

## THE AGE OF DÜRER. AUSTRIA AT THE GATE OF THE RENAISSANCE.

22 October 2021 to 30 January 2022  
Upper Belvedere

**During the transition from late Gothic to Renaissance, Austria was home to important artists such as Lucas Cranach the Elder, Albrecht Altdorfer, and Jacopo de' Barbari. In many cases their works bear witness to a new artistic self-understanding and foreshadow the development of modernism. The Belvedere is now devoting a comprehensive exhibition to this previously unexplored chapter of Austrian art history.**

The transition to the 16th century and the decades that followed were marked by social and cultural upheavals, which also found their way into the art of the time. When the achievements of Italian Renaissance art entered the territory of present-day Austria, vestiges of a fading Gothic period were still discernible. Caught in transition, works of art gradually began to lose the functions they had served during the Middle Ages, whether it was the preservation of memory, the teaching of the faithful, or the promotion of devotional practice. Attention was focused on the aesthetic qualities of works, and their creators increasingly established themselves as artists in a modern sense. As a result, constructs employing mathematical perspective, meticulous depictions of nature, and portraits with a psychological dimension developed in the area of present-day Austria as well.

For the first time, this exhibition will take a focused look at this form of artistic production and will showcase numerous loans from national and international collections alongside elaborately restored works from the museum's own collection.

The exhibition includes works by Albrecht Dürer, Lucas Cranach the Elder, Albrecht Altdorfer, Wolf(gang) Huber, and Jacopo de' Barbari. In addition, paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints, and medals by lesser-known masters will also be on view, providing an in-depth understanding of the high standard of production in Austrian workshops of the time.

Curator: Björn Blauensteiner

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