

Re-opening of the Bode-Museum, formerly the Kaiser Friedrich Museum

It is with great pleasure that the Kaiser Friedrich-Museums-Verein [*Kaiser Friedrich Museum Association*] looks forward to the re-opening of the museum for which it was established on the initiative of Wilhelm von Bode in 1897. The museum itself originally opened its doors in 1904.

Following a comprehensive renovation, the Bode-Museum, a part of the World Heritage site of the Berlin Museum Island, will exhibit, among other artworks, the Sculpture Collection which is supported by the Kaiser Friedrich-Museums-Verein, in addition to its patronage of the Gemäldegalerie – Old Master Paintings at the Kulturforum Potsdamer Platz.

The Kaiser Friedrich-Museums-Verein is one of the oldest benefactors' associations of European art museums. Due to historical developments, the Kaiser Friedrich-Museums-Verein today provides support to two museums. It owns a large number of high-ranking paintings and sculptures which are on permanent loan to the two sponsored museums. 70 sculptures in the possession of the association are on display at the Bode-Museum, the former Kaiser Friedrich Museum. Five paintings owned by the association are exhibited there as well.

The Gemäldegalerie at the Kulturforum Potsdamer Platz has 70 paintings from the association's collection in its permanent exhibition, including the latest acquisition by the KFMV, the painting "*The Frigate 'Amsterdam' at Den Helder*" by Simon de Vlieger, acquired in 2005. The special exhibition "Rembrandt – Genie auf der Suche" at the Gemäldegalerie (through 06/11/06) also comprises two paintings owned by the association, including "*The Man with the Golden Helmet*", attributed to Rembrandt until the year 1985 and today still one of his most popular works.

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