**PRESS RELEASE 2020**

**BERGBAU- UND GOTIKMUSEUM LEOGANG**

**HÜTTEN 10, 5771 LEOGANG**

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# EXHIBITIONS AND NOVELITIES

## Exhibition 2020 - Richard Hirschbäck

The Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang and the recently opened Vogtturm museum in Zell am See dedicate a special exhibition to the renowned Austrian artist Richard Hirschbäck and show a selection of his major works, documenting his creative periods.

The Richard Hirschbäck exhibition shows a selection of his work including art created during his period in the “Gruppe 77”. Dissatisfied with the art association “Grazer Sezession”, he and eleven other artists left it to form their own artists’ union, the “Gruppe 77”.

His environment was a constant source of inspiration to Hirschbäck. A main subject of Hirschbäck’s paintings is change in nature which he observed from his studio window overlooking lake Zellersee and the surrounding mountains.

## Permanent Exhibition - Miner. Bishop. Emperor.

The prayer nut of Mary of Burgundy is the focal point of the exhibition on Emperor Maximilian I. This pocket shrine, which the Emperor’s wife carried with her when travelling, is a masterpiece of medieval craftmanship and a testament to the deep spirituality in around 1500.

The Thurnhaus exhibition reveals with what diplomatic dexterity synergies were created between the nobility, clergy and middle classes in the early modern era in order to secure the power and fame of all concerned.

## Permanent Exhibition - Cabinet of Mountain Curiosities

The cabinet of mountain curiosities exemplifies the princely cabinet tradition of the Late Renaissance and Baroque with a focus on fascinating mining objects. The exhibition in the attic of the Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang is unique in Austria and visualises the miners’ pride in their profession and status. Precious ores, gems and minerals were admired per se, but also inspired the creativity of men to process them artistically.

## Experience medieval craftmanship first-hand

The Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang has installed a painting and woodcarving workshop in the Gothic exhibition hall in order to intensify visitors’ fascination with Gothic sculptures of saints. At the workshop, experts demonstrate medieval woodcarving techniques, the production of natural colours and the colouring of sculptures.

In close proximity to the museum, there is a medieval forge where six blacksmiths demonstrate the medieval art of metalwork on Wednesdays in summer. The men inform visitors about this almost forgotten craft and the tools used.

The museum holds many etchings and an original woodcut by Albrecht Dürer. Experts from the bookbinding company Fuchs in Saalfelden know all about these old printing techniques. At special events, they demonstrate the etching technique with a printing press and a self-made copper plate.

## Web application

The Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang offers a multimedia guide to individual visitors who prefer to discover the exhibitions on their own. The multimedia guide can be accessed via mobile phone and is available in German and English with adjustable font size and volume. It is a free web application that provides information on the exhibits, exhibition concepts and exhibition halls.

How to use your mobile device as a multimedia guide:

* Please connect your mobile device to the wifi of the museum.
* Insert this web address into your browser: app.museum-leogang.at
* Click on the menu in the top left corner to access the English version
* Start your tour

# EVENTS

The events might be cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak.

## Opening on the Salzburg Museum Weekend

**Sunday, May 17th, 2020, 10am – 5pm**

On the Salzburg Museum Weekend 2020, the Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang invites you to join demonstrations of medieval handicrafts like the art of metalwork in the nearby Hüttschmiede forge and the gold plating of panel paintings in the museum’s painting and wood carving workshop as well as lectures on herbs in the Pinzgauer Stube, the historical front room. On Sunday, 17 May 2020, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., the Middle Ages will come to life in the museum. In the afternoon, Hubert Steidl’s music ensemble is going to perform in the Pinzgauer Stube.

Free admission

## Chamber music in Hütten

**Friday, May 22nd – Sunday, May 24th, 2020**

Thirty years after its first cultural milestones, the village of Leogang boasts another grand musical project: chamber music in Leogang‘s mining village „Hütten“. In cooperation with the Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang, the local cultural association “Frei Raum” presents a feast for the ears at unique locations on three consecutive days. The chamber music concerts will take place in the medieval Thurnhaus of the Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang, in the local mines and in St. Anne’s Chapel.

## Opening of the special exhibition “Richard Hirschbäck”

**Saturday, June 6th, 2020, 6pm – 9pm**

The Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang and the recently opened Vogtturm museum in Zell am See dedicate a special exhibition to the renowned Austrian artist Richard Hirschbäck and show a selection of his major works, documenting his creative periods.

Displaying Richard Hirschbäck’s large-format works, the first part of the exhibition will be opened by Barbara Hirschbäck, Erich Erker and Lucia Klee-Beck (curator and art historian of the Belvedere) at the Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang on Saturday, 6 June 2020, at 7 p.m. Two weeks later, the second part of the joint exhibition will be opened by Martin Hochleitner (director of the Salzburg Museum) at the Vogtturm in Zell am See on 19 June 2020 at 7 p.m.

