



Family Tour

— Collectors' Museum

MUSEUMS
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Junges
Museum
Frankfurt

Junges Museum Frankfurt

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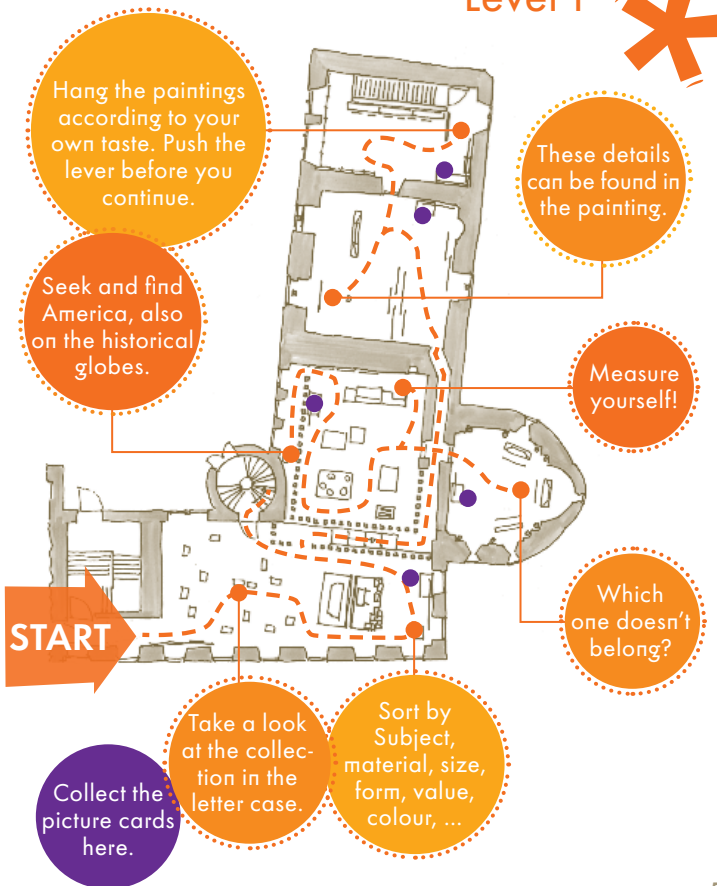
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Collectors' Museum

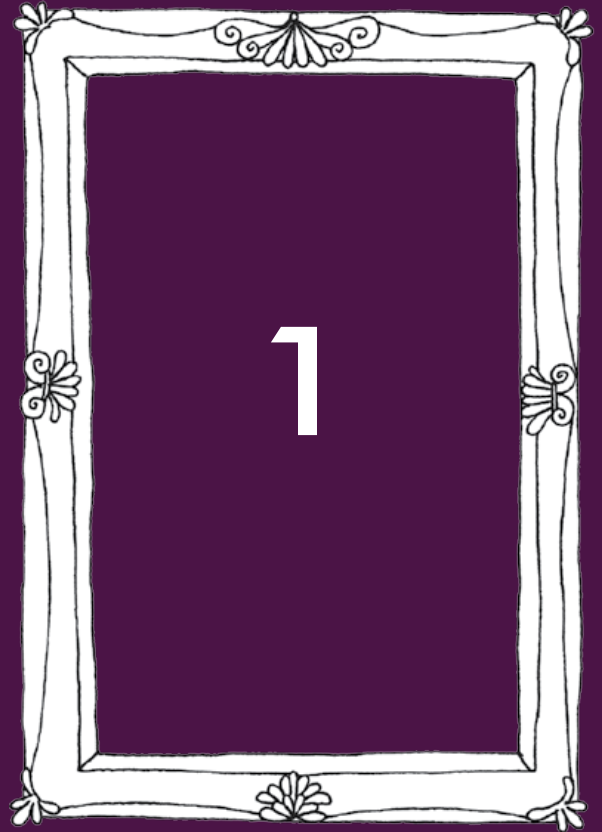
Level 1 



— A Passion for Coins and the Art Cabinet

Catharina Elisabeth von Barckhaus (1696–1749) grew up as the youngest of seven children in a traditional wealthy Frankfurt family, and was married twice.

