts*, 15–28 May 2009, p. 6; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, May 2009, pp. 1, 14, 16.

#### 6 APRIL 2009

The **City of New York** is celebrating its **400th birthday** with an exhibition in New York museums, especially in the Museum of the City of New York. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 6 April 2009, p. 7.

#### 7 APRIL 2009

The **Getty Museum** will return to Italy a **Roman fresco fragment**, which was shown in the museum and which was looted in 2007. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 0 April 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk)) 20 April 2009.

#### 7 APRIL 2009

The **Cour d'appel de Paris** gave a judgment in the case of **Camille Atlan** and Jacques Polieri that provided that both of them not contest that some paintings are not authentic works of **Jean-Michel Atlan** (1913–1960) and that all these paintings have to be inserted into the catalogue raisonné or a supplement to it edited

by them of the work of Jean-Michel Atlan. *Le Journal des Arts*, 10 July–3 September 2009, p. 28.

### 8 APRIL 2009

The **Cour d'appel de Paris** has confirmed the lower court's judgment and found that a private organization for the sale of works of art by Internet is **illegal** and that the Conseil des ventes volontaires de meubles aux enchères publiques (CVV) is also allowed to do this. *Le Journal des Arts*, 15–28 May 2009, p. 26.

### 11 APRIL 2009

100 years ago the City of **Tel Aviv** was founded and later became famous for many buildings **Bauhaus** style. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 11 April 2009, p. 9.

### 13 APRIL 2009

In **Naples**, the National Archaeological Museum closed the exhibition **Ercolano: Three Centuries of Discoveries**, showing items excavated in Ercolano in the past and in recent times with new mysteries and problems. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 16 June 2009, p. 31.

### 17 APRIL 2009

At the exhibition of paintings of **Amedeo Modigliani** (1884–1920) in the Bundeskunsthalle Bonn it was suspected that at least one of the exhibited paintings may have been a **fake**. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 26 June 2009, pp. 1 and 13.

### 21 APRIL 2009

The **Jewish Museum in Frankfurt** took over the exhibition of Berlin showing the restitution of some works of art to the former owners. In Frankfurt a painting by **Henri Matisse** (1869–1954) was also shown, which had been seized in 1937 and without any known owner. Patrons were welcome. At the same time the life of the former director **Ernst Holzinger** (director from 1938 to 1972) was celebrated. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 22 April 2009, p. 33; *Frankfurter Rundschau*, 23 April 2009, p. D2.

### 21 APRIL 2009

The United States Congress declared the **Holocaust Remembrance Day** to commemorate the victims of Nazi terror. At the same occasion the federal government gave back to the Stern Foundation the painting **Portrait of a Bag Piper** of the



former art dealer Max Stern who in 1937 had to sell 227 art works at auction in Cologne. The Dresden Gallery New Masters was still looking for the heirs of sisters Rosauer, who once owned the painting *Young Lady with Drawing Equipments*, by Christian **Vogel von Vogelstein** (1788–1868) in the Dresden museum. *Die Welt*, 22 April 2009, p. 29.

## 22-26 APRIL 2009

The art fair **Art Cologne** opened in Cologne, Germany, and offered many good works of modern and contemporary art. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 25 April 2009, p. 41.

## 23 APRIL 2009

At **Stratford-upon-Avon** a newly discovered picture was shown, which is supposed to be the **portrait of Shakespeare**, which, however, is much contested. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 11 March 2009, p. 23; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 10 March 2009, p. 31; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 10 March 2009, p. 13.

## 23 APRIL 2009

A heavy **rain** forced evacuation at the **Albertina in Vienna**, and electricity went out, which was necessary for the rescue of the underground storeroom. *The Art Newspaper*, September 2009, p. 18.

## 25 APRIL 2009

The Frankfurt Antique Collection **Liebighaus** was founded **100 years ago**, and it is opening again to the public after the collection was reorganized. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 25–26 April 2009, p. 15; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 25 April 2009, p. 33.

## 26 APRIL 2009

The Kunstmuseum **Basel** exhibited the landscape paintings by **Vincent van Gogh** (1853–1890), which he painted in his first years in Provence. *UBS Key Club 2/2009*, p. 4; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 18–19 April 2009, p. 30, and 24 April 2009, p. 25; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 7 May 2009, p. 11; *Die Zeit*, 23 April 2009, p. 49; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 25 April 2009, p. 35.

## 29 APRIL 2009

The creation of the **Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation** was announced. The Foundation will finance the preservation of the Nazi death camp in Poland. *The Art Newspaper*, June 2009, p. 30.

## 29-30 APRIL 2009

In Munich some water colors by **Adolf Hitler** (1889–1945) and some of his personal belongings were sold at auction with a Munich auction house. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 29 April 2009, p. 36.

## APRIL 2009

Part of the world's **oldest Bible**, the *Codex Sinaiticus*, was discovered by Nikolas Sarris in **St. Catherine's** Monastery in the Egyptian desert. *The Art Newspaper*, September 2009, p. 1.

## APRIL 2009

The **Italian** Minister of Interior Affairs responded to a parliamentary question that the Republic of Italy owns **Michelangelo's David**, which was once in front of the Palazzo Vecchio in Florence and now removed to the Galleria dell'Accademia in Florence. This attitude has serious effects on the entrance fees of the Galleria. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 20 August 2010, p. 22.

## APRIL 2009

The **German police** launched a **web site** ([www.bka.de](http://www.bka.de)) listing **stolen property** of which the owners are unknown. It is hoped that people will look at the web site and help to discover the owners. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 1 May 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## APRIL 2009

The **International Foundation of Art Research** (IFAR) has launched a **web site** compiling foreign cultural property **laws** and other information affecting the ethics and legality of transferring cultural property. The web site is ([http://www.ifar.org/art\\_law.php](http://www.ifar.org/art_law.php)) Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 1 May 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## APRIL 2009

The parliament of **Tajikistan** approved the **Agreement of 2007** on cooperation in the fight against **theft of cultural values** and their restitution agreed upon by the Commonwealth of Independent States, which is composed of states of the former Soviet Union such as Armenia, White Russia, Georgia, Russia, Ukraine, and others. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 11 April 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## APRIL 2009

Governor **Schwarzenegger** of California returned some **paintings looted** by the Nazi to the grandchildren of the art dealer **Oppenheimer**. The returned works were acquired by William Hearst, whose castle later became state property. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 14 April 2009, p. 27.

## APRIL 2009

A **theft** of around **40 ancient manuscripts** from the library of **Indonesia's** oldest museum, the Radya Pustaka in Solo, Java, was discovered, showing an increasingly endemic problem in the Southeast Asian country. *The Art Newspaper*, June 2009, p. 24.

## APRIL 2009

The **Whitechapel Gallery** of London expanded its building and took over the next building of the Passmore Edwards Library. *The Art Newspaper*, March 2009, p. 31.

## 1 MAY 2009

Two hundred years ago the **Wetboek Napoleon** was introduced in the **Netherlands** and since then exerted French influence on Dutch law. Arthur Salomons, *Nederlands Juristenblad* 2009, pp. 2016ff.

## 4 MAY 2009

**France** passed a statute allowing the state to return 16 **Maori heads** to New Zealand. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, October 2009, p. 6.

## 5 MAY 2009

The **Court of Appeal** (Oberlandesgericht) **Frankfurt am Main** decided the **Ahlers** case and obliged the head of Sotheby's Germany to disclose details of the sale of the Ahlers collection, including the price paid by the buyer. According to the

decision of the Bundesgerichtshof of 17 July 2008, the seller has to pay **droit-de-suite fees** to the collecting society. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 23 May 2009, p. 43.

## 6 MAY 2009

150 years ago **Alexander von Humboldt** (1769–1859) passed away, and several books and symposia are recalling this great scholar and natural scientist. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 4 May 2009, p. 8, and 10 June 2009, p. N2; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 7 May 2009, p. 24; *Die Zeit*, 30 April 2009, p. 61.

## 10-12 MAY 2009

**German** specialists for the preservation of **monuments** (Deutsches Nationalkomitee für Denkmalschutz) met in Berlin and discussed the preservation of rests of the **Berlin wall** and other remnants of the fortification of the East German border. *Deutschland Archiv* 2009, p. 711.

## 11-14 MAY 2009

The **Intergovernmental Committee** for the Promoting of **Return of Cultural Property** to the Countries of Origin held its 15th session in Paris. *Letter of Lyndel Prott of 18/8/2010*.

## 15 MAY 2009

Opening of the exhibition *The Guggenheim: Frank Lloyd Wright and the Making of the Modern Museum* in the Guggenheim Museum in New York, celebrating 50 years of the opening of the Museum built by **Frank L. Wright** (1867–1959). *art* May 2009, p. 82; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, May 2009, p. 7.

