

Johann Caspar Bosshardt (*1.4.1823 Pfäffikon ZH, +9.2.1887 München)



Title	Bürgermeister Waldmanns Abschied von seinen Mitgefangenen
Also known as	Mayor Waldmann's Farewell to His Fellow Prisoners
Date	1847
Medium	Oil on canvas
Dimensions	image: 116 x 143 cm
Signature	inscr. b. l.: C. Bosshardt, München 1847
Inscription	-
Catalogue raisonné	-
Edition / number	-
Edition	-
Inv. No.	77
Credit line	
Accession year	1848
Object type	painting
Classification	C 1[1] painting 19th century CHE
Description	<p>The history painting by Johann Caspar Bosshardt was created in the 1840s and marks the beginning of his artistic career. The work, begun during his studies in Düsseldorf and later completed in Munich, depicts a dramatic scene from the life of Hans Waldmann (around 1435–1489), a formative political figure in late medieval Zurich. It was sponsored by the Zurich government and received special attention in a review by Gottfried Keller.</p> <p>Hans Waldmann, mayor of Zurich, was a controversial figure: criticised by his contemporaries as power-hungry and autocratic, he was reinterpreted as a progressive statesman by liberal thinkers such as Keller in the 19th century. The painting focuses on the moment before Waldmann was executed in 1489 following his deposition and imprisonment. In an emotional scene, he bids farewell to his fellow prisoners, vividly depicting the drama of the historical events and the ambivalence of his personality.</p>
Provenance	<p>The digitisation of the inventory of the Kunsthaus is an ongoing work in progress. Due to the time-consuming nature of comprehensive scientific research on each individual artwork, we have decided to disclose some works also without provenance information to the public. The progression of provenance research will be continuously updated online.</p>

If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at
provenanceresearch(at)kunsthauus.ch.

Provenance category

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About the provenance

(State of research 01.01.2007)

Literature

- Kunsthauus Zürich. Gesamtkatalog der Gemälde und Skulpturen, hrsg. von Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft et al., Sammlungskatalog, Ostfildern: Hatje Cantz, 2007, S. 180.
- Mythos der Geschichte. Johann Caspar Bosshardt (1823-1887). Historienmaler aus Pfäffikon in München, hrsg. von Peter Jezler/Christine Jenny/Elke Jezler, Ausst.-Kat. Heimatmuseum Pfäffikon, Pfäffikon ZH: Antiquarische Gesellschaft Pfäffikon. Auslieferung, Buchverlag der Druckerei Wetzikon, 1987, No. 7, S. 32-46.