She inherited a large coin collection from her first husband Anton Phillip Glock, and together with her second husband Heinrich von Barckhaus (1691–1752) collected precious crafted objects, exotic things from nature and ancient history. The couple chose only artistically crafted pieces made of rare and valuable materials such as silver, coral, ivory, mother of pearl or amber. These extraordinary objects were displayed in an art cabinet, which was divided into the same categories as Cabinets of Curiosities.



Art Cabinet of Catharina Elisabeth von Barckhaus,
17th/18th century



The Model: Cabinets of Curiosity

Collecting precious, exotic, antique or just unusual objects began about 600 years ago. Back then only princes and rich citizens could afford such collections, which were meant to dazzle visitors with their marvelous “wonders”. The collections were called Curiosity Cabinets or Chambers of Wonders.



Almost all curiosity cabinets were divided into five categories:

Artificialia were things artificially created from a beautiful or precious material by hand, then refined through a craftsman or artist into a work of art.



Naturalia were objects from the realm of minerals, plants or animals.



In the category **Exotica** belonged animals, shells, unknown plants and crafted objects from far away lands



Counted as **Antiquitates** were historical objects, especially from Antiquity, but also from pre-historic times: Greek and Roman coins, ceramics or sculptures

Scientifica consisted of scientific instruments; maps and globes also belonged in this category, as well as clocks, compasses and curious automated machines.



Go through to the family activity station in the right-hand corner of the room. At the activity station you can sort objects according to different principles.



Then continue up the stairs on Level 1 between the two rows of columns, turning left into the green, high-ceiling room.



— The Collecting Librarian

The Frankfurt City Library was founded more than 450 years ago and developed into the first public museum in Frankfurt under Johann Martin Waldschmidt (1650-1706).

Aside from its large book inventory, the library also owned a diverse collection of curiosities that mostly came from private collections donated by citizens of Frankfurt.

The celestial globe constructed by the Langgren brothers in 1594, as well as other globes, was probably bought for the library at the Frankfurt trade fair. Aside from scientific reasons, a commercial city like Frankfurt also had an economic interest in the spherical shaped models of the Earth, which were particularly helpful in planning transport and shipping routes.



There are only two globes like this remaining in the world and one belongs to this collection. You can see it in the museum on Level 1, in the exhibition 'Frankfurt Once?' Compare it to a modern terrestrial globe, which you can find to the left behind the columns.



**Terrestrial Globe,
made by Johannes Schöner in 1515**

Humans have been charting and measuring the Earth's sphere and the heavens since Antique times. Many measurements have their origin in body dimensions. Around 270 B.C., the Greek scientist Eratosthenes of Cyrene was able to determine the circumference of the Earth using step lengths, measured exactly by official royal pedometers.



You can find the family activity station behind the huge bookcase. There you can chart your body dimensions using different measuring systems.

Place yourself in the niche, then measure and enter your

Height:

cm

inches

Shoe size:

EUR size

UK size

Take the measuring tape and enter your

Step length:

cm

inches

Ell: (Tip of middle finger to elbow)

cm

inches

Hand span (Tip of thumb to tip of little finger)

