



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: 27.07.2007
Unser Zeichen: KI/mai

Report on the dendrochronological analysis of the panel „Frederick the Wise“ (Cranach, d. Ä., Inv.-No. 46.179.1)

The analysed panel (20, 5/20, 7 x 14, 4/14, 5 cm) is made of one beechwood board. Using the master chronology of beech wood following dating could be obtained:

Board I	78	growth rings	1528 – 1451
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This board is made of the same tree as the following boards of the paintings „Herzog Johann Ernst von Sachsen“ (Berlin, Inv.-Nr. II 55), „Martin Luther“ (Berlin, Inv.-Nr. 617), „Philipp Melanchthon“ (Berlin, Inv.-Nr. 619), „The Ill-matched“ (Berlin, Inv.-Nr. 1606), „Lucretia“ (Berlin, Inv.Nr. 1832), „Martin Luther“ (Fürstenberg-Sammlungen, Donaueschingen, Inv.-Nr. 727), „Kurfürsten von Sachsen“ (left and right wing, Kunsthalle, Hamburg, Inv.-Nr. 606), Eve (Chicago, Inv. Nr. 1935.295) „The Parting of the Apostles“ (Stockholm, Inv. 254, boards II, III) „Portrait of a Man“ (Kansas City, Inv.Nr.31-112 ,boards I and II) and „Melanchthon“ (private collection).

The youngest ring was formed out in the year 1531 for the painting „Lucretia“ (Berlin).

For the manufacturing of beech wood panels normally only the bark was removed and the entire tree was used. Therefore an earliest felling date can be derived for the year 1531. With a minimum of 2 years for seasoning an earliest creation of the painting is possible from 1533 upwards.

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