Free admission

## Lecture on the Birnbachloch Glacier

**June 2020**

In 2016 Caroline Fiegl, now student at the University of Innsbruck, wrote a pre-scientific work on the Birnbachloch Glacier focusing on climatology and industrial history. The Bayerischer Rundfunk, a Bavarian broadcasting company, heard of her extremely interesting research project and produced a film on the topic in cooperation with Miss Fiegl.

Caroline Fiegl and other glaciologists will give a lecture on the development of Austrian glaciers. It will take place in the main exhibition hall of the Thurnhaus in the Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang. After the lecture, all guests are kindly invited to enjoy drinks and regional delicacies in the Pinzgauer Stube, the historical front room of the museum.

Free admission

## Summer Hoagascht

**Monday, July 13th 2020, 7pm**

For the first time, the Summer Hoagascht will take place in the redesigned village square of Hütten. On this occasion, the Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang will host an evening according to the motto “hands on history”. In addition to a musical programme, there will be demonstrations of the gold plating of panel paintings, the medieval art of metalwork (in the Hüttschmiede forge) and etchings. The latter will be demonstrated by experts from the bookbinding company Fuchs in front of an original woodcut by Albrecht Dürer, on display in the Emperor’s Room. Parking is available at the Leoganger Bergbahnen next to the Biohotel Rupertus, 3 minutes from the medieval mining village of Hütten.

Free admission

## Saint Anne’s Feast Day

**Sunday, July 26th, 2020, 11am**

On Sunday, 26 July 2020, we celebrate Saint Anne’s Feast Day in the mining village of Hütten. At 11 a.m., we honour the saint in a Holy Mass in Saint Anne’s Chapel next to the Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang. After the mass, there are guided tours in the museum, which hosts a Saint Anne collection.

All over Europe, Saint Anne is revered as the patron saint of silver mines and as a major patron saint of miners. As mother of Mary and grandmother of Jesus, Anne is the origin of the salvation history. Having given birth to Jesus, Mary is associated with gold, and Anne with silver.

Free admission

## European Heritage Days | Lecture on the Poschachers

**Sunday, September 13th, 2020, 10am – 5pm**

On Sunday, 13 September 2020, the Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang celebrates the European Heritage Days. The “Thurnhaus“ museum building used to be a medieval residential and defence tower at the Western border of the archbishopric of Salzburg. In Hütten, where the museum is located, the Leogang Valley is very narrow and could thus be easily controlled from the Thurnhaus. The Leogang Mining Museum Association bought this historical building a few years ago and, taking monumental preservation into account, carefully renovated it with the help of generous donors.

On the occasion of the European Heritage Days, the museum hosts a lecture on brothers Sebastian and Johann Poschacher, former proprietors of the Hüttwirt tavern in Leogang, and their successful offspring. Johann Poschacher finalised the Arlberg Tunnel project, his brother died in the Battle of Raab and his nephew in the Battle of Königgrätz. Today, the Poschaners are one of the wealthiest Austrian industrialist families thanks to their granite mining industry in Upper Austria. A performance of Hubert Steidl‘s musical ensemble follows the lecture. Afterwards, all visitors are invited to enjoy coffee and cake in the nearby Hüttwirt tavern.

Free admission

## ORF Museum Night | Guided tour with music

**Saturday, October 3rd, 2020, 6pm – 9pm**

The Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang participates in the ORF Museum Night on Saturday, 3 October 2020, in our final month of the museum season 2020. This is our second participation in this annual event. Join us for the guided tour at 6 p.m., when a choir accompanies the tour guides, singing yodel, secular and sacral folk songs, gospels and spirituals that match the exhibition topics. Take a close look at the valuable exhibits and the historical museum buildings, while the museum staff mesmerise you with fascinating details.

Free admission

# INVITATIONS TO OUR PRESS EVENTS

## Presentation of a valuable collection

(planned for 2020, exact date to be announced)

The Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang enters new terrain with its newly acquired, exclusive collection which will be presented by Dr. Fritz Fischer (director of the Imperial Treasury Vienna and the Kunstkammer of the Art-History Museum Vienna). The identity of the collection will not be disclosed until the official presentation. The exact date of the presentation will be published in a press release and on our website [www.museum-leogang.at](http://www.museum-leogang.at)

## Presentation of a valuable exhibit

(planned for August 2020, exact date to be announced)

In August 2020, the Mining and Gothic Museum Leogang will host a press conference presenting its latest addition to the collection, endowed by a generous sponsor. Again, the exquisite object will be kept a secret until the official presentation. The exact date of the presentation by renowned experts of Gothic art will be published shortly.

# OPENING TIMES

## Winter 2020

January 2nd – April 9th, Wednesdays 1pm – 5pm; Thursdays 5pm – 9pm

## Summer 2020

May 17th – October 31st, Tuesday – Sunday, daily 10am – 5pm, closed on Mondays.

The opening times might be changed due to the coronavirus outbreak.

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