cm

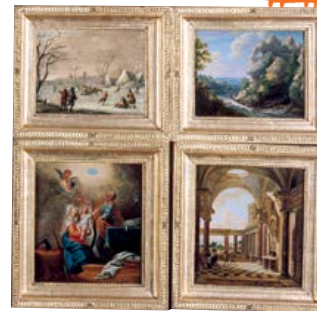
inches



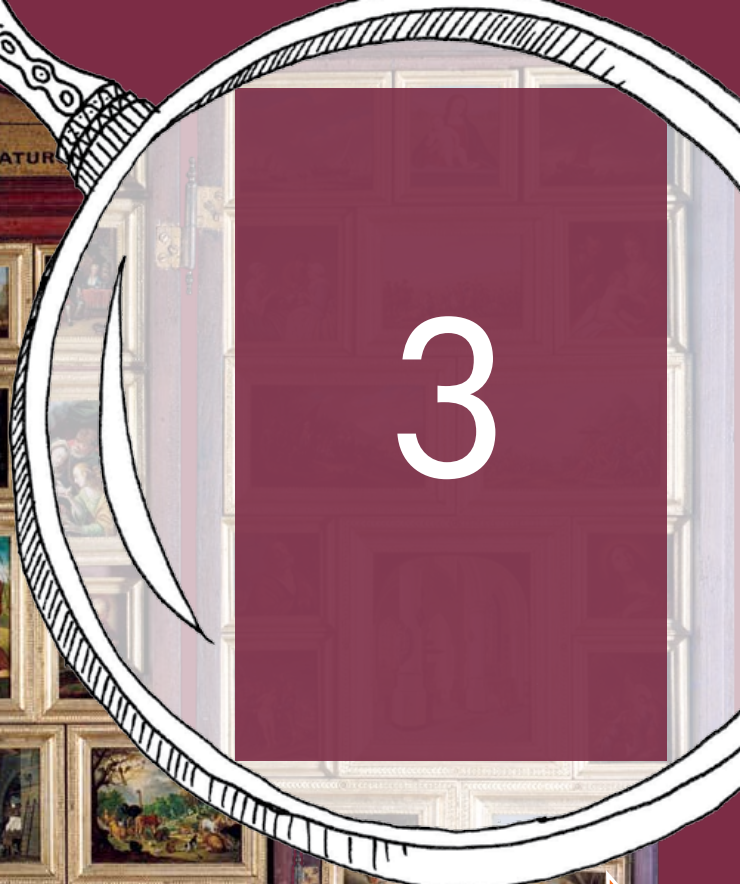
Continue across the way into the semi-circular room.

— The Big World of Miniature Paintings

The Morgensterns were a family of artists: The father, son and grandson (18th/19th century) all worked as painters, restorers and art traders. They painted and collected miniatures over a period of 45 years, arranging them in small, self-constructed cabinet cupboards containing 205 miniature copies from the works of famous artists.



Something is wrong with this part of the cabinet. One of the paintings doesn't belong here. Compare this picture with the real cabinet in the exhibition, and cross out the wrong picture in your album.



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— A Museum for Frankfurt

In 1808 Carl Theodor von Dalberg (1744–1817) founded a 'Frankfurt Museum', where art works were on display for members of the museum association and their guests. From the city of Frankfurt he obtained art works out of old churches and monasteries and donated them to the new museum. Citizens of the city also donated paintings to the museum.



St. Anne Altarpiece, Family of Saint Anne, painted by the Master of Frankfurt, 1491–1500, saved from the Monastery of the Dominican Order.

— The Last Judgement

According to followers of the Jewish, Christian and Islamic faiths, the Creator will sit in judgement on Armageddon Day. He will assess the lives of the living and the dead, good and bad deeds will be weighed against each other. He who has done good will arise from the dead and be saved, ascend into Heaven and live forever.

The 'Last Judgement', painted by Philip Uffenbach in 1630, depicts the end of the world as Christians envisioned it 400 hundred years ago.

The artist depicts the good people in radiant colors, ascending naked into Heaven. The bad creatures have been thrown naked into Hell and await eternal tortures. These figures can be seen at the bottom of the image.



How to use the family activity station: look for the blue sun at the upper edge of the painting. Closing one eye, move the frame of the station up or down, so that the circle (number 1) is over the sun. Go from there to find the other 12 details in the painting.

Continue into the back red room.

A Merchant's Art Collection

Johann Georg Christian Daems (1774–1856) sold coffee, spices, tobacco and other fine products. He was a passionate art collector who amassed about 300 works of art and filled the walls in his house with them, right up to the ceiling. This display style, popular from the famous painting gallery in the St. Petersburg Hermitage in Russia, is called salon-style hang.

Almost half of the collection consists of landscapes, which were Daem's favorite images. In the collection there are still-life paintings of flower bouquets, fruit and animal arrangements, as well as scenes of farm life and town scenes from Rome, Frankfurt, Antwerp and Venice. The pictures are mostly by Dutch, Flemish or Frankfurt artists from the 16th to 19th centuries. Daems donated 220 of his images to the city of Frankfurt in 1845. In 1867 they were moved to the new municipal art gallery in the Saalhof, right where you can see them hanging today.



