

COLLECTING NATURE

Research in the history of collecting has often focused on collections of works of art and artefacts, even though the mediaeval and early modern *kunst-* and *wunderkammern* harboured both *artificialia* and *naturalia* from their very inception. In fact, some of the keenest collectors of art and antiquities, such as Cosimo I de' Medici or the Saxon electors, were particularly renowned for their interest in the natural sciences, including geography, botany, and zoology. What started as a mass of curiosities – e.g. prepared animals, skeletons, minerals, and metal ore – soon was transformed into an insatiable quest for knowledge that was furthermore fanned by the age of exploration and the exploitation of far-away countries. Papers in this conference will focus on the intersection between the history of collecting and the history of science, while not forgetting the monastic or courtly context of provenance and display. Irsee is a particularly interesting venue for in the eighteenth century Pater Eugen Dobler had set up a much admired bird cabinet. Although no trace of this cabinet remains, the room itself still exists and will be used for the conference's academic sessions. International scholars will be presenting, the conference language is English.

ORGANISATION

Sylvia Heudecker
Schwabenakademie Irsee

Andrea Gáldy
Seminar on Collecting & Display



INSTITUTE
OF HISTORICAL
RESEARCH

University of London
School of Advanced Study

Supported by:
Society for Renaissance Studies



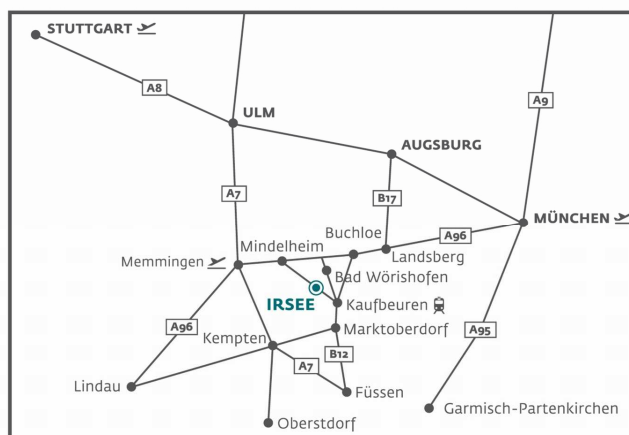
FEE

Fee incl. 2 x full board + 1 x half board (bed + dinner + breakfast)
Single room 320,- €
Double room 287,- €
Conference fee 50,- € (excl. room and board)
Lunch 16,- € Dinner 14,- €
(must be booked in advance)

CONTACT

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HOW TO GET TO KLOSTER IRSEE



Those flying out of Munich Airport may find it most convenient to leave from St Ottilien and take the train from Geltendorf to Munich main train station and then by S-Bahn to the airport for an evening flight. St Ottilien also offers the possibility to book accommodation to those wishing to stay the night. Delegates booked to leave from the Allgäu Airport Memmingen (and anyone else who would like to do so) will take the train from Geltendorf into the opposite direction to spend the night at Ottobeuren (please contact us for a list of hotels and pensioni; there may be a few rooms available at the guesthouse of the Abbey).

Titelbild: Musei Wormiani, Quelle: Wikimedia.



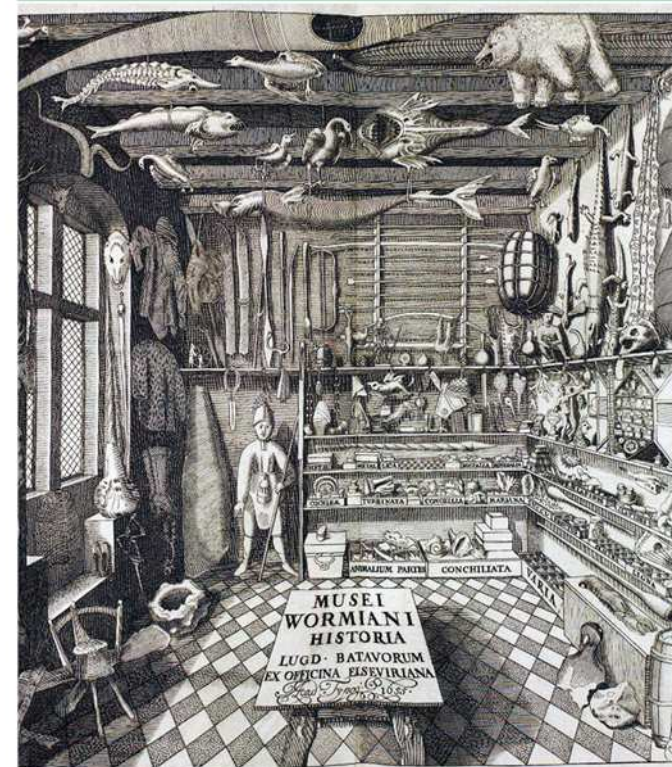
SCHWABEN
AKADEMIE
IRSEE

Bildung genießen.

