



Sponsorship and Patronage

The Numismatic Collection

The collecting of coins and medals has been a favourite activity since the Renaissance. Ambitious collectors with deep-seated interests have always been partners with whom the Numismatic Collection (Münzkabinett) maintains a fruitful exchange through the study collection, numismatic clubs and societies, events, and lectures. The *Numismatische Gesellschaft zu Berlin e. V.*, in existence since 1843, is the friends' association of the Münzkabinett. In 2004 the *Erivan und Helga Haub-Stiftung* for the support of the Numismatic Collection was founded. In times of increasingly scarce public resources, the Münzkabinett is thankful for the support – from collectors as well as from coin dealers, the friends' society, and others interested in numismatics – that takes the form, for example, of sponsorships for the *ikmk*.



Fig. 1 Exhibition »150 Years of the Numismatic Collection« © collage and graphic: Jan Hawemann

The Museum of Byzantine Art

In the Museum of Byzantine Art, it was not so much that patrons helped to build the collection through money or donations of works of art. While objects were bestowed, they tended to be in small lots or individual works. None of the benefactors particularly stands out. Much more than material donations, the collections owe a debt to the intellectual and organisational efforts of scholars.

Those meriting special mention are Josef Strzygowski and Theodor Wiegand. Strzygowski, Professor in Graz, first prevailed upon Wilhelm Bode to integrate all of the Near-East into his collection concept. With funds facilitated by Bode, in Egypt he bought more than 1,000 objects from the post-pharaonic era. Wiegand, an employee of the Berlin Museums based in Turkey, used his local contacts to acquire Byzantine reliefs, architectural fragments, and archaeological finds. Through their contributions, both men substantially modified Bode's original plans for what was at the time the Early Christian-Byzantine Collection.

The Sculpture Collection

In 1896, Wilhelm Bode – at the time director of the Sculpture Collection and the Paintings Gallery – founded the Kaiser-Friedrich-Museums-Verein

as a circle of “friends who are collectors of ancient art”, to whom Berlin's greatest patron, James Simon, also belonged. To this day, the friends' circle of over 700 members supports both collections with acquisitions, such as (among others) the “Man with the Golden Helmet”, previously attributed to Rembrandt, or Houdon's “Bust of Dorothea Schlözer”. The works of art remain the property of the society and are provided to the collections as long-term loans. In 2010 the “Young Kaisers” was founded for members from 18 to 35 years old who carry on the longstanding activities of the society into the future.

In addition, after the Second World War, important works were repeatedly acquired for the Sculpture Collection. These acquisitions were made possible through generous support from the Stiftung Deutsche Klassenlotterie Berlin and the Deutsche Bank Foundation but above all from the Kulturstiftung der Länder and the Ernst von Siemens Kunststiftung.



Fig. 2 Germain Pilon (or circle of), Bust of a Young Prince, ca. 1555–60, terracotta with polychromy, Inv. Nr. M 301, Property of the Kaiser Friedrich Museumsverein © PCA Ltd. London 2010