**West Indian Landscape,
by Franz Post, around 1650**



Arrange the pictures in the Daems collection to your own liking at the activity station in the exhibition. Sort the pictures for instance from large to small, by landscapes and portraits, or by interesting and boring images.

When you are finished, press the button in the middle to let all the pictures fall down again!

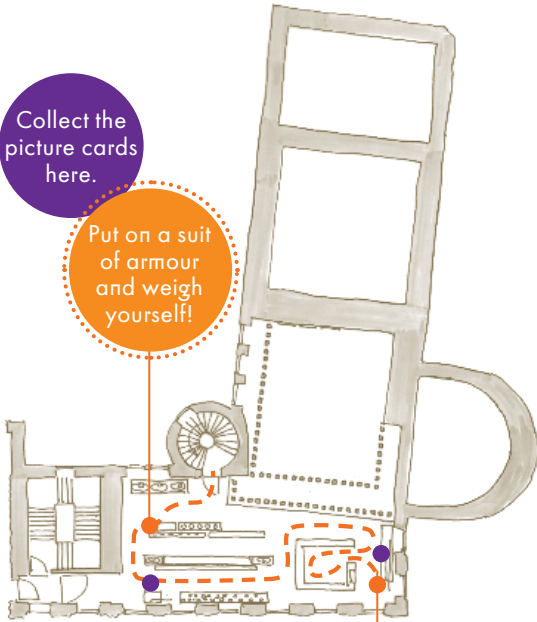
Return to the old spiral staircase, then up to Level 2.

Collectors' Museum

Level 2

Collect the picture cards here.

Put on a suit of armour and weigh yourself!



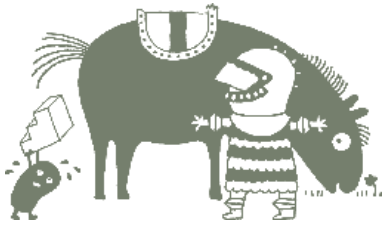
Make an imprint of the coin on page 27.

— Fellner's Weapons Collection


Christian Alexander Fellner (1800–1883) was not a weapons nut, but collected them anyway. He came from a respectable rich Frankfurt family, and his brother was the mayor of the Free City of Frankfurt. In the course of his life Fellner acquired a considerable collection of historical armour, hunting weapons and swords – over 400 pieces all together. Originally he wanted to donate the collection to the German National Museum in Nuremberg. But when Frankfurt founded its Historical Museum in 1878 he changed his mind and donated everything to his hometown.



— Heavy-weight



Helmets and chains of mail are protective weapons made of metal, and thus relatively heavy. It took a lot of energy for a knight to move around in full armour, and he needed help just donning his metal gear, as well as often getting onto his horse.

 You will find the next family activity station directly on the right side – it is very easy to recognize!

Go to the activity station and arm yourself!

I weigh

With helmet I weigh

With chain of mail I weigh

Armed with sword I weigh

With complete armour I weigh



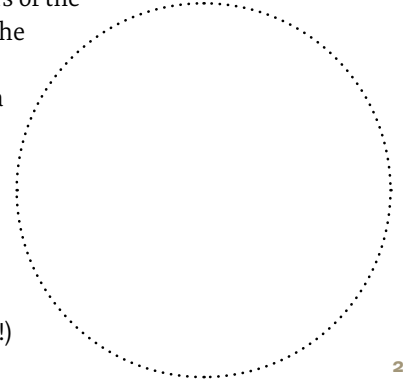
Chain armour, 15th/16th century



Silver Double Taler (3 ½ guilders)
depicting Frankfurt as a woman,
the Frankfurtria, 1861

— The Coin Collection of the Family that didn't Collect

For the Roessler family gold and silver was their entire life. Melting down and minting coins had already been the grandfather's and father's occupation. The son, Friedrich Ernst, also worked from 1840 until 1873 as coin assayer in Frankfurt. An assayer inspects and controls whether the minted coins actually contained the fixed amount of designated precious metals. Although the entire Roessler family was involved with gold, silver and coins, they did not have a coin collection. In 1951 the successors of the Frankfurt assayers, the Degussa company, decided to establish a collection of all German Mark pieces ever made. All of the gold and silver coins are accounted for (that's a total of 407 and 1166 silver coins!)