## 15-17 MAY 2009

A workshop on “**Collections at Risk. Safeguarding our Cultural Heritage**” met at the Museum of Archaeology in **Valletta**, Malta, and discussed, under the auspices of ICOM and ICMS (International Committee on Museum Security), issues of preservation of the past. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 17 April 2009, <[http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk)>

## 15 MAY 2009

The 26th court session in the case against **Marion True** took place in **Rome**, and the acquisition of the Fleischmann collection by the Getty Foundation was discussed. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, June 2009, p. 12.

## 15 MAY 2009

**Sotheby's** of New York sold part of the **Jolika collection** of tribal art of Papua New Guinea, collected and owned by John and Marcia **Friede**. The sale was necessary because of a dispute among the heirs. *The Art Newspaper*, July–August 2009, p. 14.

## 16 MAY 2009

Opening of a new wing added to the **Art Institute of Chicago** by director James Cuno. *Le Journal des Arts*, 29 May–11 June 2009, p. 4; *The Art Newspaper*, May 2009, p. 23, and November 2009, p. 34.

## 16 MAY 2009

Information that **Ernst Beyeler** (1921–2010) of Riehen bei Basel, in 1997 the creator of the Fondation Beyeler, has been put under guardianship because of mental illness. *Le Journal des Arts*, 29 May–11 June 2009, p. 40; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 2 June 2009, p. 37.

## 20 MAY 2009

The exhibition **Mannahatta/Manhattan** in the Museum of the City of **New York** opened, celebrating the expedition of Henry Hudson on 12 September 1609 on what was later called the Hudson river and the adjacent lands. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 1 September 2009, p. 33.

## 21 MAY 2009

The *Pala di San Zeno*, by Andrea **Mantegna** (1430/31–1506), has been restored and can be admired in the Basilica San Zeno in **Verona**. *Gazzetta Antiquaria*, nuova serie No. 55-1/2009, p. 61.

## 21 MAY 2009

In **Munich** the **Museum Brandhorst**, exhibiting contemporary art in the Pinakothek district, was inaugurated. *Le Journal des Arts*. 26 June–9 July 2009, p. 22; *art*, May 2009, p. 17.

**26 MAY 2009**

The case *Simon-Whelan v. The Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts* (2009 U.S. Dist. Lexis 442422, S.D.N.Y.) dismissed the plaintiff's motion to **authenticate** a self-portrait of **Andy Warhol** (1928–1987). In June the defendants filed an answer and counterclaim in which they denied the factual bases for Simon's allegations and countersued him for breaching the waiver agreement. Flescher and Rosewater in *IFAR Journal* 11 (2009) no. 1, pp. 36ff. and *IFAR Journal* 11 (2010) nos. 3 & 4, pp. 7ff.

**26 MAY 2009**

The foundation stone for the **Louvre Abu Dhabi** was laid in the splendor of the Emirates Palace Hotel. *The Art Newspaper*, June 2009, p. 11, and July–August 2009, p. 16; *Le Journal des Arts*, 12–25 June 2009, p. 3.

**28 MAY 2009**

The J. F. Northey Annual Book Award was given to Matthew **Palmer** for his book *The Treaty of Waitangi in New Zealand's Law and Constitution*. Palmer writes about the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840 between the indigenous people of Maori and New Zealand. E. W. Thomas, "The Treaty of Waitangi," *New Zealand Law Journal* 2009, pp. 277ff.; *Commonwealth Law Bulletin* 36 (2010), p. 398.

**28 MAY 2009**

The **District Court of Massachusetts** decided that the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston does not have to return the painting *Love Couple*, by Oscar **Kokoschka** (1886–1980), to Claudia Seger-Thomschitz. *Kunstrechtsspiegel*, 2/09, p. 109.

**29 MAY 2009**

The *Petrobelli Altarpiece* (ca. 1563) of **Paolo Veronese** (1528–1588) has been put together out of four pieces in different museums and exhibited—after having been shown in Dulwich Picture Gallery (London) and before to be exhibited in the Blanton Museum of Art in Austin—in the National Gallery of Canada in **Ottawa**. The altarpiece was dismembered in the eighteenth century. *ARTnews*, May 2009, p. 88.

**29 MAY 2009**

The **Prussian Heritage Foundation** (Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz) in Berlin declined to give back the **Welfenschatz** to the heir of those persons who claim to

be the rightful owners. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 2 June 2009, p. 11; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 3 June 2009, p. 32; 4 June 2009, p. 31, and 6 June 2009, p. 34; *Die Zeit*, 4 June 2009, p. 51; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 8 June 2009, p. 33.

## 29 MAY 2009

The **collection Rau** is exhibited as *Tiepolo and the Face of Italy* in Rolandseck in the **Arp Museum**, Remagen, showing the paintings collected by Gusty Rau and proceeds to be donated to UNICEF. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 8 August 2009, p., 34.

## 31 MAY 2009

The 200th anniversary of composer **Joseph Haydn's** (1732–1809) death was celebrated in exhibitions and concerts all over Europe. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 30–31 May 2009, p. 29; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 30–31 May 2009, p. 14; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 2 June 2009, p. Z3, and June 6, p. 35.

## MAY 2009

**Denmark** is going to join the **Unidroit Convention of 1995** on Stolen and Illegally Exported Cultural Objects. This was announced in Copenhagen. *The Art Newspaper*, June 2009, p. 7.

## MAY 2009

**39 Goethe drawings** have been sold abroad by the private owner Nicolas Count Henckel von Donnersmarck, despite being part of the Classic Foundation Weimar. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 28 October 2009, p. 33.

## 2 JUNE 2009

In **Brussels** the Musée Magritte opened. This museum is devoted to the work of **René Magritte** (1898–1967), the Belgian surrealist artist. *Petites affiches* 7 July 2009, p. 22; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, June 2009, p. 31; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 8 June 2009, p. 21; *The Art Newspaper*, July–August 2009, p. 20.

## 2 JUNE 2009

**Sotheby's Tel Aviv** sold at auction works of Avigdor Arikha (born 1929), which were found in Tel Aviv in **dustbins**. *The Art Newspaper*, June 2009, p. 63.

### 3 JUNE 2009

**Colombia** approved the **Unidroit Convention of 1995** (Ley 1304 de 2009) and became a state party. *Derecho Colombiano* 100 (2009) No. 571, p. 14.

### 3 JUNE 2009

The **U.S. District Court**, Middle District of Florida, Tampa Division, decided that **Spain** wins the claim against discoverers of the Spanish frigate **Mercedes**, which exploded in the war against Great Britain in 1804 and sank off the coast of Portugal and was discovered in 2007 by the Florida-based discoverers in international waters off the Straits of Gibraltar. *Odyssey Marine Exploration, Inc. v. Kingdom of Spain*. Case No. 8:07-CV-614-SDM-MAP; *Wall Street Journal*, 5 June 2009, p. 3; Michael Nelson, 16 *Law and Business Review of the Americas*, pp. 587ff. (2010); *The Art Newspaper*, July–August 2009, p. 8.

### 3 JUNE 2009

In **Brussels**, the Brussels Non-European Art Fair (**Bruneaf**), the Brussels Oriental Art Fair (**Boa Fair**), and the Brussels Ancient Art Fair (**Baaf**) commenced and offered their art objects. *Le Journal des Arts*, 15 May 2009, p. 1.

### 5 JUNE 2009

A **Moscow** court began hearing the criminal case of the Russian state against Andrei **Erofeev**, former head of the Tretyakov Gallery's contemporary art department, and Yuri Samodurov, former director of the Sakharov Museum and Public Center, for "inciting hatred" by organizing a two-week exhibition of **Forbidden Art** at the Sakharov Center in March 2007. *The Art Newspaper*, July–August 2009, p. 3.

### 6 JUNE 2009

At the Punta della Dogana in **Venice** the collection François **Pinault** opened. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 2 February 2009, p. 13; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, May 2009, p. 21; *Le Journal des Arts*, 29 May–11 June 2009, p. 17; *The Art Newspaper*, January 2010, p. 5.

### 6 JUNE 2009

The 100th **birthday** of the philosopher **Isaiah Berlin** (1909–1997) was celebrated everywhere. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 6–7 June 2009, p. 14; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zei-*



tung, 6 June 2009, p. Z 3; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 6–7 June 2009, p. 31.

## 6 JUNE 2009

The **Art Basel**, an art fair of contemporary art become 40 years of age and opened in Basel. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 8 June 2009, p. 36, and 13–14 June 2009, p. 25; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 6 June 2009, p. 41, and 13 June 2009, p. 41; *Le Journal des Arts*, 29 May–11 June 2009, p. 22, and 26 June–9 July 2009, p. 26; *The Art Newspaper*, July–August 2009, p. 1.

## 7 JUNE 2009

The **Biennale in Venice** opened its 53rd exhibition and art show. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 6–7 June 2009, p. 25; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, June 2009, p. 1; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 4 June 2009, p. 23; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 6 June 2009, p. 31; *Le Journal des Arts*, 29 May–11 June 2009, p. 16; *The Art Newspaper*, June 2009, p. 32.

