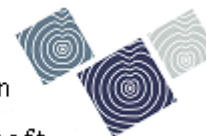




Universität Hamburg

Fakultät für  
Mathematik, Informatik  
und Naturwissenschaften



Zentrum Holzwirtschaft

PROF. DR. PETER KLEIN • UHH • ZENTRUM HOLZWIRTSCHAFT  
LEUSCHNERSTR. 91 • D-21031 HAMBURG

The Metropolitan Museum of Art  
1000 Fifth Avenue  
New York/NY 10028-0198

United States

Abteilung Holzbiologie

**Prof. Dr. habil. Peter Klein**

Tel.: 040-73962-424  
Fax: 040-42891-2835  
E-Mail: p.klein@holz.uni-hamburg.de

Datum: 27.04.2006  
Unser Zeichen: Kl/mai

Report on the dendrochronological analysis of the panel „Samson and Delilah“ (L. Cranach,  
Inv.-No. 1976.201.11)

---

The analysed panel (57,0 x 37,50 cm) is made of two beech (*Fagus sp.*) boards. Using the  
Cranach master chronology following datings could be obtained:

board I	86 growth rings	1524 - 1439
board II	75 growth rings	no dating

The youngest heartwood ring was formed out in the year 1524.

For the manufacturing of beechwood panels normally only the bark was removed and the  
entire tree was used. Therefore an earliest felling date can be derived for the year 1524.  
With a minimum of 1 year for seasoning an earliest creation of the painting is possible from  
1525 upwards.

Prof. Dr. Peter Klein