Stamped Images



Take a close look at the Roessler collection. Look for the coins pictured here. On the back side of the coins you will find some information:

The coin with the elephant comes from and is worth Rupees. This coin also equals 20 gold Mark, which is about how much a German public servant in that region earned in a month. It was minted in the year

The bird of paradise is on coins which come from and all together are worth Mark.

Go to the activity station and make an imprint of the coin on this page of your collector's album.

Imprint of a Reichsmark from 1873

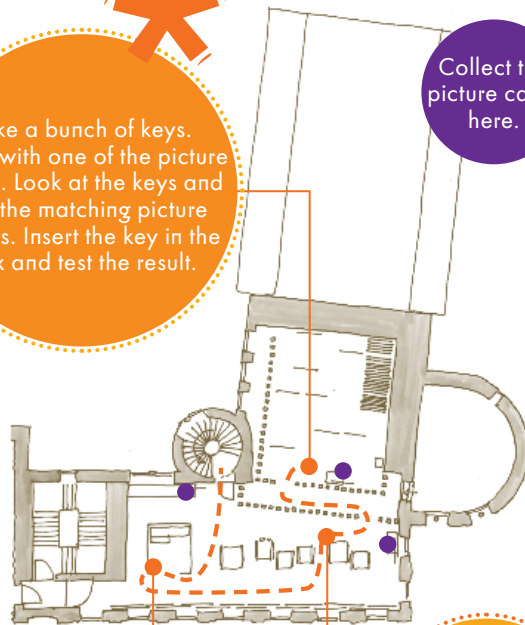
Continue via the old spiral staircase up to Level 3.

Collectors' Museum Level 3



Take a bunch of keys. Begin with one of the picture boxes. Look at the keys and find the matching picture details. Insert the key in the box and test the result.

Collect the picture cards here.



Find the matching wings!

Decode the following message containing Ethiopian lettering.

— The Banker and the Butterflies

Johann Christian Gerning (1745–1802) was a successful merchant, banker and prosperous citizen of Frankfurt. He began collecting butterflies at an early age, eventually amassing a collection of over 50 000 butterflies, insects and spiders. Gerning became an expert and even contributed to a very important eight-volume book about butterflies, which appeared in Paris with the title “Papillons d’Europe”. The Frankfurt artist Maria Eleonora Hochecker made many drawings for the book using butterflies from Johann Christian’s collection. Gerning also collected drawings, engravings, books, coins and medals related to Frankfurt. He was the very first to collect visual images of Frankfurt. Just as with the butterflies he divided everything into categories and pasted them into his collector’s album.

Hidden behind the white curtains is another family activity station. Try to find the matching wings!



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Butterfly *Philaethria dido*
(Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae)
Museum Wiesbaden



— A Flower Wreath for Frankfurt

This painting combines both of Johann Gerning's areas of collecting: natural science and Frankfurt. Take a close look at the original in the exhibition.

You'll discover some butterflies, bugs, spiders, insects and snails.

Using a pencil, sketch them in your album, then color them at home.

— Research Explorer Eduard Rüppell

As a child Wilhelm Peter Simon Eduard Rüppell (1794–1884) had already begun collecting minerals, butterflies, snails, plants and old coins. His entire life was dedicated to science and the exploration of unknown lands. 79 types of animals and plants are named after him, and in the space of twenty years he undertook three large expeditions to East Africa. He traveled to unknown regions in Nubia (Sudan), Egypt, the Red Sea and Abyssinia. Everything Eduard Rüppell brought back from his research expeditions was donated to Frankfurt museums: animals, plants, stones, minerals, archaeological objects and documents. Rüppell joined the newly founded Senckenberg Society for Natural Research in 1818, and his collections became the foundation for the Senckenberg Museum. By cleverly exchanging and acquiring objects, Rüppell was also able to further expand the Senckenberg collections.