## 8 JUNE 2009

200 years ago **Thomas Paine** (1737–1809), the writer of *Common Sense* (1776), *The Rights of Man* (1792), and *The Age of Reason* (1794), passed away, and an **exhibition** in the National Portrait Gallery in **Washington**, DC, reminds the public of the man who also shaped the Declaration of Independence, declared on 4 July 1776. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 26 August 2009, p. 21; *Die Zeit*, 4 June 2009, p. 78.

## 10 JUNE 2009

**Conference in Zürich** at the Museum Rietberg on “Art and Law: **The Aftermath of the Holocaust**,” commemorating of the 10th anniversary of the Washington Conference Principles of 1998 on Holocaust Art. The papers given at the conference are reproduced in *Kunst und Recht* 2009, issue 3/4, pp. 75ff.; *Kunstrechtsspiegel*, 2/09, p. 74; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 23 June 2009, p. 34.

## 11 JUNE 2009

The **Grosvenor House Art & Antiques Fair** took place in London until 17 June 2009. *The Art Newspaper*, July–August 2009, p. 47.

**12 JUNE 2009**

The **Dutch** parliament passed the **statute implementing the UNESCO Convention of 1970** on the Means of Prohibiting the Illegal Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. *Staatsblad* 2009 No. 255 of 25 June 2009; Kleijn, *Nederlands Juristenblad* 2009, 2877.

**13 JUNE 2009**

**Heinrich Hoffmann** (1809–1894), the famous poet and painter and author of the book of children's tales, *Struwwelpeter* (Slovenly Peter), was born 200 years ago in Frankfurt am Main. The book was first published in 1845 and has had 500 editions since then. It has been translated and discussed by experts. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 13–14 June 2009, p. 27; *Die Zeit*, 10 June 2009, p. 46.

**18 JUNE 2009**

The U.S. **Senate** unanimously **apologized** for the harm done to the African American population of the United States during slavery. *International Herald Tribune*, 19 June 2009, p. 5; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 20–21 June 2009, p. 8.

**18 JUNE 2009**

The **Bern** Historical Museum opened a magnificent exhibition, *Art of the Celts*. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 27 May 2009, p. 10; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 20–21 June 2009, p. 23.

**18 JUNE 2009**

The German philosopher **Jürgen Habermas** (born 1929) celebrated his 80th birthday. *Die Zeit*, 10 June 2009, p. 51.

**19 JUNE 2009**

The Tonhalle-Orchester in **Zürich** started its Zürich Festival with works composed by **Felix Mendelssohn** (1809–1847) and celebrated the composer's 200 birthday. *Leaflet of the Festival* 2009, p. 5.

**19 JUNE 2009**

In the trial of **Marion True**, ex-curator of antiquities of the Getty Foundation, the 25th hearing has taken place, and the defendant has been heard. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, July–August 2009, p. 4.

## 20 JUNE 2009

Opening of the **Akropolis Museum in Athens**. After a long period of planning, the Museum was showing the Parthenon frieze (casts of the Elgin Marbles and the rest of the frieze not removed to London) and all that remained in Athens. Andreas Scholl, "Das neue Akropolismuseum," *MuseumsJournal* 2010, issue no. 1, pp. 4–7; *The New York Review of Books*, September 2009, p. 53; *Neu Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 23 June 2009, p. 23; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 22 June 2009, p. 27; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 10–11 June 2009, p. 13, and 20–21 June 2009, pp. 1 and 13; *The Art Newspaper*, July–August 2009, p. 22; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, July–August 2009, p. 45.

## 20 JUNE 2009

Opening of the **Amstelhof in Amsterdam** as the Dutch arm of the Russian **Hermitage of St. Petersburg**. *Le Journal des Arts*, 26 June–9 July 2009, p. 17; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, June 2009, p. 46; *The Art Newspaper*, June 2009, p. 22.

## 23 JUNE 2009

**Christie's** of London sold at auction part of the estate of Hildegard **Kirchbach** (who passed away in 1997). Some of her fortune was taken by eldercare managers and her solicitor. A settlement has been reached between the heir and the Art Museum Basel, according to which the museum gets a Hodler painting and the entire graphic works of Lovis Corinth (1858–1925). *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 20–21 June 2009, p. 18. The painting *Le Quai Malaquais et l'Institut*, by Camille Pissarro (1830–1903), to be sold by Gisela **Bermann Fischer**, was withdrawn. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 20–21 June 2009, p. 17; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, 14 June 2009, p. 19; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 27 June 2009, p. 41; *Tagesanzeiger*, 2 June 2009, p. 47; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 27–28 June 2009, p. 27.

## 24 JUNE 2009

150 years ago the **battle of Solferino** in Italy was fought between France and Savoy and the army of Austria. **Henri Dunant** (1828–1910), a merchant of Geneva, happened to be on the battle field one day later, saw the mutilated and crying wounded soldiers, and decided to help them (see Dunant, *A Souvenir de Solferino*). In 1863 the Geneva Society for Public Welfare (Société genevoise d'utilité publique) was founded, and one year later the international treaty on the **Red Cross** (Geneva Convention) was signed by 12 nations. In 1901 Dunant won the first **Nobel Peace Prize**. The Convention of 1864 was the beginning of humanitarian public international law that finally led to the 1907 Hague Convention, the 1949 Geneva Con-

ventions, and the **1954 Hague Convention** with its Second Protocol of 1999. Ladurner, *Solferino*. Hamburg 2009; *Die Zeit*, 18 June 2009, p. 84.

## 25 JUNE 2009

The **UNESCO Committee** on World Heritage decided in Sevilla to take the valley of the Elbe river at **Dresden** off the list of World Heritage Sites because a bridge across the river is spoiling the site completely. Sabine von Schorlemer in *Vereinte Nationen* 4/2009, p. 163; *Die Welt*, 26 June 2009, pp. 1 and 23; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 26 June 2009, p. 11; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 26 June 2009, p. 1; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 26 June 2009, p. 5; *The Art Newspaper*, September 2009, p. 7.

## 25 JUNE 2009

Interview of **Max Hollein** (director of the Städel Museum Frankfurt) by Raphael Gross (director of the Jewish Museum Frankfurt), in which Hollein opposed a repose solution and a restitution statute and favored the application of the **Washington Conference Principles** of 1998 and a new Restitution Committee. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 25 June 2009, p. 29.

## 26 JUNE 2009

Exhibition **Ungemalte Bilder** (paintings not painted) by **Emil Nolde** (1867–1956) in Berlin, *Dependence of Nolde Stiftung Seebüll*, which reminds the visitor that Nolde was declared “degenerate artist” and in 1941 was prohibited to produce any art. The *Ungemalte Bilder* are small paintings Nolde painted in the attic of his house in Seebüll. *MuseumsJournal*, July-September 2009, p. 40.

## 28 JUNE 2009

Opening of the exhibition **James Ensor** (1860–1949) at the **New York** Museum of Modern Art. Also shown are paintings that were sent from Belgium for restoration in Zürich and later sold to the United States although forbidden by Belgium. *The New York Review*, 24 September 2009, p. 26.

## 29 JUNE 2009

In **Rome** the sarcophagus of **St. Paul** (in St. Paul Cathedral outside the walls) has been inspected and bones have been discovered that are likely those of St. Paul. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 30 June 2009, pp. 1 and 3; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 30 June 2009, p. 7.

## 30 JUNE 2009

At the Prague Holocaust Era Assets Conference, organized by the Czech Republic and its partners in Prague and Terezin from 26–30 June, the **Terezin Declaration on Holocaust Era Assets and Related Issues** was affirmed by the representatives of 46 states (i.e., Austria, France, Germany, Israel, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States) and two observers (Vatican and Serbia). The Declaration reaffirms the 1998 Washington Conference Principles on Nazi-Confiscated Art and deals in eight parts with the welfare of Holocaust survivors and other victims of Nazi persecution, with immovable property, Jewish cemeteries and burial sites, with Nazi-confiscated and looted art, with Judaica and Jewish cultural property, archival materials, education, remembrance, research and memorial sites, and with future action. *Kunst und Recht* 2010, p. 25; *Kunstrechtsspiegel* 2/09, pp. 62 and 68.

## JUNE 2009

The **Bayerische Staatsbibliothek** (Bavarian State Library) in **Munich** acquired from the Fugger family two **precious books** and preserved them from being sold to foreign collectors. The books are *Das Ehrenbuch der Fugger* (1545–1547, with addenda of 1548–49 and the eighteenth century) and the *Fuggerorum et Fuggerarum, quae in familia natae, quaeve in familiam transierunt, quot extant aere expressae imagines* (1593 and 1618–1620), which are the most valuable acquisitions in many years. The books are the illustrated family records of the Fugger family, the **bankers** of emperors and kings who were established in Nürnberg and were headed by Jacob the Rich (1459–1525) in Renaissance times. *Die Fugger im Bild*, Luzern 2010, pp. 11ff.; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, 25 April 2010, p. 60; *arsprototo* 2009, No. 4, p. 10; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 30 October 2009, p. 12; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 9 September 2009, p. 34.

