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## Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna: The Paintings

Wolfgang Prohaska

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**Wolfgang Prohaska : Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna: The Paintings** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna: The Paintings:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Art in Vienna By Doctor Strong An excellent introduction to the world-famous Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna. The prose is easy to understand; the pictures are crystal-clear, and anyone looking for a comprehensive collection of some of the finest Renaissance art in the world would easily be swayed to travel to Vienna. The introduction is scholarly written, but it is easily understood by the average person; it provides a wonderful historical record of a renowned collection. This is a terrific book to own. 2 of 10 people found the following review helpful. A catalogue that is only a mediocre aide-memoire By Experienced Audiophile I chose the book on the internet because my catalogues date to the 1960's, and I wanted a more immediate sense of the richness of

the museum after seeing the movie, *Museum Hours*. The movie would fascinate anyone who knows this collection. In brief, a woman in Montreal who has virtually no funds receives the message that a woman she is related to is dying in Vienna. She flies to this distant European city and befriends a museum guard, solitary, gay (with the facies of someone on the newer medication), and extremely knowledgeable about the collection, and exrtremely generous. In the end, it become a movie about "seeing," and the final scenes are remarkable. The guard is a brilliant actor (can there be a guard that informed?) There is a a wonderful sequence of a museum guide showing some paintings to a group of students. I do not know how the director found such remarkable actors. The presumed focus (the woman, and the dying relative) are of no consequence. The movie shows the poorer parts of Vienna, and their beauty. Alas, the catalogue is shot with small reproductions. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Superb Format By Theseus A quality trade paperback. Beautiful color images on glossy paper. An authoritative text explaining the history of the paintings in the Kunsthistorisches Museum and how the genesis of this collection came from the collecting habits of several prominent Hapsburgs. "It therefore still has something of the nature of an excellent, royal, private collection with all the advantages and drawbacks that entails..." This book has just the right balance of text to image for my taste and here is an art book that you can actually HOLD in YOUR HANDS because it weighs less than a pound and a half. About 140 color illustrations in 128 pages. Captioning provides dates and basic background information for each painting, including materials, size, some information on provenance, and brief commentary on each painting.

Newly revised edition containing new photographs of 150 of the most important works at the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna. Dominated by Venetian and Flemish works, the Collection also boasts works by prominent 16th century masters, German Renaissance painters and Baroque Italians. All the works are arranged here by school to reflect the organization of the Collection, and are accompanied by an updated and revised text with introductory essays and expanded captions.

About the Author Wolfgang Prohaska is Curator of the Gemaldergalerie at the Kunsthistorisches Museum.