— Collections as Basis for Research

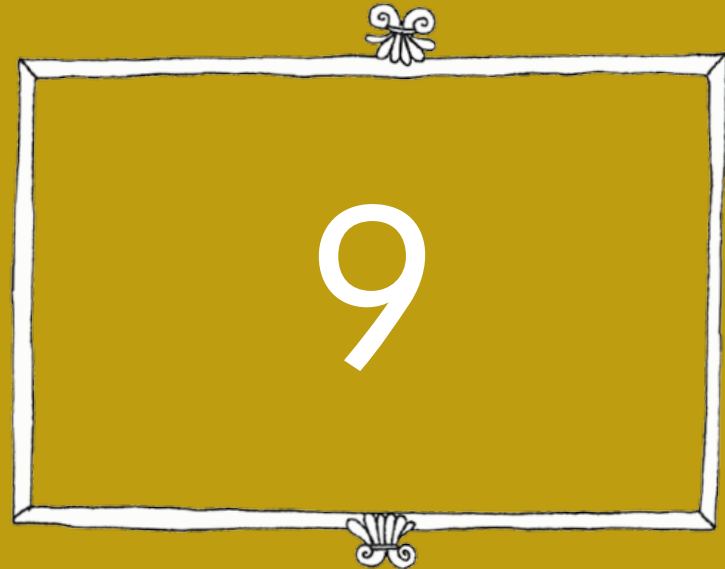


Now continue along the glass showcases.

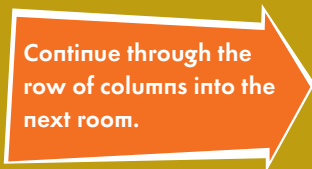
At the family activity in the exhibition you'll find 22 of the over 200 Ethiopian alphabetical symbols pictured. We've put together a word with this lettering. Decode the word and enter it in this sentence:

Mr. Rüppell made many
to East Africa.

Write your name in Ethiopian lettering:



Rüppell brought this collector's item,
the head of a Nile crocodile, back from Egypt in 1828.



Continue through the
row of columns into the
next room.

— The Art Collection of Master Confectioner Johann Valentin Prehn



Johann Valentin Prehn (1749–1821) was a master confectioner. He was a very skilled pastry chef and earned a lot of money with his baked goods. But his true passion was the arts. His whole house was decorated with paintings, so that there was almost no space left on the walls! But the most splendid object in his collection was kept behind closed doors, and only shown to close friends and true art connoisseurs: a collection of over 800 miniature paintings, which he stored in 32 wooden fold-out cupboards. The miniatures were either valuable originals from different periods or copies of paintings and engravings by old masters, as well as damaged art works from past centuries.



**Cabinet of Johann Valentin Prehn,
painted by Carl Morgenstern, 1829**

Just like a real art gallery, Johann Valentin Prehn assembled the miniatures symmetrically in his cases. To give everything a unified look, he constructed gold-painted frames himself. In addition he also collected drawings, graphics, sculptures, natural objects, Roman antiques, ethnological objects, handicrafts, coins and curiosities. It was a true universal collection, which



This is the most famous work in the miniature cabinet:
The "Little Garden of Paradise", painted by
a Master of the Upper Rhine, around 1410/20

usually only wealthy citizens, bankers or merchants in Frankfurt could afford. It was quite unusual for a pastry chef belonging to the class of craftsmen to have such an extraordinary possession!