## JUNE 2009

A subway was built in **Istanbul** crossing the Bosphorus and connecting Europe with Asia. Many **antiquities** have been found, and they show that Istanbul is about **5000 years older** than estimated before. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, 12 July 2009, p. 54.

## JUNE 2009

The government of **Aragon** and the Aragonese diocese of Barbastro-Moinzón filed a **lawsuit** in the civil Court of First Instance of Brabastro demanding that the Catalanian government and the diocese of Lleida return **112 church objects**. *The Art Newspaper*, July–August 2009, p. 7.

## JUNE 2009

The **German Historic Museum** in Berlin and Bonn launched a **web site** in which the art works stolen by the Nazis and collected in Central Collection Point Munich can be found: (<http://www.dhm.de/datenbank/ccp>) *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 12 June 2009, p. 31.

## 2 JULY 2009

The Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana decided the case of *Dunbar v. Seger-Thomschitz* and found that the defendant does not have to return the painting *Portrait of a Youth*, by Oskar **Kokoschka** (1886–1980). The painting was confiscated by the Nazis in Vienna in 1939, and Dunbar's mother bought it in New York in 1946. Mrs. Seger did not act in time and lost the ownership in the painting because of the statute of limitations. *Kunstrechtsspiegel* 2/09, p. 113.

## 4-10 JULY 2009

**Master Paintings Week** in London was held for the first time, and 21 art dealers showed their treasures. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, 5 July 2009, p. 51; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 11 July 2009, p. 40.

## 7 JULY 2009

The **German** parliament passed a law and approved the **Second Protocol of 26 March 1999** to the 1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. *Bundesgesetzblatt* 2009, part II p. 716.

## 7 JULY 2009

**Austria, Germany, and Switzerland** declined to support the **Turkish Ilisu-Dam project** any longer because Turkey did not perform the agreed conditions for protecting the environment, cultural property, and resettlement. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 8 July 2009, p. 29.

## 8 JULY 2009

300 years ago, in the so-called Nordic War (1700–1721), the Swedish king **Charles XII** (1697–1718) was defeated in **Poltawa**, Ukraine by **Tsar Peter** the Great (1689–1725). This was the beginning of Russia and Ukraine as European powers. *Die Zeit*, 28 May 2009, p. 49.

## 8 JULY 2009

**Australian Aborigines** want to block the **Uluru** (also called Ayers Rock), 346 m high and 2 km long, for tourists because the mountain is a **sacred** mountain for them. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 9 July 2009, p. 10; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 9 July 2009, p. 7.

## 8 JULY 2009

A **fire** broke out in buildings of the **Getty Center** in Malibu. No treasures were destroyed. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 10 July 2009, p. 9.

## 10 JULY 2009

500 years ago Johannes **Calvin** (1509–1564) was born, and his birthday was celebrated all over Europe. *Christmon* 8/2009, p. 35; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 2 June 2009, p. 18, and 11–12 July 2009, pp. 30 and 31; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, 12 April 2009, p. 32; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 3 April 2009, p. 33, and 8 July 2009, p. N4; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 10 July 2009, p. 14; *Die Zeit*, 25 June 2009, p. 86.

## 11 JULY 2009

150 years ago the clock of **Big Ben** in London's Westminster Palace (1840–1870), built by Charles Barry (1795–1860) rang for the first time, and since then the **melody of Big Ben**, from the *Messiah* of Handel, has been a symbol of London. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 11–12 July 2009, p. 12.

## 17 JULY 2009

The **Netherlands** deposited their ratification document with respect to the **1970 UNESCO Convention** on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. The implementation statute had already been passed on 12 June 2009. (<http://portal.unesco.org/1a/conventions>)

## 21 JULY 2009

The exhibition **Modell Bauhaus** in the Martin-Gropius-Bau in **Berlin** celebrated the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Art School in Weimar, later transferred to Dessau. *Die Zeit*, 16 July 2009, pp. 46ff.; *MuseumsJournal*, July–September 2009, p. 4; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 24 July 2009, p. 23; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 22 July 2009, p. 27.

## 22 JULY 2009

The Amtsgericht Fürstfeldbruck in Germany acquitted a collector who had acquired **Roman coins** on the Internet worth €6.00 and was indicted because of concealing stolen property. Hartmut Kreutzer in *Numismatisches Nachrichtenblatt* 3/07 p. 1.

## 23 JULY 2009

The **Dutch Queen Beatrix** returned to Ghana the **head** of King **Badu Bonsu II**, who was hanged by a Dutch general in 1838 and his head preserved in Leiden University. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 24 July 2009, p. 9.

## JULY 2009

In the **Hagia Sophia** in **Istanbul**, which is now a museum, an ancient **mosaic** was disclosed to the public. The mosaic, showing the face of an angel, was **hidden** beneath a plaster and metal mask that had hidden the angel for the past 160 years. *The Times Literary Supplement*, 31 July 2009, p. 3; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 28 July 2009, p. 31; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 28 July 2009, p. 10.

## JULY 2009

The city of Costitx on **Mallorca** is demanding back from the Madrid National Museum of Archaeology three **bull heads** of bronze metal found in 1894 by a farmer and sold to the Spanish state. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 21 August 2009, p. 26.

## JULY 2009

The State of **Bavaria** bought the Salzmann Library, consisting of volumes of **Burnt Books** (1933 and later) for the University Augsburg, Germany. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 25 July 2009, p. 31.

## JULY 2009

The Museum **Moritzburg** in **Halle**, Germany, exhibited the painting *Roter Turm I*, by **Lyonel Feininger** (1871–1956), which he painted 1929 in Halle. The painting was acquired for a fair price from the owners. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 11 July 2009, p. 39.



## JULY 2009

A **treasure** of 1500 golden medieval items was discovered in Staffordshire, **England**. The treasure dates from about the seventh century CE and is bigger than that of Sutton Hoo, discovered 70 years ago. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 23 September 2009, p. 47.

## JULY 2009

The parliament of **Bavaria** discussed the return of art treasures, now in Munich, to the **Frankish** part of Bavaria, that is, to Würzburg or Bamberg. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 13 August 2009, p. 27.

## 4 AUGUST 2009

The Norwegian poet **Knut Hamsun** (1859–1952) was **born 150 years** ago. The poet is still not everywhere accepted because he sympathized with the Nazis of Germany. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 10 July 2009, p. 26, and 8–9 August 2009, p. 29; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 18 July 2009, p. Z3;

## 13-14 AUGUST 2009

Eleventh Annual Conference of the **International Foundation for Cultural Property Protection** in the Art Institute of Chicago. Museum Security Network on Google Groups, 3 February 2009, ([http://groups.google.com/group/museum\\_security\\_network?lnk](http://groups.google.com/group/museum_security_network?lnk))

## 15 AUGUST 2009

The **Brera Art Gallery in Milan** celebrated its 200th anniversary and reopening after restoration. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, July–August 2009, p. 21.

## 19 AUGUST 2009

About **1000 fake** works of **Alberto Giacometti** (1901–1966) have been seized in Mainz, Germany. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 20 August 2009, p. 7.

## 19 AUGUST 2009

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit decided the case **Marei Von Saher v. Norton Simon Museum of Art** and affirmed the district court's holding that the plaintiff cannot, under § 354.3 of the California Code of Civil Procedure (statute of limitation for recovery of Holocaust-era art until 2010), recover the diptych

*Adam and Eve*, by **Lucas Cranach** the Elder (1472–1553), which had been looted during World War II from the estate of **Jacques Goudstikker** (1897–1940). The court remanded the case for further proceedings under § 338 of the California Code of Civil Procedure (normal statute of limitation). *IFAR Journal* 10 (2008) p. 25, and 11 (2009) p. 10.

## 21 AUGUST 2009

The **Sky Globe**, a copy made by the Swiss Canton of **Zürich** (which took 7000 hours, costing about 860,000 Swiss francs), has been handed to the Canton **St. Gallen**, as was agreed in the Settlement of Bern in 2006, with which the Second Villmerger War of 1712 has finally been finished. The original globe taken as booty in 1712 is still in the Landesmuseum in Zürich. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 8 July 2009, p. 34, and 16 October 2009, p. 41.

## 27 AUGUST 2009

The **UN Special Rapporteur** criticized **Australia** because of Australia's treatment of Aborigines and demanded corrections. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 28 August 2009, p. 4.

## 28 AUGUST 2009

The Bundeskunsthalle in **Bonn**, Germany, opened the exhibition **James Cook and the Discovery of the Pacific**, showing many items of Cook's expeditions from 1768 to 1779. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 28 August 2009, p. 31.

