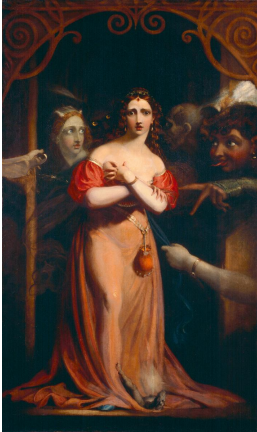


Theodor von Holst (*3.9.1810 London, +14.2.1844 London)



Title Bertalda, von Kühleborn erschreckt

Also known as Bertalda Frightened by Kühleborn

Date c. 1830

Medium Oil on canvas

Dimensions image: 152.5 x 91.3 cm

Signature -

Inscription -

Catalogue raisonné -

Edition / number -

Edition -

Inv. No. 2002/0002

Credit line Kunsthaus Zürich, 2002

Accession year 2002

Object type painting

Classification C 1[3] painting 19th century Europe

Description The picture illustrates a scene from the 13th chapter of Friedrich de la Motte-Fouqué's story "Undine", 1811, whose title character is a mermaid who can only acquire a soul through love to a human being. Undine and Huldbrand live married at Ringstetten Castle; they are joined by Bertalda, who used to be inclined towards Huldbrand and is now increasingly contesting Undine's place in the knight's heart. But Undine's grandfather Kühleborn threatens her with his water spirits. The influence of Heinrich Füssli, whose pupil von Holst was at the Royal Academy, is shown here in the direct relationship to his drawing of the same scene (Department of Prints and Drawings, Inv. 1940/0019; Gert Schiff: Johann Heinrich Füssli 1741-1825, 2 vols. (Zurich et al. 1973; = Oeuvrekataloge Schweizer Künstler 1), no. 1564); von Holst enriches the romantic representation in the sense of the English Gothic novel.

Provenance	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. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at provenanceresearch(at)kunsthaus.ch .
Provenance category	-
About the provenance	(State of research 20.05.2025)
Literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Kunsthaus Zürich. Gesamtkatalog der Gemälde und Skulpturen, hrsg. von Zürcher Kunstgesellschaft et al., Sammlungskatalog, Ostfildern: Hatje Cantz, 2007, S. 252.- L'europe des esprits ou la fascination de l'occulte, 1750-1950, Ausst.-Kat. Musée d'art Moderne, Strassburg/Zentrum Paul Klee, 2011, S. 89 (ill.).- Gothic Nightmares. Fuseli, Blake and the Romantic Imagination, Ausst.-Kat. Tate, London, 2006, No. 110 (ill.).- The Romantic Art of Theodor von Holst, 1810-44, hrsg. von Max Browne, Ausst.-Kat. Hazlitt, Gooden & Fox, London: Lund Humphries, 1994, No. 61.