

Universalmuseum Joanneum Presse

Universalmuseum Joanneum
Mariahilfer Straße 4, 8020 Graz, Austria
www.museum-joanneum.at

presse@museum-joanneum.at
Telefon +43-316/8017-9211

The archaeology collections at the Joanneum Universal Museum

The positive atmosphere spread among the population by Archduke Johann's appeal to send in antiquities found in the Duchy of Styria led to considerable displeasure at the official Imperial collections of antiquities. By 1812, a decree issued by the imperial chancellery had put paid to this initiative. The decree stipulated that all archaeological finds had to be sent to Vienna. The result of this was that, in its first decades, the Joanneum had to forego the very archaeological excavations it had inspired. Only in 1846 was the degree relaxed and the compulsory centralization suspended. It is therefore no surprise that, up to that point, the collection of antiquities grew mainly as a result of donations. Particularly in the second half of the 19th century, items from ancient Mediterranean cultures were purchased for comparative purposes. Parallel to that, two periods became the principal subjects of Styrian archaeological research – the Hallstatt and Imperial Roman periods.

Hallstatt-period objects of international importance such as the Strettweg Chariot, the Kleinklein Mask and the ornate vessels from the graves in Grossklein and Strettweg form the prize exhibits of the new Archaeology Museum as well. For the new exhibition, the collection was supplemented by the most valuable find from the Roman period in Styria, the Grünau Silver Skyphos (wine cup), purchased with a grant from the Joanneum Fund.

Information: +43-316/58 32 64-9513