## 31 AUGUST 2009

**Magdeburg**, Germany, celebrated **800 years** of the Magdeburg Cathedral with the exhibition *Staring into Gothic: The Magdeburg Cathedral and the Late Staufer Period*. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 31 August 2009, p. 27.

## 31 AUGUST 2009

Sophie **Czernin** lodged a claim with Austrian authorities for returning Jan **Vermeer's** *The Art of Painting*, sold by her father to Hitler and since the end of World War II in the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna. *The Art Newspaper*, December 2009, p. 5.

## AUGUST 2009

The medieval spire of the **Cathedral in Frankfurt am Main** has been restored and inaugurated. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 5 December 2009, p. 39.

## AUGUST 2009

The family **Lehndorff** asked for the return of art treasures and furniture now in various museums in the German State of **Saxony**. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 8 August 2009, p. 31; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 8–9 August 2009, p. 15.

## AUGUST 2009

About two million people have visited the **Holocaust Memorial in Berlin** since it opened in the summer of 2005. Seven to eight million visited the stela labyrinth on the surface of the memorial. *Kunstforum*, September 2009, p. 8.

## AUGUST 2009

Forest **fires** outside of **Athens** endangered the city and its treasures. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 24 August 2009, p. 7.

## 1 SEPTEMBER 2009

Seventy years ago **Germany** started **World War II** and invaded Poland. Germany and other nations recalled the beginning of a disaster for millions of people. *Die Zeit*, 10 September 2009, p. 54; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 17 September 2009, p. 33.

## 6 SEPTEMBER 2009

Opening of the exhibition **Entartet—Beschlagnahmt: Bremer Künstler im Nationalsozialismus** (Degenerate—Seized: Artists of Bremen in National Socialism) in **Bremen**. *Leaflet of the Städtische Galerie Bremen*.

## 7 SEPTEMBER 2009

The **Venice Report** was presented in the Institute of British Architects in London describing the deplorable situation of the City of **Venice**. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, September 2009, p. 1.

## 8 SEPTEMBER 2009

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit dismissed the appeal of the appellants (**Kingdom of Spain** and Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection Foundation) with regard to challenges of personal jurisdiction, standing, and the existence of a justifiable case or controversy. The court decided the issue of sovereign immunity and held that the sale of artwork may constitute commercial activity. The case was remanded to the district court to determine whether to impose an exhaustion

requirement on the plaintiff **Cassirer**. The painting *Rue St. Honoré, Après midi—effet de pluie*, by Camille **Pissarro** (1830–1903), was taken by the Nazis in 1939 and sold to the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection in 1976. *Cassirer v. Kingdom of Spain*, CV-05-03459-GAF; *ARTnews*, November 2009, p. 56; *The Art Newspaper*, February 2010, p. 4.

## 9 SEPTEMBER 2009

The **Salon international des Arts premiers** opened in **Paris** and showed many items of primitive art. *Le Journal des Arts*, 4 September 2009, Special addendum.

## 12 SEPTEMBER 2009

**New York** celebrated the **400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's explorations**. Hudson, who was a British navigator in the employ of the Dutch East India Company, entered the river that now bears his name on 12 September 1609. *National Geographic*, September 2009, p. 122; *The Times Literary Supplement*, 4 September 2009, p. 3.

## 15 SEPTEMBER 2009

The exhibition on **Charles the Bold** of Burgundy (1467–1477) opened at the Kunsthistorische Museum in **Vienna** and showed many of his treasures in a magnificent show. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 26 November 2009, p. 26.

## 15 SEPTEMBER 2009

The City of **Cologne** signed a long-term loan contract with the estate of **Gustav Rau**, by which the Schnütgen Museum in Cologne will receive 77 medieval and baroque **sculptures** as a loan. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 18 August 2009, p. 32.

## 17 SEPTEMBER 2009

The **Victoria and Albert Museum** in London opened, after long renovation, its **Medieval and Renaissance Galleries** with a splendid show of sculptures of these times. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 16 December 2009, p. 31; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 18 December 2009, p. 23; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 5–6 December 2009, p. 15.

## 18 SEPTEMBER 2009

The **Schackgalerie** in **Munich**, founded by Adolf Friedrich, Count of Schack (1815–1894), has been renovated completely and opened after being closed since 2008. The

Schackgalerie is famous for paintings of the nineteenth century. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 12 November 2009, p. 40; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 5 November 2009, p. 14.

## 19-20 SEPTEMBER 2009

The **European Weekend of National Patrimony** was celebrated everywhere in Europe with free entrance to many museums and historic places. *Le Journal des Arts*, 4–17 September 2009, p. 7.

## 22 SEPTEMBER 2009

The Bulgarian **Irina Bokova** was elected Secretary General of **UNESCO**, defeating the Egyptian Faruk Hosni. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 23 September 2009, p. 1; 24 September 2009, p. 29, and 25 September 2009, p. 31; *Le Journal des Arts*, 2–15 October 2009, p. 5; *The Art Newspaper*, October 2009, p. 1.

## 22 SEPTEMBER 2009

Maria Christina **Feilchenfeldt** (born Tugendhat 1940), art historian and gallerist, passed away. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 6 October 2009, p. 24.

## 23 SEPTEMBER 2009

The late work of **Auguste Renoir** (1841–1919) was shown at the Galeries Nationales du Grand Palais in **Paris**. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 10 October 2009, p. 25; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 25 October 2009, p. 31.

## 24 SEPTEMBER 2009

In the Scuderie del Quirinale in **Rome** an exhibition *La Pittura di un Impero* (**The Painting of an Empire**) with frescos and paintings of ancient Rome was shown. *New York Times, Global Edition*, 7–8 November 2009, pp. 17 and 19.

## 24 SEPTEMBER 2009

Opening of the exhibition **Moctezuma, Aztec Ruler** in the British Museum. The so-called **crown of Montezuma**, held by the Museum of Ethnology in **Vienna**, was not allowed to be lent for the exhibition. *The Art Newspaper*, June 2009, p. 13.

## 25 SEPTEMBER 2009

The **Finanzgericht** (Revenue Court) in Munich decided that a golden pot is of **Iraqi origin** and is in Germany without decent provenance and therefore should

be attached and given back to Iraq. The decision is appealed. Müller-Karpe, *Kunst und Recht*, 2010, pp. 91–94.

## 26 SEPTEMBER 2009

The **Biennale dell'Antiquariato** celebrated its 50th anniversary in the Palazzo Corsini in Florence. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, September 2009, p. 59.

## 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

The British poet **Daniel Defoe** (1659–1731) was born 350 years ago, and his birthday is also the birthday of the art of novels, which he created with his book **Robinson Crusoe** (1719–20). *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 30 September 2009, p. 14; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 26 September 2009, p. Z3.

## 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York decided that the **Schiele** case (pending since 1997) could proceed in the United States and also held that the defendant (the Leopold Museum in Vienna) will have to prove to a jury that it did not know the painting was stolen. *United States v. Portrait of Wally*, 2009 U.S. Dist. Lexis 91464; *IFAR Journal* 11 (2009) 6.

## 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

An **earthquake** in **West Sumatra** damaged museums and heritage sites in Indonesia, Vietnam, and Cambodia. *The Art Newspaper*, November 2009, p. 1.

## SEPTEMBER 2009

The **museums in Dresden** and **Chemnitz**, Germany, have to **return looted art** treasures taken from the Nazi-prosecuted family Heinrich Graf von **Lehndorff**. This was decided by the Federal Office on Regulation of Unsolved Property Matters (Bundesamt zur Regelung offener Vermögensfragen). *Die Welt*, 2 October 2009, p. 27.

## SEPTEMBER 2009

Olga Taratynova became director of the **Tsarskoe Selo** State Museum, which is devoted to the history of the tsars' lives. *The Art Newspaper*, December 2009, p. 20, and January 2010, p. 26.

## SEPTEMBER 2009

The **Freer Gallery of Art** and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, published “**Guidelines and Procedures** for World War II Provenance Issues.” (<http://www.asia.si.edu/collections/provenance.htm>) accessed on 24 October 2010.

## SEPTEMBER 2009

The Italian City of **Siena** celebrated the 700th birthday of its **constitution** and the creation of a republic. *Die Zeit*, 6 August 2009, p. 70.

## 1 OCTOBER 2009

In the **Netherlands** the **1970 UNESCO Convention** entered into force together with an **implementation** statute of 1 July 2009. *Stadsblad der Nederlanden* 2009 Nos. 254 and 255. To this cf. N. M. van der Horst, *Ars Aequi*, 2009, p. 866.

## 1 OCTOBER 2009

The **Walt Disney Family Museum** opened in San Francisco with a lively show of the work of Walt Disney (1901–1966). *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 2 October 2009, p. Z3.

## 5 OCTOBER 2009

The **Staatsgalerie Stuttgart** returned to the heirs of the art dealer Walter **Westfeld** of Wuppertal the painting *Stilleben mit umgestürztem Teekessel*, by **Adolph von Menzel** (1815–1905). The Staatsgalerie had purchased the painting five years ago, but it was looted by the Nazis in 1938. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 6 October 2009, p. 29; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 26–27 September 2009, p. 15.

