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swiss museum
for ceramics
and glass
geneva

MEISSEN PORCELAIN FOLLIES

Hidden Treasures from Swiss Collections
Musée Ariana, 7 February – 6 September 2020

PRESS RELEASE

Geneva, 28 January 2020

From 7 February to 6 September 2020, the Musée Ariana's new exhibition is a chance to immerse yourself in the great adventure of the discovery of porcelain in Europe. A thousand years later than in China, the first object fashioned from this precious material saw the light of day in Meissen (Germany), at the start of the 18th century, after many sometimes incredible and certainly dramatic turns of events.

The exceptional pieces on display come from eight private Swiss collections. Revealing the wealth of the often unseen private heritage is the aim of this project, for which numerous collectors have agreed to entrust items from their extraordinary collections to the Musée Ariana. As a counterpoint, and to illustrate the permeability between artistic disciplines, a set of engravings from Geneva's Cabinet des arts graphiques enriches the discourse.

By highlighting these exceptional pieces, the whole history of early Meissen porcelain is presented here to the public. It tells how, out of passion, greed or opportunism, men embarked on the quest for this grail, the discovery of the "white gold" of porcelain, at the risk of losing their fortunes and sometimes even their sanity.

Exhibition preview: Thursday 6 February at 7pm
Press visits on request only

Guided tours

Guided tours on Sundays 9 February, 1st March, 5 April, 3 May, 7 June and 6 September at 11am and on Sunday 17 May at 2pm (free visit)

Press pack available from 6 February at: www.ariana-geneve.ch
Visuals and photos on request: laurence.ganter@ville-ge.ch

In partnership with Röbbig München

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Un musée
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