

KUNSTHAUS ZÜRICH

August Weckesser (*28.11.1821 Winterthur, +11.1.1899 Rom)



Title	Reigentanz. Nach Gottfried Kellers «Hadlaub»
Also known as	Round Dance. After Gottfried Keller's 'Hadlaub'
Date	1893
Medium	Oil on canvas
Dimensions	image: 87 x 106 cm
Signature	inscr. b. r.: A. Weckesser / Roma 1893
Inscription	-
Catalogue raisonné	-
Edition / number	-
Edition	-
Inv. No.	876
Credit line	Kunsthaus Zürich, Donated by the National Council Cramer-Frey's Estate, 1908
Accession year	1908

Object type	painting
Classification	C 1[1] painting 19th century CHE

Description In this scene, the minstrel Hadlaub is depicted wandering alone through the forest and making music, when he comes across Fides and a dancing round dance.

Gottfried Keller's novella 'Hadlaub' tells the romanticized life story of the Zurich minstrel Johannes Hadlaub (2nd half of the 13th century - beginning of the 14th century in Zurich) and links it to the creation of the famous 'Codex Manesse'. At the center is the love story between Johannes and Fides, the illegitimate daughter of the prince abbess Kunigunde and Bishop Heinrich von Klingenber. Fides grows up in Zurich in the house of the collector Rüdiger Manesse, while Johannes is accepted into the city's school for scholars as a talented pupil of the canon Konrad von Mure. Later, Manesse's son introduces Johannes Hadlaub to the Manesse circle, where the young minstrel makes his first impression with his songs.

A central turning point is Manesse's proposal to preserve the scattered minnesongs by various authors in an anthology. Hadlaub is chosen as the ideal scribe and begins an extensive journey to collect the works. Meanwhile, his secret love for Fides develops. On the advice of her foster father Manesse, who sees great potential in Hadlaub's personal poems to Fides, she leaves his writings unanswered in order to inspire him to write

further works to be included in the collection.

Later, the couple's love is made public and encounters social resistance, particularly due to Fides' elevation in status and the courtship of a noble rival. In the end, Manesse and Hadlaub's father defend the union. Thanks to Hadlaub's economic security and his fame as a poet, the union is socially recognized and the couple become engaged. Fides leaves her castle and becomes a citizen of Zurich, bringing the novella to a happy end.

Counterpart of inv. 875.

Provenance

The digitisation of the inventory of the Kunsthauus 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. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at [provenanceresearch\(at\)kunsthauus.ch](mailto: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.