## 9 OCTOBER 2009

The **Alte Nationalgalerie Berlin** exhibited the artwork and medical and scientific instruments of **Carl Gustav Carus** (1789–1869) and at that occasion showed his relationship to painters like Caspar David Friedrich (1774–1840) and poets like Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749–1832). *Die Zeit*, 22 October 2009, p. 57.

## 9-10 OCTOBER 2009

III. **Heidelberger Kunstrechtstag** (Heidelberg Day of Art Law) took place, and 11 lectures were given on art trade and art disputes. *Kunstrechtsspiegel* 03/09, p. 121.

The lectures are published in Matthias Weller, Nicolai Kemle, et al. (eds.), *Kunst im Markt—Kunst im Recht*, Baden-Baden 2010.

### 10 OCTOBER 2009

In Bremen, Germany, the **portrait of King Frederick II** (The Great) (1740–1786) by Johann Georg Ziesenis (1716–1776) was auctioned for €670,000. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 13 October 2009, p. 32.

### 10 OCTOBER 2009

The Museo Civico Archeologico di **Bologna** opened the exhibition *Federico Zeri, dietro l'immagine: Opere d'arte e fotografie* in memory of the art historian **Federico Zeri** (1921–1998). *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, October 2009, p. 24.

### 13 OCTOBER 2009

**Dietrich von Bothmer** (1918–2009), curator of antiquities of the Metropolitan Museum in New York and specialist of antique vases, **passed away** in New York. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 23 October 2009, p. 34; *The Art Newspaper*, December 2009, p. 4.

### 14 OCTOBER 2009

The art dealer **Wolfgang Ketterer** (1920–2009) of Munich **passed away**. The auction house in Munich has been headed since 1994 by his son, Robert Ketterer. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 17 October 2009, pp. 37 and 40.

### 15-18 OCTOBER 2009

**Frieze Art Fair** in Regent's Park, London, presents projects creating interesting opportunities for artists. *Frieze Projects*, flyer p. 1; *The Art Newspaper*, November 2009, p. 65.

### 16 OCTOBER 2009

Opening of the rebuilt **Neue Museum Berlin**, exhibiting the Egyptian and the Pre-historic collections of Berlin. The museum has been restored and rebuilt by David Chipperfield. Also the bust of **Nefertiti**, formerly in the Altes Museum, has been transferred and can be seen in the New Museum. *MuseumsJournal* 23 (2009) No. 4, pp. 9ff.; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 23 October 2009, p. 28; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 16 October 2009, p. 31; *Frankfurter Allgemeine*



*Sonntagszeitung*, 18 October 2009, p. 23; *Die Zeit*, 8 October 2009, p. 51; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, October 2009, p. 48; *The Art Newspaper*, November 2009, p. 18.

## 17 OCTOBER 2009

The Italian Count Giovanni Festari did not sell the **archive of Giorgio Vasari** (Arezzo 1511–1574 Florence), which he tried to sell to a Russian investor for €150 million. This bargain failed, and the archive was saved for the Italian State. Akinsha, *ARTnews* January 2010, p. 30; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, November 2009, p. 10, December 2009, p. 1, and March 2010, p. 16.

## 17 OCTOBER 2009

The **Landesmuseum in Stuttgart** opened an exhibition of the archaeological finds of the **Kingdom of Qatna**, which were discovered in Syria by a German-Syrian team of archaeologists seven years ago. The finds were never looted and were found in good condition. The palace of the Kingdom of Qatna was destroyed around 1340 BCE. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 11 November 2009, p. N3, and 22 October 2009, p. 34; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 17 October 2009, p. 29.

## 18 OCTOBER 2009

The artist **Sigmar Polke** (1941–2010) designed new windows for the **Grossmünster in Zürich**. These windows were inaugurated. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 19 October 2009, p. 17.

## 19 OCTOBER 2009

At the **Musée d'Orsay** in Paris the exhibition on the Belgian painter **James Ensor** (1860–1949) opened after having been shown in the Museum of Modern Art New York. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 4 January 2010, p. 14; *Le Journal des Arts*, 30 October–12 November 2009, p. 1.

## 20 OCTOBER 2009

Opening of the exhibition **Louis XIV: L'Homme et le Roi** in **Versailles** castle. The exhibition is devoted to King Louis XIV of France (1715–1774) and his contribution to French art and national pride. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 24–25 October 2009, p. 15; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 31 October 2009, p. 53.

## 22 OCTOBER 2009

The *Foire d'art contemporain*, the “**fiac**,” opened in **Paris** with many offers and many shows. *Le Journal des Arts*, 26 June–9 July 2009, p. 27, and 16–29 October 2009, p. 1, and 30 October–12 November 2009, p. 25.

## 23 OCTOBER 2009

150th anniversary of the **Freie Deutsche Hochstift**, a democratic and liberal association that runs the **Goethe-Haus** in Frankfurt am Main Hirschengraben and started lectures for the public on various issues. In 1947 the Goethe-Haus, in ruins after World War II, began reconstruction and the foundation was laid by the French poet **André Gide** (1869–1951). *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 13 November 2009, p. 23.

## 24 OCTOBER 2009

The Badische Landesmuseum in **Stuttgart** launched a comprehensive exhibition on the **Vandals** of North Africa and its capital Carthago of the Germanic tribe from 431 to 534 CE. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 24 October 2009, p. 25.

## 28 OCTOBER 2009

The **Frankfurt Städel** Museum opened the exhibition *Jean Antoine Houdon—The Sensual Sculpture*. **Houdon** (1741–1828) was famous for his realistic sculptures. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 1 December 2009, p. 31.

## 30 OCTOBER 2009

An exhibition on P. **Matteo Ricci** (1552–1610), the Jesuit priest who found a Christian mission in **China** and contributed with his research to the Ming Dynasty (1368–1644), opened in **Vatican City**. *Il Giornale dell'Arte, Vademecum*, new series No. 7.

## 30 OCTOBER 2009

The anthropologist Claude **Lévi-Strauss** (1908–2009) passed away in Paris. He wrote landmark books, including *Structural Anthropology* and *Myth and Meaning*. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 5 November 2009, pp. 31 and 33.

## OCTOBER 2009

In 1860 during the second **Opium War** the **Beijing** Old Summer Palace was looted by British and French troops. Now a team of specialists will go the United States and Europe to find out which items of the **booty of 1860** are located in which museums. The team does not intend to raise return claims. *South China Morning Post*, 20 October 2009.

## OCTOBER 2009

Marco Ferri complained that all **politicians** deprive museums of their important treasure in order to **lend** them to foreign exhibitions. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, October 2009, p. 39.

## OCTOBER 2009

**Zahi Hawass**, the Egyptian Superintendent of Antiquities, demanded from France the return of antiquities and from Germany the **Nefertiti**. The Egyptian government has not joined the demand, but such a demand, if ever formulated, would be decisive, not that of Mr. Hawass. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 9 October 2009, p. 12; *The Art Newspaper*, November 2009, p. 11.

## OCTOBER 2009

The **British Museum** postponed the loan of the **Cyrus Cylinder** (about 539–530 BCE; allegedly with the inscription of the first human rights document) to **Iran** because of insecure situation in that country. *The Art Newspaper*, November 2009, p. 47.

## OCTOBER 2009

Discussion in Italy about whether the Bronzes of Riace should leave Reggio Calabria and shown next year at the G8 meeting at Maddalena all'**Aquila**. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, November 2009, p. 76.

## OCTOBER 2009

In the **Rome** tribunal Jonathan **Doria Pamphilj** and his sister Gesine filed suits against each other concerning the estate of their mother Orietta Doria Pamphilj, deceased in 2000, including the Galleria Doria Pamphilj. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, November 2009, p. 24.

### 3 NOVEMBER 2009

At **Christie's** of New York, the painting *Le Quai Malaquais et l'Institut*, by Camille **Pissarro** (1830–1903), formerly owned by the publisher **Gottfried Bermann** and taken by the Nazis in Vienna in 1938 and finally given back to the heirs, was sold at auction for \$1.850.000. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 31 October 2009, p. 35; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 1–2 August 2009, p. 18.

### 4 NOVEMBER 2009

**Alfred Messel** (1853–1909) was a famous architect of **Berlin** and shaped the city as it is today. He designed not only big department stores but also museums, for example, the Pergamon Museum on Museum Island. An exhibition recalls the achievements of Messel. *MuseumsJournal* 23 (2009) No. 4, p. 66; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, *Internationale Ausgabe*, 16 December 2009, p. 24.

### 4 NOVEMBER 2009

The **Art-Law Centre** in Geneva organized a meeting with the title “**Art Trade, Loans, Security and Guaranty.**” *Leaflet of the Art-Law Centre*, September 2009.

