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: 02.05.2006 Unser Zeichen: KI/mai

Report on the dendrochronological analysis of the panel "Man with a Gold Embroidered Cap" (L. Cranach d. Ä., Inv.-No. 1981.57.1)

The analysed panel $(50,8/50,6 \times 36,3 \text{ cm})$ is made of two beech (Fagus sp.) boards. Using the Cranach master chronology following datings could be obtained:

 board I
 99 growth rings
 1530 – 1432

 board II
 95 growth rings
 1530 – 1436

Both boards and the board for the painting "Melanchthon" are made out of the same tree. (Dresden Inv.1919; last ring: 1529)

The youngest heartwood ring was formed out in the year 1530.

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 1530. With a minimum of 1 year for seasoning an earliest creation of the painting is possible from 1531 upwards.

Prof. Dr. Peter Klein