

KUNSTHAUS ZÜRICH

attributed to

Ulrich Mair von Kempten (*1468 bezeugt in Kempten, +1501 letzte Erwähnung in Meran)

Meister von Uttenheim

Unbekannt [rheinisch]



Title	Die Marter der Zehntausend Ritter
Also known as	
Date	c. 1480
Medium	Oil on panel
Dimensions	image: 129 x 109 cm
Signature	inscr. u. c. white coat of arms with diagonal bar in red and gold
Inscription	u. l. in blue: JB8110; u. c. label Kunsthaus Zürich, b. l. label with inventory number
Catalogue raisonné	-
Edition / number	-
Edition	-
Inv. No.	1952/0042
Credit line	Kunsthaus Zürich, 1952
Accession year	1952
Object type	painting
Classification	A 1[1] painting Middle Ages CHE and GER
Description	<p>The detached reverse (private property) shows the martyrdom of Saint Ursula. Achatius and his 10,000 knights suffered martyrdom on Mount Ararat under Emperor Hadrian – a legend from the time of the Crusades modelled on the Theban Legion. The art-historical classification of the panel varies; Buchner and, following him, Stange assign it to a hypothetical Bavarian 'Master of Freising-Neustift'. The attribution to Ulrich Mair of Kempten, known from his signature on the altar in Wernigerode (1483), is owed to Bernd Konrad (orally 2007; independently of him, Ludwig Meier had also come to this conclusion).</p>
Provenance	Ulrich Mair von Kempten (*1468 bezeugt in Kempten, +1501 letzte Erwähnung in Meran) (Künstler/-in)

KUNSTHAUS ZÜRICH

Verbleib unbekannt

wohl, o.D. – 25.5.1930, Eugene Pelletier (+1930) (Sammler/-in), Paris

25.5.1930 – 3.12.1930, Nachlass Eugene Pelletier (Sammlung), Paris, Nachlass

3.12.1930, Hôtel Drouot (Auktion), Paris, Lot 31, als "Ecole rhénane", Rückseite:

Martyrium der Heiligen Ursula

3.12.1930 – o.D., M. Vinot, Paris, Kauf, 24000.00 FRF

Verbleib unbekannt

o.D. – 26.11.1943, Xaver Scheidwimmer (*1893 Dingolfing, +1980 München)

(Kunsthändler/-in), München

26.11.1943 – 28.11.1952, Kunsthandlung Julius Böhler (Kunsthandel), München, Kauf

28.11.1952, Fritz Nathan (*1895 München, +1972 Zürich) (Vermittler/-in), München

ab 28.11.1952, Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft | Kunsthaus Zürich (Museum), Zürich, Kauf, 6'779 CHF

Provenance category

C – The provenance from 1933 to 1945 has not been conclusively clarified; gaps in the ownership history remain. According to current research, there is no evidence of Nazi-looted art. There are, however, implications of Nazi-looted art and / or conspicuous circumstances.

About the provenance

«Die Marter der Zehntausend Ritter» was acquired for the Kunsthaus Zürich in 1952 from the Munich art dealership of Julius Böhler. The dealer's archives record that there were originally two altar panels, which were separated between 1930 and 1943. Böhler acquired both of them in 1943 from Xaver Scheidwimmer, who ran an art dealership in Munich along with his brother Jakob and, from 1937, offered his services as an art expert to the Nazis for seized Jewish collections. From November 1938 to February 1939, they were involved in looting art from Jewish collections in the Bavarian capital. The circumstances under which Scheidwimmer obtained possession of the panels are unclear. No concrete indications that they were confiscated as a result of Nazi persecution have been found, but Scheidwimmer's involvement in Nazi looting gives grounds for suspicion. As the research currently stands, it is not possible to state conclusively whether the work constitutes Nazi-looted art. At present, all the known sources have been exhausted. (State of research 30.09.2024)

Literature

- Kunsthaus Zürich. Gesamtkatalog der Gemälde und Skulpturen, hrsg. von Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft et al., Sammlungskatalog, Ostfildern: Hatje Cantz, 2007, S. 26.

- Alfred Stange: Band X: Salzburg, Bayern und Tirol, 1400 bis 1500 (Deutsche Malerei der Gotik 10), München, 1960, S. 121.