### 9 NOVEMBER 2009

The exhibition *Le Splendeur des Camondo* opened at the Musée d'art et d'histoire de judaïsme in **Paris** and showed the art collection of the bankers Moïse (1860–1935) and Isaac de Camondo (1851–1911), which they donated to the French Republic. The collection also included the Musée Nissim de Camondo at the Parc Monceau, Paris. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, *Internationale Ausgabe*, 12 February 2010, p. 19.

### 9 NOVEMBER 2009

In Milan, the **Brera Gallery** showed the exhibition *Brera and the War*, telling the story of this important gallery during **World War II**. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, October 2009, p. 43.

### 10 NOVEMBER 2009

At the birthday of Friedrich von Schiller (1759–1806) the renovated **Schiller-Nationalmuseum** opened at **Marbach** on Neckar, Germany. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, *Internationale Ausgabe*, 4 December 2009, p. 25; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 4 March 2009, p. 29, and 10 November 2009, p. 31; *Die Zeit*, 12 November 2009, p. 34.

## 11 NOVEMBER 2009

Conference on “**Restitution**—Problems, Experiences, Controversies” in **Wiesbaden, Germany**. Provenance research must improve and be adjusted to the situation of East German losses during the DDR period, and funds must be created for the repurchase of formerly looted art. *Kunst und Recht* 2010, pp. 22–25.

## 11 NOVEMBER 2009

**Sotheby’s** of New York sold at auction **Andy Warhol’s** *200 One Dollar Bills* for \$39 Million. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 14 November 2009, p. 39.

## 12 NOVEMBER 2009

Royal assent was given to the British **Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) Act 2009** (2009 Chapter 16), conferring power to return certain cultural objects on grounds relating to events occurring during the Nazi era. Charlotte Woodhead, 1 *Cultural Heritage & Arts Review* 25 (2010).

## 13 NOVEMBER 2009

An exhibition on Sandro **Botticelli** (1444/45–1510) opened in the Städel Gallery of **Frankfurt am Main**. However, the main works of Florence and other places were not available for the exhibition. *Die Zeit*, 19 November 2009, p. 57; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 9 December 2009, p. 25; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, 8 November 2009, p. B1, and 15 November 2009, p. 27; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 14–15 November 2009, p. 13; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 16 November 2009, p. 27.

## 17 NOVEMBER 2009

In **Rome** opened an exhibition of Emperor **Vespasianus** (9–79 CE) and his time. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 29 June 2009, p. 19.

## 18 NOVEMBER 2009

**Jeanne-Claude** Denat de Guillebon (1935–2009), the partner of the wrapping artist Christo Vladimirov Javacheff (born 1935) **passed away**. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 21 November 2009, p. 35, and 9 January 2010, p. Z1.

**19 NOVEMBER 2009**

Opening of the new **Central Library** (Jacob-and-Wilhelm-Grimm-Centre) of Humboldt-University **Berlin** designed by the Swiss architect Max Dudler. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 15 October 2009, p. 23.

**21 NOVEMBER 2009**

**Pope Benedict XVI** invited 260 artists to the **Sistine Chapel** in order to talk to them about his and Plato's ideal of beauty. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 23 November 2009, p. 29; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, December 2009, p. 17.

**22 NOVEMBER 2009**

The **Kunsthalle Bielefeld**, Germany, opened an exhibition **German Impressionism** and demonstrated that in Germany this style of painting flourished around 1900. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 5 February 2010, p. 20.

**22 NOVEMBER 2009**

The **Museum of Modern Art** in New York opened the exhibition **Tim Burton** with the film maker's drawings, paintings, graphic works, and photographs. *The Art Newspaper*, November 2009, p. 38.

**23 NOVEMBER 2009**

A sale at auction of **press photographs** of Hachette Italie with the **Hôtel Drouot** in Paris was canceled because the photographers intervened and got an **injunction** against the auction. The artists (e.g., Annie Leibovitz) claimed that they were entitled to the press photographs and not the publisher. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 28 November 2009, p. 40.

**23 NOVEMBER 2009**

**Austria** passed a law changing the 1998 law on **restitution** that now provides that objects held in federal ownership should be returned to the former owners, and that the task of the Commission of **Provenance Research** will be extended. *Bundesgesetzblatt für die Republik Österreich* 2009, part I, No. 117.

**24 NOVEMBER 2009**

The **Bundesgerichtshof** (Germany's federal court for civil and criminal cases) decided that the Author **Maxim Biller** and his publisher do not have to pay compensation to the former girl friend of Maxim Biller for writing the novel **Esra**,

describing part of their love affair. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 25 November 2009, p. 29.

## 24 NOVEMBER 2009

**Sotheby's** of London sold at auction several formerly **Nazi-confiscated** paintings. The painting *Tea pot*, by Adolph **Menzel** (1815–1905), two small paintings of Karl **Blechen** (1798–1840), and *Medea at the Shore*, by Anselm **Feuerbach** (1829–1880), were restituted by German museums and finally sold by the heirs. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 14–15 November 2009, p. 18.

## 24 NOVEMBER 2009

The parties of the **1999 Second Protocol** to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict endorsed the **Guidelines** for the implementation of the Second Protocol. Peltonen and van Woudenberg, 1 *Cultural Heritage & Arts Review* 29 (2010).

## 25 NOVEMBER 2009

In the **Brera Gallery of Milan** the exhibition *Carlo Crivelli e Brera* opened and showed 12 altars of **Crivelli** (ca. 1430–1495), which belong to the Brera Gallery. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, November 2009, p. 15.

## 25 NOVEMBER 2009

**Germany** ratified the **Second Protocol** to the Hague Convention of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. (<http://erc.unesco.org/cp/conventions>)

## 27 NOVEMBER 2009

The painting *View of Marseille*, by **Max Beckmann** (1884–1950), was sold for **€2.6 Million** and therefore was the most expensive German painting sold in 2009. *Die Zeit*, 3 December 2009, p. 67.

## 29 NOVEMBER 2009

The **Swiss people** in a referendum voted for the **prohibition to build minarets** in Switzerland. The majority vote was 57.5%. The referendum was launched by the Swiss Popular Party (SVP). The vote does not prohibit houses of prayers, but for-

bids adding minarets to them. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 30 November 2009, p. 1; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 1 December 2009, p. 1 and 2.

### 30 NOVEMBER 2009

In the Paris auction house **Drouot**, auctioneers have been called into question by the French police for suspicion of being part of a gang **stealing objects** to be auctioned at the Drouot. *Le Journal des Arts*, 11 December 2009–7 January 2010, p. 3.

### NOVEMBER 2009

The Museo Nazionale delle Arti del XXI Secolo (so-called **MAXXI**), built by Zaha Hadid, has been inaugurated in **Rome**. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 20 November 2009, p. 23; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 24 November 2009, p. 29; *Die Zeit*, 12 November 2009, p. 49.

### NOVEMBER 2009

**Interpol** launched a web site on **Stolen Works of Art**, open to the public. *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, December 2009, p. 14; *The Art Newspaper*, November 2009, p. 6.

### NOVEMBER 2009

The **Ashmolean Museum in Oxford** reopened after five years of reconstruction. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 14–15 November 2009, p. 16; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 12 November 2009, p. 32.

### NOVEMBER 2009

The Emirate of **Dubai** was in **financial trouble** and had to borrow money from Abu Dhabi. Also the **art scene** of Dubai was short of funds. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 27 November 2009, p. 9; 28 November 2009, p. 9, and 15 December 2009, p. 9.

### 1 DECEMBER 2009

**Justice David Saxe** of the Appellate Division, First Department in Manhattan, decided that he **could not** compel a major artist's authentication board (that of Alexander Calder) to verify a work and to include a work in a **catalogue raisonné**. *The Art Newspaper*, January 2010, p. 8.



## 1 DECEMBER 2009

The **Treaty of Lisbon**, the revised constitution of the European Union, **entered into force** after all member states approved it at home. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 1 December 2009, p. 6.

## 1 DECEMBER 2009

**Austrian regulations** turned some **Austrian museums** and libraries (e.g., Museum of Natural History, Austrian National Library, and Albertina) into **scientific entities of public law** (wissenschaftliche Anstalten öffentlichen Rechts). *Bundesgesetzblatt für die Republik Österreich*, 2009, part II, Nos. 397–402.

## 2 DECEMBER 2009

The Oberlandesgericht **Dresden** decided that the architect of **Berlin Castle** was correctly chosen and confirmed the appeal of the federal government. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 3 December 2009, p. 35.

## 3 DECEMBER 2009

The **Alte Nationalgalerie** in Berlin got back four paintings by **Carl Blechen** (1798–1840), which had been thought lost since World War II. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 4 December 2009, p. 14

## 3 DECEMBER 2009

The fair **Art Basel Miami Beach** opened and lasted until 6 December 2009. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 5 December 2009, p. 41; *The Art Newspaper*, November 2009, p. 61.

