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National Gallery of Art

Washington D.C.

Datum und Zeichen Ihres Schreibens

Aktenzeichen (bei Antwort bitte angeben)

Datum

Kl/Ha

Jan. 21, 1994

Report on the dendrochronological analysis of the panel „Portrait of a Man“ (L. Cranach the Elder, Inv.-No. 1959.9.1)

The analysed panel (58.7 x 41.0 cm) is made of two beech boards. Using the beechwood chronology of Germany following datings could be obtained:

board I	161	growth rings	1516 - 1356
board II	117	growth rings	1514 - 1398

The youngest growth ring was formed out in the year 1516.

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 with the year 1516. Under the assumption of a minimum of a 2 years storage time a creation is plausible from 1518 upwards.

The art-historical dating (1522) of the painting can be confirmed by the dendrochronological analysis.

Dr. Peter Klein