

Wilhelm Joest¹⁾



HISTORY

The Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum of Anthropology was opened in 1906 in South Cologne on Ubierring.

The private collection of Wilhelm Joest, world traveller, who was born in Cologne in 1852, comprised over 3,500 objects from all over the world. After his death in 1897 his sister Adele Rautenstrauch inherited the collection. The bequest formed the basis of the collections of the museum.

Donations by citizens are still an important part of the museum's tradition. The collection at present comprises over 70,000 objects from Oceania, Africa, Asia and the Americas, over 100,000 historic photographs and 48,000 specialist volumes.

The marked increase in the size of the collection over the decades and the Rhine's record flood in the mid-1990s led to the planning and realisation of a new building in the city centre on Cäcilienstrasse which opened in 2010.

Adele Rautenstrauch¹⁾



Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum on Ubierring, around 1900¹⁾



Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum – Cultures of the World

Cäcilienstrasse 29–33, 50667 Cologne
Telephone +49 221 221 31356, rjm@stadt-koeln.de
www.museenkoeln.de/rjm | www.facebook.com/rjmkoeln

Opening times

Tuesday to Sunday 10 am to 6 pm, Thursday 10 am to 8 pm
For public holidays and special openings see website.

Admission

The prices for single and combined tickets can be found on our website.

Audioguide (including induction loop)

Guided tours on the theme-based exhibition, the highlights and for children are available in German and English for € 2.

Accessibility

The museum is accessible for wheelchairs.

Transport links

Tram/underground stop Neumarkt: tram/underground 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 16, 18; Buses 136, 146; parking directly beneath the museum: entrance to underground car park: Cäcilienstrasse

Tours and workshops offered by the Museum Service can be booked for children, young people and adults

Museum Service: +49 221 221 23468/27380/24077
or service.museumsdienst@stadt-koeln.de

Public guided tours (maximum 25 people)

by the Museum Society RJM e.V.:

at the weekend and on the 1st Thursday of the month

by the Museum Service: Wednesdays

For times and topics of all the tours see website.

Events

You can find our current programme on our website where you can also subscribe to our newsletter.

Museum Society RJM e.V.

The society supports numerous RJM projects and enables its members a special view behind the scenes. Information at www.rjmkoeln.de.

Photo credits

- ¹⁾ Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum Archive, Cologne
- ²⁾ Taimas Ahangari, Bergisch Gladbach
- ³⁾ Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum, Cologne
- ⁴⁾ Atelier Brückner, Stuttgart/Michael Jungblut
- ⁵⁾ Rheinisches Bildarchiv, Cologne/Helmut Buchen
- ⁶⁾ Rheinisches Bildarchiv, Cologne/Wolfgang F. Meier
- ⁷⁾ Markus Schwalenberg, Dormagen

Ein Museum der



Cover: Rice barn in the foyer²⁾



Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum Kulturen der Welt

People in their Worlds

Outstanding exhibits
from Africa, Asia, Oceania
and the Americas



Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum on Cäcilienstraße, 2013³⁾

CULTURES OF THE WORLD

In the generous foyer flooded with light, the emblem of the house, a splendid rice barn from the island of Sulawesi, Indonesia, introduces visitors to their museum experience. Start your journey to the Cultures of the World here.

THEME-BASED EXHIBITION

On 3,600 m² the visitors can experience an exciting theme-based exhibition with the motto "People in their Worlds". The award-winning exhibition concept takes up themes which affect people all over the world, but which they address differently depending on regional and cultural influences.

The comparative cultural approach emphasises the equality and validity of all cultures and provides impulses for thought and stimulating dialogue. The inclusion of our own culture in this comparative approach goes some way towards relativising our viewpoint.

Scenic view from the theme-based exhibition⁴⁾



Feather cloak⁵⁾
Hawaii

The presentation begins with a prologue. A Gamelan ensemble of musical instruments from Java, Indonesia, creates the right atmosphere for a visit to the museum. The theme complex "Comprehending the World" is devoted to four different kinds of encounters with other cultures from the European point of view. "Shaping the World" is the second theme complex, which with five sub-themes provides a multitude of insights into different ways of life in different times and places. An epilogue concludes the theme-based exhibition.



Mask⁶⁾
Democratic Republic of Congo



Shiva⁶⁾
Cambodia

PLATFORM FOR DIALOGUE

With our exhibitions and events we aim to contribute to spreading knowledge about other cultures and sensitising people to other perspectives. To these ends we work with a range of different partners and sponsors.



Reading Room in the Reference Library⁶⁾

LIBRARY

40 study places offer visitors the opportunity to access the museum's library which is of national importance and boasts a collection of 48,000 monographs and specialist volumes.

ROOM FOR SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

Special exhibitions about exciting topics are presented on a floor area of 1,350 m².

VIEWPOINT IN THE RJM

The Viewpoint in the RJM provides a 200 m² space for smaller exhibitions as well as activities for the Museum Service.



HALL FOR CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

The multifunctional hall has 300 seats and is equipped with modern technology.

MUSEUM CAFÉ

From the café visitors have a view of the museum's emblem – the rice barn from Indonesia – and of the neighbouring Romanesque church of St. Cäcilien.

MUSEUM SHOP

The Museum Shop offers special objects, jewellery and shawls from various regions of the world. A selected range of books as well as the museum's exhibition catalogues are also available.

Museum shop⁷⁾