## 3-4 DECEMBER 2009

The conference “**La lutte contre le trafic illicite des biens culturels en Europe: Acteurs et expérience**” (The Battle against Illegal Traffic of Cultural Property in Europe. Agents and Experience) took place in **Paris**. Museum people, officers from government agencies, and Interpol met to discuss the problem of illegal art trade. *Flyer of the Rencontres européennes du patrimoine 2009*.

## 4 DECEMBER 2009

**Koller Auctions in Zürich** sold at auction the painting *Portrait of a Knitting Girl*, by **Albert Anker** (1831–1910), for 3 million Swiss francs, the highest price ever

paid for an Anker painting. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 9 December 2009, p. 43; *The Art Newspaper*, January 2010, p. 64.

## 5 DECEMBER 2009

**Alfred Hrdlicka** (1928–2009), the Austrian sculptor, **passed away** in Vienna. *Die Zeit*, 10 December 2009, p. 60; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 7 December 2009, p. 20; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 7 December 2009, p. 30; *Artnews*, February 2010, p. 38; *The Art Newspaper*, February 2010, p. 4.

## 8 DECEMBER 2009

**Christie's of London** sold at auction a drawing by **Rafael** for \$42.7 million. It was the **most expensive** art object sold during 2009. At the same auction of Old Masters the painting *Portrait of a Young Man*, by Rembrandt, was sold for £20.2 million. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 12 December 2009, p. 37, and 2 January 2010, p. 35; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 12 December 2009, p. 47 and 19 December 2009, p. 25; *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 12–13 December 2009, p. 22.

## 8 DECEMBER 2009

The proceedings of **American First People** against the federal government has been settled and the federal government will pay **\$3.4 billion** to the claimants for the alleged misappropriation of funds accumulated since **1887** for allowing private enterprises to exploit lands belonging to First People. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 10 December 2009, p. 2; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 11 December 2009, p. 4.

## 10 DECEMBER 2009

At the auction of **Sotheby's New York** the sarcophagus of the **Borghese collection** sold for \$1.5 million. *Le Journal des Arts*, 8–21 January 2010, p. 22; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, February 2010, p. 60.

## 10 DECEMBER 2009

Thomas **Hoving** (1931–2009), former director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, **passed away** in New York. *International Herald Tribune*, 17 December 2009, p. 14; *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 17 December 2009, p. 26.

## 10-11 DECEMBER 2009

Guy **Wildenstein**, at a session about impressionist painters, pleaded for the transfer of the ashes of Claude **Monet** (1840–1926) to the **Panthéon** of Paris. *Le Journal des Arts*, 5–18 February 2010, p. 6.

## 12 DECEMBER 2009

The city **Castelfranco** Veneto, birthplace of **Giorgione** (1476/78–1510), opened an exhibition for celebrating the anniversary of Giorgione's death 500 years ago. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 4 February 2010, p. 19; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, November 2009, pp. 31 and 67.

## 12 DECEMBER 2009

In the **Museo di Capodimonte** of Naples, Italy, and in five other places such as cloisters and palazzos, over 500 **works of baroque art** of Southern Italy were exhibited in Naples. *art*, December 2009, p. 111; *The Art Newspaper*, December 2009, p. 63.

## 15 DECEMBER 2009

A toothpick of **Charles Dickens** (1812–1870) was sold at auction in New York for \$9150. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 17 December 2009, p. 9.

## 15 DECEMBER 2009

The city of **Tel Aviv** celebrated its 100th anniversary and the future of the “White City” and its **Bauhaus** architecture. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 5 December 2009, p. 29.

## 16 DECEMBER 2009

The **Prince of Liechtenstein** declined to loan works of his art treasures for an exhibition in the **London Royal Academy** because he is angry that the painting *Infant Don Diego*, by Alonso **Sánchez Coello** (1531/2–1588), which he bought in London in 2006, has not yet delivered to him. The painting is still in the United Kingdom, in order to enable British museums to buy it and retain it for Great Britain. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 18 December 2009, p. 35; *The Art Newspaper*, December 2009, p. 1 and 3 and January 2010, p. 4; *Le Journal des Arts*, 8–21 January 2010, p. 5.

## 17 DECEMBER 2009

One hundred years ago King **Leopold II of Belgium** (1865–1909) passed away. He collected African art from his colony, built the Museum of African Art in Tervuren, and made Brussels a wealthy capital, *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 17 December 2009, p. 13; *Die Zeit*, 18 November 2009, p. 66.

## 17 DECEMBER 2009

The **Beethoven-House** in Bonn, Germany, acquired the manuscript of the “**Diabelli Variationen**” by Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827) from an unknown owner and for an unknown price. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 21 December 2009, p. 25.

## 18 DECEMBER 2009

In **Auschwitz** (Polish: Oświęcim), the entrance sign “**Arbeit macht frei**” was **stolen**. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 23 December 2009, p. 4. On 11 March 2010 a Swedish court decided to extradite the Nazi Anders Högström to Poland where he will be tried for this theft. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 12 March 2010, p. 8; *Il Giornale dell'Arte*, February 2010, p. 50.

## 22 DECEMBER 2009

Agreement between the **Austrian** government, the Austrian Länder, and the **Jewish** Community that **Jewish cemeteries** will be maintained by the City of Vienna and the Länder, that the Austrian government will pay €20 million in 20 years to support the maintenance, and that Jewish cemeteries will be recognized as **Austrian cultural heritage**. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe* 23 December 2009, p. 4.

## 22 DECEMBER 2009

President Georges Delettrez of the Paris auction house **Hôtel Drouot** made public a big scandal of **organized crime** within the Hôtel Drouot. The Union des Commissionnaires de l'Hôtel Drouot, with 110 members responsible since 1860 for the transport and deposit of art works to be sold at auction in the Hôtel Drouot, has stolen many art works in the past or taken part of the auctioned furniture in order to devalue these pieces. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 16 January 2010, p. 37; *Le Journal des Arts*, 22 January–4 February 2010, p. 17.

## 24 DECEMBER 2009

The publisher **Samuel Fischer** (1859–1934) was born 150 years ago. He published **Thomas Mann** and many other leading German writers and finally had to transfer his publishing house, because of Nazi persecution, to Stockholm. His family went to the United States. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 24–25 December 2009, p. 14; *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 24 December 2009, p. 34.

## 31 DECEMBER 2009

The **painting** *Les choristes*, by **Edgar Degas** (1834–1917), was **stolen** from a local museum in Marseilles, France. The painting was in Marseilles on loan from the Musée d'Orsay, Paris. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 2–3 January 2010, p. 11.

## DECEMBER 2009

**China's** “treasure hunting team” went to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in **New York**, met the head of the Asian Art department, and looked for Chinese treasures taken out of the country since 1860. Finally they said good-bye and went home. This was apparently a **show** for the public in China. *International Herald Tribune*, 17 December 2009, p. 1 and 4.

## DECEMBER 2009

Some graffiti of **Harald Naegeli**, the sprayer of Zürich, active in this city from 1977 to 1981, have been discovered and preserved in the parking house of the department store of Jelmoli in **Zürich**. *Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Internationale Ausgabe*, 30 December 2009, p. 31.

## DECEMBER 2009

The **Egyptian ambassador** in Berlin confirmed that there is no official Egyptian claim for the return of the bust of **Nefertiti**. It is only the Egyptian Antiquities Authority and its head, Zahi Hawass, who try to recover Nefertiti. *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 24–27 December 2009, p. 11.

## DECEMBER 2009

**German museums** have to cut their budgets. It has been proposed that they should **sell works of art** in order to keep up their task for the public. This proposal for **deaccession** has been vigorously refused by the museums. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, 31 January 2010, p. 1 and 9.

## DECEMBER 2009

State officials secretly removed a fourteenth-century **Toropets Virgin Mary icon**, one of the oldest Russian icons, from the Russian Museum in St. Petersburg to a new church in the icon's historical home in the village of **Toropets outside Moscow**. The museum staff and the director were outraged. *The Art Newspaper*, January 2010, p. 13.

## DECEMBER 2009

The painting *Darmstädter Madonna*, by **Hans Holbein** (1497/8–1543), was on loan by the heirs of the House Hessen-Darmstadt in the **Städel Gallery** in Frankfurt am Main. There was **no agreement** between the Land Hessen and the heirs on the purchase of the painting, worth more than €40 Million. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 4 December 2009, p. 31.

## DECEMBER 2009

A settlement has been reached between the **heirs of Paul von Mendelssohn-Bartholdy** (Julius Schoeps) and the Andrew Lloyd **Webber Art Foundation** concerning the painting *Portrait of Angel Fernández de Soto*, by **Pablo Picasso** (1881–1973). In court, Schoeps lost his case in 2007, but later could reach this settlement. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 9 January 2009, p. 37.

## DECEMBER 2009

In a survey of 20 major **American institutions**, two-thirds had an **increase in visitor numbers** over the past three years. *The Art Newspaper*, December 2009, p. 13.