



Universität Regensburg
UNIVERSITÄTSBIBLIOTHEK

The Director of the University Library Regensburg:
Dr Rafael Ball



PRESS RELEASE: December 20, 2012:

Dürer Christmas Exhibition at the University Library Regensburg

Woodcuts, Objects and a Christmas Card from the Franz Langlotz Collection

In the year 1511 Albrecht Dürer published three religious series of woodcuts in folio format: the Life of the Virgin, the Great Passion and a second edition of the Apocalypse. The Great Books, as Dürer himself called his trilogy, comprise Christian eschatology which is concerned with the entirety of religious ideas of the final events and the ultimate destiny of the human individual and the world. The Incarnation of God is founded in the Life of the Virgin through the salvation history, the Will of God on earth is carried out in the Passion, and the Kingdom of God is brought to completion in the Apocalypse. The woodcuts were created over a period of about 10 years, most of them prior to Dürer's second journey to Italy from 1501 to 1505.

Franz Langlotz (1876-1953) from Regensburg took a diverse interest in collecting artifacts ranging from ancient to contemporary art. In his library, Langlotz attached great value to the first edition of classics with elaborate illustrations. The objects stand out mostly due to their excellent condition.

Franz Langlotz left his collection both to the Humanist Albrecht Altdorfer Gymnasium and the Philosophical-Theological University of Regensburg. After the separation of the two in 1978 the graphic collection and books went to the University Library.

For the occasion of this exhibition the University Library has published a Christmas card in limited edition. The motive is taken from a woodcut portraying the Adoration of the Magi from Albrecht Dürer's Life of the Virgin. The woodcut from the Langlotz Collection was digitalized for print by the Center of Digitalization at the University of Regensburg. The card is accompanied by an illustrated brochure featuring a variety of academic information about the motive and its details.

The Christmas card can be purchased at the check-out desk in the Central Library on the university campus (Mon-Thu 9am-8pm, Fri 9am-5pm) or at the bookshop Dombrowsky (St.Kassians-Platz, Regensburg).

The exhibition can be visited until the end of January in the lower lobby of the Central Library (Mon-Fri 8am-10pm, Sat 9am-6pm). Admission is free. The virtual exhibition can be accessed at www.uni-regensburg.de/bibliothek/koenige

Photo credit: University Library Regensburg



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About the University Library Regensburg:

The University Library Regensburg (UB Regensburg) is a central facility of the University of Regensburg, and also the largest academic library of the region. It is one of Germany's most important university libraries and is maintained by the Free State of Bavaria.

The library contains about 3.6 million books and journals and a constantly growing range of academically relevant full texts in digital format. The principal purpose of the library is to supply the academic community as well as students with literature and information. In addition, it is also available to the general public in the region as a competent source of information. The use of the facility is free of charge.

Ever since its foundation in 1964 the library has taken an active part in innovative developments, a special feature being the service-oriented employment of modern information technology. The library considers one of its tasks to help shape the expanding digital information landscape for the benefit of its users within and outside the university. The library is constantly developing new user-friendly services which facilitate access to electronic media. In Germany and worldwide, the UB Regensburg played a leading role in setting up a digital library, specifically by designing the Electronic Journals Library (EZB) and the Database Information System (DBIS).

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