HISTORY OF COLLECTING SAMMLUNGSGESCHICHTE

Collecting Nature

24 – 27 May 2013, Kloster Irsee
27 May, Südseemuseum, Obergünzburg &
Kloster St. Ottilien
28 May, Abtei Ottobeuren



FRIDAY 24 MAY 2013

6.00 pm

Evening reception plus short introduction to the conference

Collecting and Displaying Nature in Early Modern Japan

Susanne Formanek, Institut für Kultur- und Geistesgeschichte Asiens, Vienna, Austria

7.30 pm

Dinner

SATURDAY 25 MAY 2013

9.00 am

Welcome by Andrea Gáldy and Sylvia Heudecker

“NATURALIA” AND “SCULPTURE” AFTER NATURE

9.15 am

Collecting nature within nature – animal inclusions in amber in early modern collections

Rachel King, Pinakothek und Nationalmuseum, Munich, Germany

Bergwerke & Handsteine in the Royal Swedish Collections 1654–1720

Lisa Skogh, Stockholms Universitet, Sweden

Discussion

10.30 am

Coffee / Tea

11.00 am

Animal Collecting at the Medici Court in Florence: Real, Stuffed and Painted Beasts as Evidence of Shifting Values in the Display and Conceptualisation of the Zoological “Other”

Angelica Groom, The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK

Casting from Nature: Wenzel Jamnitzer’s Metal Works for Kunst- and Wunderkammern

Virginie Spenlé, Kunstkammer Georg Laue, Munich, Germany

Discussion

12.30 pm

Lunch

NATURE AND NATURALIA INDOORS

2.00 pm

Wonders on the Walls: Visual Presentations and Displaying Nature and Knowledge in Early Modern Private Collections

Marcell Sebők, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

Collecting and Cataloguing Art and Nature in a Venetian Palazzo

Giada Damen, Princeton University, USA

Discussion

3.30 pm

Coffee / Tea

4.00 pm

An Archducal Collection in Brussels: Archduke Ernest of Austria and his Collecting Ambitions

Ivo Raband, Universität Bern, Switzerland

Catesby’s birds

Shep Krech III, Brown University, Providence, USA

Discussion

7.00 pm

Conference dinner

SUNDAY 26 MAY 2013

9.00 am

Guided tour of Kloster Irsee (optional)

10.15 am

Roman Catholic mass (optional)

SPECIFIC LOCATIONS OF DISPLAY OF NATURALIA: LIBRARIES AND WUNDERKAMMERN

11.15 am

Nature and Grotesques: Pirro Visconti Borromeo and the Collection in his Villa of Lainate

Barbara Tramelli, Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, Germany

Scientific Instruments in the Ideal Early Modern Library

Inga Elmqvist Söderlund, Museum of the History of Science, Oxford University, UK

Discussion

12.30 pm

Lunch

2.00 pm

A Princely Plant Collector in Renaissance Germany

Miriam H. Kirch, University of North Alabama, Florence, USA

Ornithology in the Dutch Golden Age – captured specimens, the collecting of exotica

Joy Kearney, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, Netherlands

Discussion

3.30 pm

Break

4.00 pm

The Correspondence of Henry Oldenburg and Circulation of Objects at the Early Royal Society of London, 1660–1677

Jordan Avramov, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria

Carl Linnaeus & The Natural History Collections of Lovisa Ulrika of Sweden at Drottningholm Palace

Anne Harbers, University of Sydney, Australia

Discussion

5.00 pm

Coffee / Tea

5.30 pm

Keynote Speech

Archiving Eden

Dornith Doherty, University of North Texas, Denton, USA

7.00 pm

Dinner

– Programme (may be subject to some change) –

MONDAY 27 MAY 2013

Visit to the Südsee Museum, Obergünzburg and Kloster St Ottilien (Missions Museum) with lunch at the St Ottilien Biergarten.

TUESDAY 28 MAY 2013

Guided tour of the Museum of the Abbey Ottobeuren in the morning