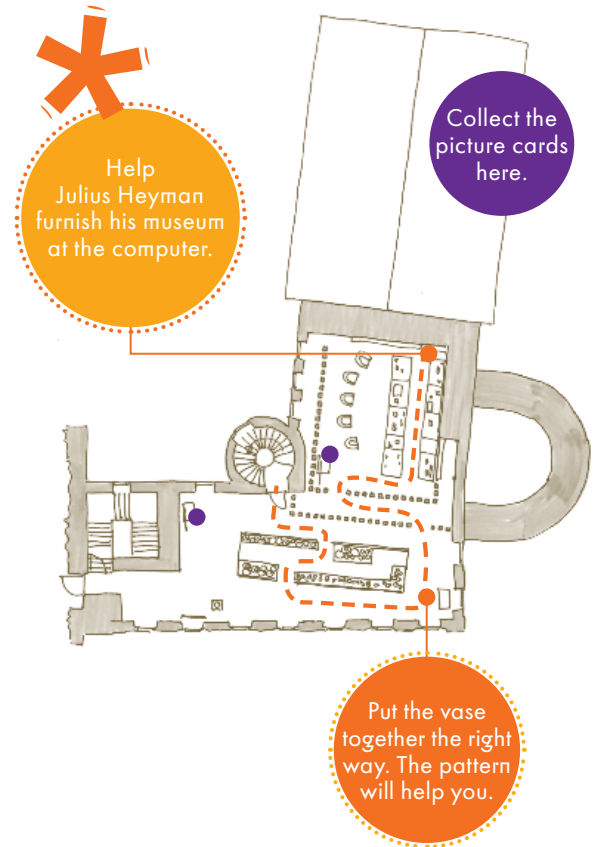
Take the keys at the right side of the activity station. Find the images that match the section shown on each key.



Now return to the old spiral staircase and go up to Level 4.

Collectors' Museum

Level 4



— The Faience Collector

Faïences are a kind of ceramic, mostly painted blue but occasionally multi-colored. These ceramics were modeled after fine white and thin-walled porcelain from Asia, which were painted a delicate blue.

Within the span of 40 years Wilhelm Kratz acquired over 800 objects for his faïence collection, concentrating on faïences produced in the Frankfurt Porzellanhof after 1666.

On the vases and platters you can find elephants, deer, frogs, and water landscapes with islands, Chinese princes with their courts, garlands of blossoms, butterflies and birds.

The next family activity station is on the left behind the glass showcase.

At the activity station you can try to assemble a vase correctly. Pay attention to the pattern!



Chinese court society with elephant (detail), round platter, faïence, around 1690

— The Private Museum of Julius Heyman



Gothic library

Julius Heyman was one of Frankfurt's most unconventional collectors. He was brought up by his father, and educated in the traditional Jewish faith. Heyman had a particular interest in paintings and antiques. In his travels throughout Europe he bought many paintings of living artists. After the death of both his parents he redecorated the family house according to his own tastes. Every room was completely designed in a

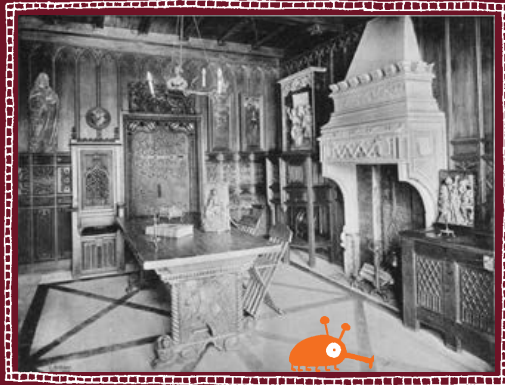


Renaissance Zimmer in Heymans Privatmuseum,
Palmstr. 16, um 1900





Living room, around 1500



Gothic chamber

different period of art. There was a Gothic room, a room from around 1500, and more. The residence was practically a private museum, in which Heyman continued to live.

At the end of his life Heyman donated his private house to Frankfurt as “a special department of the City Historical Museum”. His pre-condition was that the collection remain unchanged for at least 100 years. The city accepted the donation in 1926, but the private museum has long ceased to exist.

In 1938 the museum was dissolved by the Nazi regime, which banned, erased or destroyed the entire Jewish culture in Germany. The collection pieces were distributed among the other Frankfurt museums. The City Gallery, the Sculpture Museum Liebighaus, and the Museum of Decorative Arts received some of the objects; other valuable items were sold off. Only very few of the collected objects remain in the Historical Museum Frankfurt today.



Continue through the colonnade to find the next family activity station, in the right-hand corner Help Julius Heyman furnish his museum at the computer!



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